

Introduction to Morning to Evening Prayer

Before Jesus' death on the cross, He encouraged His disciples that when He leaves, He will send another Helper, the Holy Spirit. Jesus taught that this Spirit will remind them of all His teaching, empower them for mission, and give them words to say as they proclaim the good news that Christ is risen. Ordinary Time is that time after Resurrection where we focus on the ongoing work of the Spirit, who sanctifies and sends the church on mission into the world to declare Christ is King!

“It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; ² to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night, ³ to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. ⁴ For You, O Lord, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.”

As we pray in the morning, we pray with the assurance of God's love and seek His loving guidance each day. We seek direction from the Word of God as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (Psalm 119:105). This Word of God dwells richly inside us as we pray it in the morning. Midday we continue to seek the Lord in order to make the most of our remaining time with insight and wisdom.

We end the evening with thankfulness for God's faithfulness, reflecting on all His work throughout the day. Remembering God's faithfulness, we often realize our unfaithfulness. As we confess our sins, God forgives and cleanses us through Christ's atoning work, His sacrifice for our sin. We respond with thankfulness for His mercy.

In the Rhythm for Morning to Evening Prayer, you will see the different elements of the Morning, Midday, and Evening Prayer Guides. The bullet points under each element describe how to practice each one. There is a daily prayer guide which you repeat weekly for the season: morning, midday, and evening. Daily there is a new morning and evening Psalm, morning Scripture, and midday Proverb. The Catechism can be found in the index section in the back (pp. 48ff). You may use this guide individually or with a family or other group by having a leader read the plain text and everyone read the bold. Click the blue text to hyperlink to the index and the day abbreviations to return to the daily pattern of prayer. This pattern of prayer helps us to be glad in the work of the Lord and to sing for joy in His presence as we seek His guidance.

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Rhythm for Morning to Evening Prayer

Morning Prayer Guide:¹

- ✠ **PSALM PRAYER:** Ephesians 5:18-20 (see [Psalm Index](#))
- Praise God for His character and work in the Psalm.
 - Seek God based on the words of the Psalm.
- ✠ **SCRIPTURE READING** 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (see [Scripture Index](#))
- Meditation: Read and consider key phrases, prepositions, people, plots, connections, and redemptive themes.
 - Adoration: Read and adore God for His great character and kingdom as clarified in the reading.
 - Confession: Read and confess ways you do not reflect God's character and kingdom in the reading.
 - Thanksgiving: Read and give thanks for God's grace, forgiveness, and help in or around the verse.
 - Application: Read and seek God's guidance in applying the reading. Write down the application.
- ✠ **THE GLORIA** Ephesians 1:3
- Sing praise to our Triune God for His holiness, greatness, and presence.
- ✠ **THE CREED** Titus 1:9
- Hold firm to the trustworthy Word and sound doctrine taught.
- ✠ **THE LORD'S PRAYER** Luke 11:1-4
- Recite the Lord's Prayer so that your personal prayer might be shaped by the structure of the Lord's Prayer.
- ✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2
(Pray Forward into the day)
- Pray forward into the day, focusing on your schedule, concerns of the day, and updated prayer list.
- ✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** 2 Corinthians 1:20
- Trust in God's promise of His daily presence and provision as you live out God's mission for the day.

¹ For Shortened Prayer: Scripture Reading, Lord's Prayer, Personal Prayer, Promise for the Day

Midday Prayer Guide

- ✦ **PSALM PRAYER** Ephesians 5:18-20
- Praise God for character/work & seek God based on the Psalm.
- ✦ **PROVERBS PRAYER** Psalm 90:12 (see [Proverbs Index](#))
- Pray for God's wisdom to guide you for the rest of the day.
- ✦ **ABIDING PRAYER**
- Draw near to God and delight in His presence.

Evening Prayer Guide²

- ✦ **PSALM PRAYER** Ephesians 5:18-20 (see [Psalm Index](#))
- Praise God for character/work & seek God based on the Psalm.
- ✦ **CONFESSION** 1 John 1:9
- Consider your daily activities, attitudes, and interactions and confess sinful ways you broke or failed to fully obey God's law.
- ✦ **GOSPEL PROMISE** Psalm 32:5
- Remember the promise of Christ's forgiveness through His life, death, and resurrection.
- ✦ **THANKSGIVING PRAYERS** Psalm 136:1
- Rejoice in Christ's forgiveness, reflect on your day, and give thanks for the many blessings and opportunities of the day.
- ✦ **SONG OF PRAISE** Psalm 103:1-3
- Sing praise to God because all blessings come from Him.
- ✦ **CATECHISM** Titus 1:9 (see [Catechism Index](#))
- Hold firm to the trustworthy Word and sound doctrine taught.
- ✦ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2
(*Pray Backward over the day*)
- Pray back over your day concerning events and interactions you experienced throughout the day.
- ✦ **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** 2 Corinthians 1:20
- Trust in God's promise of rest and care for the night hours

[Su](#) [M](#) [T](#) [W](#) [Th](#) [F](#) [Sa](#)

² For Shortened Prayer: Psalm Prayer & Personal Prayer

Sunday Morning Prayer Guide (Resurrection)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

“²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes and be careful to obey My rules.” (Ezekiel 36:26–27)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” (*Llanfair*)

Sing we to our God above Alleluia!

Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!

Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

✠ THE CREED The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2-4

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

³ **At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—** ⁴ **that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, **that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
(Pray Forward into the day)

“Lamb of God! Though You are now in your exalted state, not all the hallelujahs of heaven can keep You one moment from knowing and supplying all the wants of Your church in grace here below!

