

In The Evening

Portions of the service for you to say at home are in bold.

OPENING SENTENCE

One of the following verses of Scripture is said:

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; for you, LORD, only, make me dwell in safety. *Psalm 4:8*

FROM PSALM 134

**Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.
Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD;
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.**

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

A passage assigned for the day, or one of the following:

You keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on you, because they trust in you. Trust in the LORD for ever, for the LORD God is an everlasting rock. *Isaiah 26:3-4*

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *1 Thessalonians 5:23*

THE CONFESSION

Officiant: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

The Officiant and People then say

**Almighty God and Father, we confess to you,
to one another, and to the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned, through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins,
and by the power of your Holy Spirit
raise us up to serve you in newness of life,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Officiant says:

May Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us;

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

People: **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Officiant: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

Officiant: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

People: **And lead us in the way of justice and truth.**

Officiant: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: **And let your people sing with joy.**

Officiant: O Lord, save your people;

People: **And bless your inheritance.**

Officiant: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People: **And defend us by your mighty power.**

Officiant: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Officiant: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: **And take not your Holy Spirit from us.**

(Free intercessions for concerns of the day.)

A prayer for COVID-19:

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified. We pray especially you would grant them and us grace to stop the spread of COVID-19, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

One or two of these additional prayers may be offered at this time:

1. Lord, support us all the day long through this trouble-filled life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**
2. Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**
3. Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord; and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**
4. Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
5. Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
6. Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**
7. Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this city, state, land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
8. God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
9. Most loving Father, you will us to give thanks for all things, to dread nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on the One who cares for us. Preserve us from faithless fears and worldly anxieties, [especially during this COVID-19 Pandemic] and grant that no clouds of this mortal life may hide from us the light of that love which is immortal, and which you have manifested unto us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this night and evermore. **Amen.**