

Midweek Prayer Time – Week 1

*We offer this liturgy for a time of personal prayer,
hoping it will be a time of enrichment and encouragement in challenging times.
May God's peace and blessing be upon you today and each day to come.*



Jesus Christ Pantocrator

Mosaic in Hagia Sophia, Istanbul

Psalm 103.1 – 5

Let all that I am praise the Lord;
with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name.

Let all that I am praise the Lord;
may I never forget the good things he does for me.
He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.

He redeems me from death
and crowns me with love and tender mercies.

He fills my life with good things.
My youth is renewed like the eagle's!

Prayer

O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouth shall show forth thy praise

O God, so often,
when we open our mouths,
we speak without thinking,
and there comes forth foolishness and hurt.
Give us grace not only to think before we speak,
but through prayer and in silence with you to grow closer to you our Creator,
to heed your Word our Saviour,
and to breathe your Spirit of holiness,
so that, when we speak, our mouths will show forth your praise.
Amen.

Scripture reading from the Gospel of John 14. 1 – 7 (NRSV)

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”
“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.
If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself,
so that where I am, there you may be also.
And you know the way to the place where I am going.”
Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going.
How can we know the way?”
Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you will know my Father also.
From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Hold a period of silent reflection following the reading – use the icon to help reflect.

Prayer - Erasmus (1466-1536)

Lord Jesus Christ,
you said that you are the Way, the Truth, and the life.
Let us never stray from you, who are the Way;
nor distrust you, who are the Truth;
nor rest in any other but you, who are the Life,
beyond whom there is nothing to be desired,
either in heaven or on earth.
We ask it for your name’s sake.
Amen.

Prayer from the World Church - Christian Conference of Asia, Hong Kong

We are called to be the Church the witness of Christ in the world.

The disciples who follow in the steps of the one who lived within and for the marginalized – those kept to the outside of society.

We are called to welcome the stranger in our midst.

But our hospitality is hindered by our anxieties.

Our open arms are closed by our fears.

Stir within us the flame of solidarity

so that we will commit ourselves to action.

That by our thoughts, our words, our dreams,

the stranger in our midst will find their home.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

*A time to offer prayers of concern, for local, national or world issues,
for thanks or for whatever is on your heart....*

Gracious God, we bring to you our broken world,
racked by injustice and exploitation, suffering and sorrow,
hatred and division - So few signs of hope, so much that invites despair.

We pray for those who work for change;

all who strive to bring help and healing, hope and wholeness.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers...

Time for silent prayer, after a period of 2 or 3 minutes silence conclude

Gracious God, bring healing and renewal; finish your new creation among us.

May your will be done, and your kingdom come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer...

Closing Prayer

Eternal God,

Whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:

grant us to walk in his way,

to rejoice in his truth,

and to share his risen life;

who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Amen.

God of grace,

pour your love into our hearts; pour your Spirit into our being;

create within us new hearts and minds

and lead us in the way of Christ.

Amen.