If You ask me, do you have any meat? Lord, I would answer, ‘You are the bread of life, and the bread of God, the living bread, which comes down from heaven, and gives life to the world!’

Precious Jesus! Be my bread, my life, my hope, my fullness, my joy, and my portion forever. Amen. (Robert Hawker)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Acts 1:8

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witnesses to the end of the earth!

“⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Sunday Midday Prayer Guide (Resurrection)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

✠ PROVERBS PRAYER (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

✠ ABIDING PRAYER (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Heavenly Father, pour out water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; pour out Your Spirit on our offspring and Your blessing on our descendants

in order that we might flourish in Your grace and spring up among the grass and like willows by flowing streams.

Sunday Evening Prayer Guide (Resurrection)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,
and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may
meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

**Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for
ignoring Your immensity and greatness.**

**Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that You rule the nations
and our small lives.**

**Holy Spirit, forgive us for minimizing Your power and
squandering Your gifts.**

**We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O Triune God, has
resulted in shallow confession, halfhearted conviction, and only
mild repentance.**

(Confess personal sin)

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power of
the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace. Holy
Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 7:24-25

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 92:1-2

“¹It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
²to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,
and Your faithfulness by night.”

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

✠ **CATECHISM** (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 4:2-4

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

³ **At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—** ⁴ **that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, **that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
(Pray Backward over the day)

“Hasten, O my Savior, the time of Your return. Send forth Your angels, and let that dreadful, joyful trumpet sound. Do not delay, or the living could give up their hope. Do not delay, or this earth could grow to be like hell, and your church by divisions be crumbled to dust. Do not delay, or Your enemies could take advantage of Your flock. Or pride, hypocrisy, sensuality, and unbelief could prevail against Your remnant, and when You came You might not find faith on the earth. Do not delay, lest the grave should boast of victory. O hasten that great resurrection day, when Your command will go forth, and none will disobey. That day when the sea and earth yield up their hostages, and all that sleep in the grave awake, and the dead in Christ arise. That day when the corruptible seed that you sowed comes forth incorruptible. I entrust myself not to a grave, but to You. My flesh will rest in hope, until You raise it to the everlasting rest. (Richard Baxter)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷ You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸ **In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

Monday Morning Prayer Guide (Creation)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

“¹⁵ “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”
(John 14:15-17)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Gloria Patri” (*Greatorex*)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end! A—men, A—men!**

✠ THE CREED Colossians 1:15-20

“¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.”

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Romans 8:26-27

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

²⁷**And He Who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, **that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
(Pray Forward into the day)

“We adore you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. And we adore you, eternal Word, who was in the beginning with God, and was God. All things were made by You. Nothing was made without You.

At just the right time You were made flesh, lived among us, and showed Your glory—the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

And since it is God’s will that everyone should honor the Son as they honor the Father, we adore You as the brightness of the Father’s glory, the exact image of his person.

We join the angels to worship You. We pay our respect to the exalted Redeemer, Who is the faithful witness, the first begotten from the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

We confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We also worship the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, whom the Son has sent from the Father. He is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, and who is sent to teach us all things, and bring all things to our remembrance, who composed the Scriptures, holy men of God writing them as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

You, O God, made us, and not we ourselves. So we are not our own, but yours. We are your people, and the sheep of your pasture. Therefore we worship, fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

You, Lord, formed our bodies. They are fearfully and wonderfully made, and intricately formed.

You have clothed us with skin and flesh, you have fenced us with bones and sinews, you have granted us life and favor, and your presence preserves our spirits.

You are the Father of our spirits, for you formed our spirits within us, and made us these souls. The Spirit of God has made us, and the breath of the Almighty has given us life. You put wisdom in the inward parts, and give our hearts understanding. Amen.

(Matthew Henry)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Matthew 28:18-20

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Monday Midday Prayer Guide (Creation)

✠ **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

✠ **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

✠ **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Lord, be in our midst as the mighty God Who saves.

Rejoice over us with gladness and quiet us by Your love.

Monday Evening Prayer Guide (Creation)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,
and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may
meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that our lives are not pure and holy apart
from the cleansing we have through the work of Christ.

**We have shut our eyes, our mouths, our hands and our hearts
from Your love and from loving our neighbors.**

Open our eyes,
that we may see Your image in the ones we say we love.

Open our ears,
that we may be quicker to listen than to speak.

Open our mouths,
to speak good rather than evil of our neighbors.

Open our hands,
in generosity and help us loosen our clenched fists.

Open our hearts,
**to a desire to follow Jesus in full obedience to Your will and Your
way.**

(Confess Personal Sins)

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power of
the Holy Spirit.

**Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace. Holy
Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen**

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:1-2

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 118

**“Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast
love endures forever! ² Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures
forever.” ³ Let the house of Aaron say, “His steadfast love endures
forever.” ⁴ Let those who fear the Lord say, “His steadfast love
endures forever.” ⁵ Out of my distress I called on the LORD; the
LORD answered me and set me free. ⁶ The LORD is on my side; I
will not fear. What can man do to me? ⁷ The LORD is on my side
as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.**

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *O Worship the King*
O worship the king all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our shield and defender, the ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

✠ CATECHISM (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Romans 8:26-27

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

²⁷**And He Who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
(*Pray Backward over the day*)

‘Send forth your light and your truth to shine on the earth,
for I am as earth, empty and formless until You illumine me. Pour
out Your grace from above. Shower my heart with heavenly dew.
Open the springs of devotion to water the earth, so that it may
produce the best of good fruits. Lift up my heart pressed down by
the weight of sins, and direct all my desires to heavenly things, so
that having tasted the sweetness of supernal happiness, I may find
no pleasure in thinking of earthly things.

