



GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

MAKING READY FOR WORSHIP

What items will you bring with you into worship today? Candle, hand cross, stone, seasonal cloth, bible, oil, bread, water, wine or juice?
Something else?

What do you need to leave with God as this moment of worship comes to a close?

Come to the words as often as you want and need during the week. *How To Read For Meaning Making*, can assist in your reflection and worship time. My prayer is that as you enter into your own spiritual reflection that GOD would be very present with you, and you are reminded that you are not alone. In this time we are all here with you.

May GOD's richest blessings be upon you in the days to come.

AS WE BEGIN

Take a moment or two to settle into your seat, to still your mind and prepare to meet GOD in this moment. A prayer of invocation asking God to be present with us here and now.

GOD of love, GOD of Wisdom

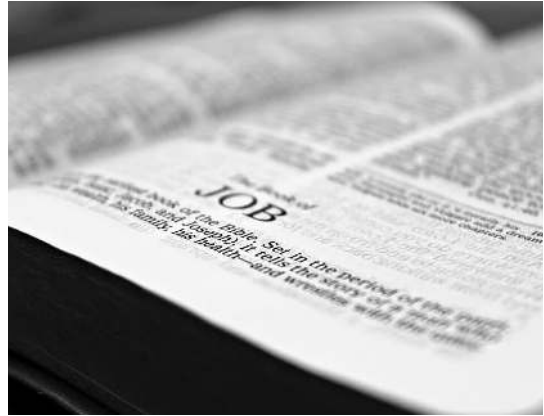
In your words today reveal to us
the places of transformation
needed within us.

Open our eyes to see,
our ears to hear,
and our hearts and minds
ready to be transformed in you.

We pray this in the name of the
Christ who loves and redeems us. **Amen.**

SUFFERING IN THE FACE OF GOD

As we continue our journey through the wisdom collection, we hear the words of Job this week in response to his friend Eliphaz at the conclusion of a series of speeches by his friends. Through the to and fro between Job and his friends we hear of the suffering Job endures by Satan. When we read with a lens of understanding this as a wisdom text, we begin to appreciate this book in a new light. If we get caught up trying to read this literally we lose the heart of what the big picture message is that comes from this text. This melodramatic and playful text in its larger than life story takes us deeply and very sincerely into the question of how we remain connected to God when we are suffering.



The set readings for this week are from Year B. The seasonal colour is green.

Proper 23 (28 Ord) - October 10, 2021

- Job 23. 1-9, 16-17
- Psalm 22. 1-15
- Hebrews 4. 12-16
- Mark 10. 17-31

Can you recall a time when you felt all alone in your suffering?

In what ways did you find God in those moments?



GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 10. 17-31

Begin: consider how God looks upon you and loves you; become aware of being in God's presence; stand for a moment, bow if you wish, then be seated comfortably for your time of prayer

Preparatory Prayer: offer to God all your will and actions, especially in this time of prayer;

ask God for a specific grace that you need and desire right now (peace, consolation, hope, etc.).

Contemplate the Biblical Story that you have selected:

Read the text slowly and carefully; recall what it is about; then let it come alive for you!

Place yourself inside the story, using your imagination; become one of the characters in the scene. Participate in the dynamics of the scene, dialoguing & interacting with Jesus and other characters.

Observe what is going on around you in the scene: What do you see, hear, feel, smell, taste, touch?

Dialogue with the other characters: What do they say or ask you? What do you say or ask them in reply?

Notice what is going on inside you as you pray: joy, sorrow, peace, confusion, love, anger, etc.

If you get distracted or your mind wanders, gently return to the biblical text and re-enter the scene.

Colloquy: enter into a short personal conversation with Jesus (or God, or the Holy Spirit); speak heart-to-heart, as if conversing with a close friend.



Closing Prayer: conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer, or another familiar/favorite prayer; you might stand, kneel, bow, raise your hands, or adopt another posture to mark the end of your prayer.

Afterward, briefly review what you experienced during this time of prayer (maybe journal about what happened), and look forward to your next prayerful encounter with God (when? where? which biblical text will you use?).

“

Using this week's gospel enter into a time of praying the pictures of scripture. Use the outline to the left to guide you. Other scripture suggestions, prompts and information are on the back page.

”

WAYS TO PRAY

PRAYING THE PICTURES OF THE SCRIPTURES

Create word pictures in your mind of some of the scenes from scriptures we read about. The vivid pictures of Jesus throughout the Gospels can stimulate prayer. This method is especially appropriate for scenes from the Gospels, but can be used with many other scriptures too.

Using the gospel for today as listed on page three, and the guide below, pray imagining and entering into the scenes of the scripture you create in your mind.



A PASTORAL PRAYER

(inspired by Mark 10:17-31)

God of infinite patience and wisdom, we come to you with so many things that claim our time, our energy, our resources, our very lives. We are easily drawn away from serving you by the enticements of the world for wealth, ease, and comfort. Just like the young man in the scriptures, we are owned by our possessions, held captive by our treasures. You continue to offer to us healing and hope. You seek to transform our lives from captivity to freedom in witness and service. We look at the world in which there is so very much warfare and strife, anger and hatred, and we easily become overwhelmed by the needs and the stresses. Help us to place our lives and our trust in you, knowing that with your help, many wonderful things can be accomplished which will provide hope and peace for others and ourselves. Give us courage and strength to truly be your disciples. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.~

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/>

PRAYER PROMPTS

PRAYING THE PICTURES OF SCRIPTURE

Practice it: There are hundreds of word pictures in Scripture and many ways to pray each one in fresh ways.

Here are a few to get started:

Peter walking on the water
(Matt. 14:22–33)

God informing Moses that His name is i am
(Ex. 3:14)

Jesus with the little children on His lap
(Mark 10:13–16).

Jesus Heals A Demon Possessed Boy
(Luke 9. 37-43)