Snatch me up and deliver me from all the passing comfort of
creatures, for no created thing can fully quiet and satisfy my
desires. Join me to yourself in an inseparable bond of love;
because you alone can satisfy him who loves you, and without you
all things are worthless.” (Thomas A. Kempis)

‡ **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷ You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

Tuesday Morning Prayer Guide (Covenant)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

“⁹What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. (1 Cor. 2:9-10)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Holy, Holy, Holy” (*Nicaea*)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

✠ THE CREED Deuteronomy 26:5-9

“A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. 6 And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. 7 Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. 9 And He brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.”

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 27:7-8

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

⁷Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to You, “Your face, Lord, do I seek.”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Pray Forward into the day)

“Lord, our souls have told You: You are our God.

Other lords have had dominion over us, but we affirm the Lord this day to be our God.

We will walk in Your ways, keep Your commandments, honor Your judgments. We will listen to Your voice and give ourselves to You as Your people—for Your praise, and for Your glory.

Lord, truly we are Your servants, born in Your house. You have loosed our bonds. We are bought with a price, so we are not our own, but yield ourselves to You. We join ourselves to You in an everlasting covenant that will never be forgotten.

We are Yours. Save us, for we seek Your ways. We give You what is Yours, that which comes from Your hand. Amen.”
(Matthew Henry)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Isaiah 52:7

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witnesses to the end of the earth!

“⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Tuesday Midday Prayer Guide

✠ **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

✠ **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

✠ **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Be gracious to us and bless and make Your face to shine upon us.

That Your way may be known on the earth, Your saving power among all nations.

Tuesday Evening Prayer Guide (Covenant)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,
and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may
meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

God of glory and grace, there is no one like You in heaven or
earth and no name greater than Your name. You act for the sake of
Your holy name, to declare Your glory to all the earth.

**But we have profaned the name of the Lord by forgetting Your
glory and forsaking Your covenant. We are unclean because of the
filthiness of our sin and the fleeting pursuit of idolatry. We loathe
our iniquities and are ashamed of our evil ways. Lord have
mercy!**

(Confess personal sin)

Vindicate the holiness of Your great name and cleanse us of our
great sin.

**Forgive us through Christ our Savior. Holy Spirit, cleanse us of
our idols, soften our hard hearts, and cause us to walk in Your
statutes and to be careful to obey Your rules.**

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:3-4

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 105:1-3

**“Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known
His deeds among the peoples! Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
tell of all His wondrous works! Glory in His holy name; let the
hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! ⁵Seek the LORD and
His strength; seek His presence continually!”**

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *Holy, Holy, Holy*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

✠ CATECHISM (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Psalm 27:7-8

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

⁷Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸You have said, “Seek My face.” My heart says to You, “Your face, Lord, do I seek.”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
(*Pray Backward over the day*)

“God, should I fear that You are my enemy? If You have told me You are my Father, should I stand aloof, as if I were a stranger?

I will believe, Lord; silence my fears. And as You have given me the claim and title of a child, so give me the confidence of a child.

Let my heart be daily kept alive by Your promises, and with this staff let me pass over Jordan.

Turn these promises into my faithful companions and comforters. When I go, let them lead me. When I sleep, let them keep me. When I awake, let them talk with me.

Keep these promises forever upon the thoughts and hearts of Your people. Prepare their hearts for You.

And let my heart be the ark of Your covenant, where You forever keep and preserve the sacred records of what has passed between You and my soul. Amen.” (Richard Alleine)

✠ PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT Psalm 4:7-8

⁷You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

Wednesday Morning Prayer Guide (Community)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

“¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit Who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³ And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. (1 Cor. 2:12-13)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Glorify Your Name” (*Adkins*)

FATHER, we love You, we praise You, we adore You: Glorify Your Name in all the earth! Glorify Your Name, glorify Your Name, glorify Your Name in all the earth!

(*Repeat, using: JESUS and SPIRIT*)

✠ THE CREED Philippians 2:4-11

“⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

✠ **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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 1:9-10

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

¹⁰ **so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, **that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
(Pray Forward into the day)

“O God, You have made of one fold all the peoples of the earth, and sent Your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after You and find You; bring the nations into Your fold; pour out Your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

(BCP 16 Mission of the Church)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** John 14:12-14

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

“¹² Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”

Wednesday Midday Prayer Guide (Community)

✠ **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

✠ **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

✠ **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Grant us strength to comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of Your love

That we might be filled with the fullness of God.

Wednesday Evening Prayer Guide (Community)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,

and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

Father, You are the Vinedresser and we are Your vineyard, created to bear fruit to Your glory.

Forgive us for our barren lives. Apart from You we have no direction.

Jesus, You are the Vine and we are the branches, created to abide in Your life-giving love.

Forgive us for our self-reliance. Apart from You we cannot bear fruit.

Holy Spirit, You are the Helper and we are the needy, created to bear witness to Jesus.

Forgive us for our pride. Apart from You we cannot serve on mission.

(Confess personal sin)

Forgive us God the Father, through Jesus the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Father, fill us with Your love. Jesus, fill us with Your grace. Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power. In Jesus' name. Amen.

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE Romans 8:33-34

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 100:4-5

“4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! 5 For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.”

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *We are God's People*

To We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,

**Born of His Spirit, established by His Word; **

Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand:

O Let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

**We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it, the love of God out-poured;
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:
O Let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases
Heaven.**

**We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family, diverse yet truly one:
O Let us give our gifts to God, and so shall His work on earth be done.**

**We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light,
and to inspire.**

✠ **CATECHISM** (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Colossians 1:9-10

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
(*Pray Backward over the day*)

“O God, You made us in Your own image, and You have redeemed us through Your Son Jesus Christ: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle, and confusion to accomplish Your purposes on earth; that, in Your good time, all nations and races may serve You in harmony around Your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”
(BCP 42 For the Human Family)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷ You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

Thursday Morning Prayer Guide (The Father's Providence)

✠ **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ **SCRIPTURE READING** (see [Scripture Index](#))

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord Who is the Spirit.”

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ **THE GLORIA** “Come Thou Almighty King” (*Trinity*)

**To the great One in Three eternal praises be
Hence evermore.**

**His sov'reign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore.**

✠ **THE CREED** The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who, for us and our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Psalm 70:4-5

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁴ May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You! May those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”

⁵ But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Pray Forward into the day)

“Bless us in the city and bless us in the country. Let our basket and our bowl be blessed. Bless us when we come in, and bless us when we go out. Let Your gracious providence order all the events of our life so that they all work together for our good. Fulfill this promise to all those that love You, the ones You have called according to Your good purpose. *Deut. 28:3, 5, 6; ROM. 8:28.*

Five us the ability to keep trusting You while we are busy doing good. Let our whole lives be lived out in the land You promised us. Satisfy us with the daily feeding that comes from Your own hand. Let our righteous lifestyle shine as a brilliant light, and our just dealings as noonday brightness...

Let Your face shine as the Lord our God shine with Your pleasure on us. Prosper every effort we make to advance Your kingdom. Establish the work of our hands so that they count for eternity. Send us Your saving favor. Give us success in all we attempt to do for You. *Psa. 90:17; 118:25.*” (Matthew Henry)

✠ PROMISE FOR THE DAY Galatians 6:9-10

Spirit, empower us as Christ's witnesses to the end of the earth!

⁹ And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Thursday Midday Prayer Guide (The Father's Providence)

† **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servant, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

† **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

As we seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness,

Calm our anxious hearts, with your gracious presence.

Grow us, feed us, and clothe us in Your providence.

Thursday Evening Prayer Guide (The Father's Providence)

✠ **PSALM PRAYER** (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,

and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ **CONFESSION**

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
according to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

Behold, we were brought forth in iniquity,

And in sin did our mother conceive us.

Hide Your face from our sins,

And blot out all our iniquities. Lord, have mercy on us.

(Confess personal sin)

Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

✠ **GOSPEL PROMISE** Romans 8:37-39

✠ **THANKSGIVING PRAYERS** Psalm 86:8-13

“Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. ⁷In the day of my trouble I call upon You, for You answer me. ⁸There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours. ⁹All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name. ¹⁰For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.”

✠ **SONG OF PRAISE** *Blessed Assurance*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,

Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood

Chorus:

This is my story, this is my song,

Praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song,

Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bringing from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Chorus

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Chorus

✠ CATECHISM (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Psalm 70:4-5

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁴May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You! May those who love Your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”

⁵But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (*Pray Backward into the day*)

“Lord, You have told us that godliness includes a guarantee for the present life as well as for the life to come. You have promised that if we seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, all other things like food, clothing and shelter will be provided for us. So we cast all our care about these things on You, the One Who cares for us. For as our Heavenly Father You know we need all these things. *1 Timothy 4:8; Matt. 6:33; 1 Peter 5:7; Matt. 6:32.* O Lord, preserve us all along the way as we make our pilgrimage through this world. Give us bread to eat and clothes to wear. Let us finally come to our Heavenly Father’s house in peace. If you will do these things for us, then we solemnly swear that we will always give You the tithe, and as You our Covenant Lord will always be our God. *Gen. 28:20-22.* (Matthew Henry)

✠ PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”

Friday Morning Prayer Guide (The Son's Atonement)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

“¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”
(Galatians 5:16-17)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Alleluia! Alleluia” (*Ebenezer*)

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior, Who has won the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.**

✠ THE CREED 1 Corinthians 15:1-6

“Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.”

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** 1 John 5:14-15

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

²¹ **keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Pray Forward into the day)

“Lord God, Heavenly Father, You did not spare Your only Son, but gave him up for us all to be our Savior, and along with him you have graciously given us all things. We thank you for your precious, saving gospel, and we pray that you would help us to believe in the name of our Savior faithfully and steadfastly, for He alone is our righteousness and wisdom, our comfort and peace, so that we may stand on the day of his appearing; through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord. Amen.” (Martin Luther)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Isaiah 52:7

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witnesses to the end of the earth!

“⁷ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Friday Midday Prayer Guide (The Son's Atonement)

† **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

† **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly,

that we may do whatever we do, in word or deed, in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Friday Evening Prayer Guide (The Son's Atonement)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,

and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

Lord of hosts, You have called us to render true judgments, to show kindness and mercy to one another, and to not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner or poor, and to not devise evil against another in our heart.

But we have thrown off justice and righteousness, we have acted harsh and hurtful, and have schemed wickedness. Forgive us for refusing to pay attention, for turning a stubborn shoulder, and for stopping our ears that we might not hear. We have made our hearts as hard as diamonds. Lord, have mercy on us.

(Confess personal sin)

Forgive us our sin through Christ's blood and renew our hearts by the Spirit's presence.

Cause us to walk in Your statutes and to be careful to obey Your rules.

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE Galatians 3:13-14

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 108:3-5

“³I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations. ⁴For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. ⁵Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let Your glory be over all the earth!”

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Chorus:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.
All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest upon unchanging grace;
In ev'ry rough and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.

Chorus

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.

Chorus

✠ CATECHISM (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Jude 1:20-21

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,

²¹ **keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.”**

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

(Pray Backward over the day)

“We thank You with our whole heart, O beloved Father, for the precious blood of Your dear Son, which He shed for our sake, and by which You daily cleanse, quicken, and sanctify us in Your holy Church, and make us partakers of Your divine nature.

We thank You for the great and unspeakable love, though we were not worthy of it, when You redeemed us by Your own Son, who is our High Priest and Mediator, the True Shepherd Who laid down His life for the sheep of His flock, Who now sits on Your right hand and intercedes for us.

O good and faithful God, Friend of all mankind, give us Your grace and Your great compassion, that we may praise You with Your Son and the Holy Spirit in every act of our lives evermore. Amen.” (Augustine)

✠ PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷ You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

Saturday Morning Prayer Guide (The Spirit's Renewal)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see [Psalm Index](#))

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths will declare Your praise.
(*Read Psalm and pray*)

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (see [Scripture Index](#))

¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for He will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16:13–14)

Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of Your Law.

(*Read Scripture: Meditate, Adore, Confess, Give Thanks, Apply*)

✠ THE GLORIA “Praise and Glory to the Father” (*Regent Square*)

**Praise and glory to the Father, praise and glory to the Son,
Praise and glory to the Spirit: ever Three and ever One;
One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run!**

✠ THE CREED Titus 3:3-7

“³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

✠ 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠ **PERSONAL PRAYER** Psalm 28:7-8

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁷The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.

⁸The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed.”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, **that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**
(Pray Forward into the day)

“Lord, if You give me Yourself, I will have every gift. If You give me Your Spirit, I will have every good thing.

Come, Holy Spirit, and dwell in my soul. I know You will make the place of Your feet glorious. If only I have Your presence, I will be all glorious within.

Lord, I have heard that Christ is always praying for His people. May I feel the real result of His intercession. May I actually feel His prayers, and the warmth of that spiritual fire which is falling down from His prayers into my heart.

Lord, warm my spirit, and let me feel your kiss, that I may now have communion with You, Your spirit upon me, and Your protection over me. Seal my pardon, confirm Your grace, and save my soul in the day of Jesus. Amen.” (Isaac Ambrose)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE DAY** Isaiah 51:1-2

Spirit, empower us as Christ’s witness to the end of the earth!

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for He was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.”

Saturday Midday Prayer Guide (The Spirit's Renewal)

† **PSALM PRAYER** (see [Psalm Index-Morning Psalm](#))

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for to You do we cry all the day.

Gladden the soul of Your servants, for to You, O Lord, do we lift up our souls.

(Read portion of Morning Psalm and pray)

† **PROVERBS PRAYER** (see [Proverbs Index](#))

So teach us to number our days

that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(Read Proverbs and pray)

† **ABIDING PRAYER** (Be still, breathe, and pray)

Satisfy our weary souls with your steadfast love.

Replenish our languishing souls with times of refreshment in your presence.

Saturday Evening Prayer Guide (The Spirit's Renewal)

✠ PSALM PRAYER (see *Psalm Index*)

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,

and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promise.

**Hear my voice according to Your steadfast love; O Lord,
according to Your justice give me life.**

(Read Psalm and pray)

✠ CONFESSION

We rejoice greatly and shout aloud that You, Jesus, have come in humility to save us from our sin.

We groan greatly and lament deeply our sin that crucified our Savior.

You save us as Your flock, and You lead us as our Shepherd.

But we reject Your grace too often and go astray to our own way.

How great is Your goodness and how great is Your beauty.

**How great is our wretchedness and how ugly is our sin. Lord,
have mercy on us.**

(Confess personal sin)

Forgive us and cleanse us of our sin through Christ, our Lord.

Strengthen us, have compassion on us, and restore us in Your righteousness.

✠ GOSPEL PROMISE 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

✠ THANKSGIVING PRAYERS Psalm 28:6-9

“6 Blessed be the Lord! For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. ⁷ The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him. ⁸ The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed. ⁹ Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.”

✠ SONG OF PRAISE *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Streams of mercy, never ceasing,

Call for songs of loudest praise,

Teach me some melodious sonnet,

Sung by flaming tongues above;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,

Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, 't
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

✠ CATECHISM (see [Catechism Index](#))

✠ PERSONAL PRAYER Psalm 86:6-7

Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

O LORD, Make haste to help us!

“⁷The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.

⁸The Lord is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed.”

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (*Pray Backward over the day*)

“Lord God, heavenly Father, through Your Son You promised us that whatever we ask in his name you will give us. Keep us in Your Word and grant us Your Holy Spirit, that He may govern us according to Your will, protect us from the power of the devil, from false doctrine and false worship. Defend our lives against all danger and grant us Your blessing and peace, that we may in all things know Your merciful help and praise and glorify You as our gracious Father now and forever; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.” (Veit Dietrich)

✠ **PROMISE FOR THE NIGHT** Psalm 4:7-8

“⁷ You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

**⁸ In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.”**

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Catechism Index **Westminster Confession of Faith**

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Instructions: The Westminster Confession of Faith is divided by multiple topics (e.g. Of the Holy Scripture) indicated by the chapter number. The theology is then explained in confession statements broken down into different roman numeral points. For each Roman numeral confession statement, you will find various Bible texts which support the statement. Read the roman numeral confession statement and then explore the support verses for the specific date indicated.

7/31-8/6 Chapter 20

Of Christian Liberty, and Liberty of Conscience.

I. The liberty which Christ hath purchased for believers under the Gospel consists in their freedom from the guilt of sin, and condemning wrath of God, the curse of the moral law;(a) and, in their being delivered from this present evil world, bondage to Satan, and dominion of sin;(b) from the evil of afflictions, the sting of death, the victory of the grace, and everlasting damnation;(c) as also, in their free access to God,(d) and their yielding obedience unto Him, not out of slavish fear, but a child-like love and willing mind.(e) All which were common also to believers under the law.(f) But, under the new testament, the liberty of Christians is further enlarged, in their freedom from the yoke of the ceremonial law, to which the Jewish Church was subjected;(g) and in greater boldness of access to the throne of grace,(h) and in fuller communications of the free Spirit of God, than believers under the law did ordinarily partake of.(i)

(a) Tit. 2:14; I Thess. 1:10; Gal. 3:13.

(b) Gal. 1:4; Col. 1:13; Acts 26:18; Rom. 6:14.

(c) Rom. 8:28; Ps. 119:71; I Cor. 15:54, 55, 56, 57; Rom. 8:1.

(d) Rom. 5:1, 2.

(e) Rom. 8:14, 15; I John 4:18.

(f) Gal. 3:9, 14.

(g) Gal. 4:1, 2, 3, 6, 7; Gal. 5:1; Acts 15:10, 11.

(h) Heb. 4:14, 16; Heb. 10:19, 20, 21, 22.

(i) John 7:38, 39; II Cor. 3:13, 17, 18.

II. God alone is Lord of the conscience,(k) and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men, which are in any thing contrary to His Word; or beside it, if matters of faith or worship.(l) So that, to believe such doctrines, or to obey such commands, out of conscience,(m) is to betray true liberty of conscience: and the requiring of an implicit faith, and an absolute and blind obedience is to destroy liberty of conscience, and reason also.(n)

(k) Jam. 4:12; Rom. 14:4.

(l) Acts 4:19; Acts 5:29; I Cor. 7:23; Matt. 23:8, 9, 10; II Cor. 1:24; Matt. 15:9.

(m) Col. 2:20, 22, 23; Gal. 1:10; Gal. 2:4, 5; Gal. 5:1.

(n) Rom. 10:17; Rom. 14:23; Isa. 8:20; Acts 17:11; John 4:22; Hos.

5:11; Rev. 13:12, 16, 17; Jer. 8:9.

III. They who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, do practice any sin, or cherish any lust, do thereby destroy the end of Christian liberty, which is, that being delivered out of the hands of our enemies, we might serve the Lord, without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our life.(o)

(o) Gal. 5:13; I Pet. 2:16; II Pet. 2:19; John 8:34; Luke 1:74, 75.

IV. And because the powers which God hath ordained, and the liberty which Christ hath purchased, are not intended by God to destroy, but mutually to uphold and preserve one another; they who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, shall oppose any lawful power, or the lawful exercise of it, whether it be civil or ecclesiastical, resist the ordinance of God.(p) And, for their publishing of such opinions, or maintaining of such practices, as are contrary to the light of nature, or to the known principles of Christianity, whether concerning faith, worship, or conversation; or, to the power of godliness; or, such erroneous opinions or practices, as either in their own nature, or in the manner of publishing or maintaining them, are destructive to the external peace and order which Christ hath established in the Church, they may lawfully be called to account, and proceeded against by the censures of the Church,(q) and by the power of the civil magistrate.(r)

(p) Matt. 12:25; I Pet. 2:13, 14, 16; Rom. 13:1 to 8; Heb. 13:17.

(q) Rom. 1:32 with I Cor. 5:1, 5, 11, 13; II John ver. 10, 11, and II Thess. 3:14, and I Tim. 6:3, 4, 5, and Tit. 1:10, 11, 13, and Tit. 3:10 with Matt. 18:15, 16, 17; I Tim. 1:19, 20; Rev. 2:2, 14, 15, 20; Rev. 3:9.

(r) Deut. 13:6 to 12; Rom. 13:3, 4 with II John ver. 10, 11; Ezra 7:23, 25, 26, 27, 28; Rev. 17:12, 16, 17; Neh.

13:15, 17, 21, 22, 25, 30; II Kings 23:5, 6, 9, 20, 21; II Chron. 34:33; II Chron. 15:12, 13, 16; Dan. 3:29; I Tim. 2:2; Isa. 49:23; Zech. 13:2, 3.

8/7-8/13 Chapter 21

Of Religious Worship and the Sabbath-day.

I. The light of nature showeth that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all, is good, and doth good unto all, and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served, with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might.(a) But the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation, or any other way not prescribed in the holy Scripture.(b)

(a) Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:24; Ps. 119:68; Jer. 10:7; Ps. 31:23; Ps. 18:3; Rom. 10:12; Ps. 62:8; Josh. 24:14; Mark 12:33.

(b) Deut. 12:32; Matt. 15:9; Acts 17:25; Matt. 4:9, 10; Deut. 4:15 to 20; Exod. 20:4, 5, 6; Col. 2:23.

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II. Religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and to Him alone;(c) not to angels, saints, or any other creature:(d) and since the fall, not without a Mediator; nor in the mediation of any other but of Christ alone.(e)

(c) Matt. 4:10 with John 5:23 and II Cor. 13:14.

(d) Col. 2:18, Rev. 19:10; Rom. 1:25.

(e) John 14:6; I Tim. 2:5; Eph. 2:18; Col. 3:17.

III. Prayer, with thanksgiving, being one special part of religious worship,(f) is by God required of all men:(g) and that it may be accepted, it is to be made in the name of the Son,(h) by the help of His Spirit,(i) according to His will, (k) with understanding, reverence, humility, fervency, faith, love, and perseverance;(l) and, if vocal, in a known tongue.(m)

(f) Phil. 4:6.

(g) Ps. 65:2.

(h) John 14:13, 14; I Pet. 2:5.

(i) Rom. 8:26.

(k) I John 5:14.

(l) Ps. 47:7; Eccles. 5:1, 2; Heb. 12:28; Gen. 18:27; James 5:16; James 1:6, 7; Mark 11:24; Matt. 6:12, 14, 15; Col. 4:2; Eph. 6:18.

(m) I Cor. 14:14.

IV. Prayer is to be made for things lawful;(n) and for all sorts of men living, or that shall live hereafter:(o) but not for the dead,(p) nor for those of whom it may be known that they have sinned the sin unto death.(q)

(n) I John 5:14.

(o) I Tim. 2:1, 2; John 17:20; II Sam. 7:29; Ruth 4:12.

(p) II Sam. 12:21, 22, 23 with Luke 16:25, 26; Rev. 14:13.

(q) I John 5:16.

V. The reading of the Scriptures with godly fear,(r) the sound preaching(s) and conscionable hearing of the Word, in obedience unto God, with understanding, faith and reverence;(t) singing of psalms with grace in the heart;(u) as also, the due administration and worthy receiving of the sacraments instituted by Christ; are all parts of the ordinary religious worship of God:(w) beside religious oaths,(x) vows,(y) solemn fastings,(z) and thanksgivings, upon special occasions,(a) which are, in their several times and seasons, to be used in a holy and religious manner.(b)

(r) Acts 15:21; Rev. 1:3.

(s) II Tim. 4:2.

(t) James 1:22; Acts 10:33; Matt. 13:19; Heb. 4:2; Isa. 66:2.

(u) Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19; James 5:13.

(w) Matt. 28:19; I Cor. 11:23 to 29; Acts 2:42.

(x) Deut. 6:13 with Neh. 10:29.

(y) Isa. 19:21 with Eccles. 5:4, 5.

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- (z) Joel 2:12; Esther 4:16; Matt. 9:15; I Cor. 7:5.
 (a) Ps. 107 throughout; Esther 9:22.
 (b) Heb. 12:28.

VI. Neither prayer, nor any other part of religious worship, is now under the Gospel either tied unto, or made more acceptable by any place in which it is performed, or towards which it is directed:(c) but God is to be worshipped everywhere,(d) in spirit and truth;(e) as in private families(f) daily,(g) and in secret each one by himself;(h) so, more solemnly, in the public assemblies, which are not carelessly or willfully to be neglected, or forsaken, when God, by His Word or providence, calls thereunto.(i)

- (c) John 4:21.
 (d) Mal. 1:11; I Tim. 2:8.
 (e) John 4:23, 24.
 (f) Jer. 10:25; Deut. 6:6, 7; Job 1:5; II Sam. 6:18, 20; I Pet. 3:7; Acts 10:2.
 (g) Matt. 6:11.
 (h) Matt. 6:6; Eph. 6:18.
 (i) Isa. 56:6, 7; Heb. 10:25; Prov. 1:20, 21, 24; Prov. 8:34; Acts 13:42; Luke 4:16; Acts 2:42.

VII. As it is the law of nature, that, in general, a due proportion of time be set apart for the worship of God; so, in His Word, by a positive, moral, and perpetual commandment, binding all men, in all ages, He hath particularly appointed one day in seven, for a Sabbath, to be kept holy unto Him:(k) which, from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was the last day of the week; and, from the resurrection of Christ, was changed into the first day of the week,(l) which, in Scripture, is called the Lord's Day,(m) and is to be continued to the end of the world, as the Christian Sabbath.(n)

- (k) Exod. 20:8, 10, 11; Isa. 56:2, 4, 6, 7.
 (l) Gen. 2:2, 3; I Cor. 16:1, 2; Acts 20:7.
 (m) Rev. 1:10.
 (n) Exod. 20:8, 10, with Matt. 5:17, 18.

VIII. This Sabbath is then kept holy unto the Lord, when men, after a due preparing of their hearts, and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, do not only observe an holy rest, all the day, from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations,(o) but also are taken up the whole time in the public and private exercises of His worship, and in the duties of necessity and mercy.(p)

- (o) Exod. 20:8; Exod. 16:23, 25, 26, 29, 30; Exod. 31:15, 16, 17; Isa. 58:13; Neh. 13:15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22.
 (p) Isa. 58:13; Matt. 12:1 to 13.

8/14-8/20 Chapter 22

Of Lawful Oaths and Vows.

I. A lawful oath is a part of religious worship,(a) wherein, upon just occasion, the person swearing solemnly calleth God to witness what he asserteth, or promiseth, and to judge him according to the truth or falsehood of what he sweareth.(b)

(a) Deut. 10:20.

(b) Exod. 20:7; Lev. 19:12; II Cor. 1:23, II Chron. 6:22, 23.

II. The name of God only is that by which men ought to swear; and therein it is to be used with all holy fear and reverence.(c) Therefore, to swear vainly or rashly, by that glorious and dreadful Name; or, to swear at all by any other thing, is sinful, and to be abhorred.(d) Yet, as in matters of weight and moment, an oath is warranted by the Word of God, under the New Testament, as well as under the Old;(e) so a lawful oath, being imposed by lawful authority, in such matters ought to be taken.(f)

(c) Deut. 6:13.

(d) Exod. 20:7; Jer. 5:7; Matt. 5:34, 37; James 5:12.

(e) Heb. 6:16; II Cor. 1:23; Isa. 65:16.

(f) I Kings 8:31; Neh. 13:25; Ezra 10:5.

III. Whosoever taketh an oath ought duly to consider the weightiness of so solemn an act; and therein to avouch nothing, but what he is fully persuaded is the truth.(g) Neither may any man bind himself by oath to anything but what is good and just, and what he believeth so to be, and what he is able and resolved to perform.(h) Yet is it a sin to refuse an oath touching anything that is good and just, being imposed by lawful authority.(i)

(g) Exod. 20:7; Jer. 4:2.

(h) Gen. 24:2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9.

(i) Num. 5:19, 21; Neh. 5:12; Exod. 22:7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

IV. An oath is to be taken in the plain and common sense of the words, without equivocation, or mental reservation.(k) It cannot oblige to sin: but in anything not sinful, being taken, it binds to performance, although to a man's own hurt.(l) Not is it to be violated, although made to heretics, or infidels.(m)

(k) Jer. 4:2; Ps. 24:4.

(l) I Sam. 25:22, 32, 33, 34; Ps. 15:4.

(m) Ezek. 17:16, 18, 19; Josh. 9:18, 19 with II Sam. 21:1.

V. A vow is of the like nature with a promissory oath, and ought to be made with the like religious care, and to be performed with the like faithfulness.(n)

(n) Isa. 19:21; Eccles. 5:4, 5, 6; Ps. 61:8; Ps. 66:13, 14.

VI. It is not to be made to any creature, but to God alone:(o) and that it may be accepted, it is to be made voluntarily, out of faith, and conscience of duty, in way of thankfulness for mercy received, or for the obtaining of what we want; whereby we more strictly bind ourselves to necessary duties; or to other things, so far and so long as they may fitly conduce thereunto.(p)

(o) Ps. 76:11; Jer. 44:25, 26.

(p) Deut. 23:21, 22, 23; Ps. 50:14; Gen. 28:20, 21, 22; I Sam. 1:11; Ps. 66:13, 14; Ps. 132:2, 3, 4, 5.

VII. No man may vow to do anything forbidden in the Word of God, or what would hinder any duty therein commanded, or which is not in his own power, and for the performance whereof he hath no promise of ability from God.(q) In which respects, Popish monastical vows of perpetual single life, professed poverty, and regular obedience, are so far from being degrees of higher perfection, that they are superstitious and sinful snares, in which no Christian may entangle himself.(r)

(q) Acts 23:12, 14; Mark 6:26; Numb. 30:5, 8, 12, 13.

(r) Matt. 19:11, 12; I Cor. 7:2, 9; Eph. 4:28; I Peter 4:2; I Cor. 7:23.

8/21-8/27 Chapter 23

Of the Civil Magistrate.

I. God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, hath ordained civil magistrates, to be, under Him, over the people, for His own glory, and the public good: and, to this end, hath armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of them that are good, and for the punishment of evil doers.(a)

(a) Rom. 13:1, 2, 3, 4; I Pet. 2:13, 14.

II. It is lawful for Christians to accept and execute the office of a magistrate, when called thereunto;(b) in the managing whereof, as they ought especially to maintain piety, justice, and peace, according to the wholesome laws of each commonwealth;(c) so for that end, they may lawfully now, under the New Testament, wage war, upon just and necessary occasion.(d)

(b) Prov. 8:15, 16; Rom. 13:1, 2, 4.

(c) Ps. 2:10, 11, 12; I Tim. 2:2; Ps. 82:3, 4; II Sam. 23:3; I Pet. 2:13.

(d) Luke 3:14; Rom. 13:4; Matt. 8:9, 10; Acts 10:1, 2; Rev. 17:14, 16.

III. The civil magistrate may not assume to himself the administration of the Word and sacraments, or the power of the keys of the kingdom of heaven:(e) yet he hath authority, and it is his duty, to take order, that unity and peace be preserved in the Church, that the truth of God be kept pure and entire; that all blasphemies and heresies be suppressed; all corruptions and abuses in worship and discipline prevented or reformed; and all the ordinances of God duly settled, administrated, and observed.(f) For the better effecting whereof, he hath power to call synods, to be present at them, and to provide that whatsoever is transacted in them be according to the mind of God.(g)

Su M T W Th F Sa

(e) II Chron. 26:18 with Matt. 18:17 and Matt. 16:19; I Cor. 12:28, 29; Eph. 4:11, 12; I Cor. 4:1, 2; Rom. 10:15; Heb. 5:4.

(f) Isa. 49:23; Ps. 122:9; Ezra 7:23, 25, 26, 27, 28; Lev. 24:16; Deut. 13:5, 6, 12; I Kings 18:4; I Chron. 13:1 to 9; II Kings 23:1 to 26; II Chron. 34:33; II Chron. 15:12, 13.

(g) II Chron. 19:8, 9, 10, 11; II Chron. 29 and 30; Matt. 2:4, 5.

IV. It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates,(h) to honor their persons, (i) to pay them tribute or other dues,(k) to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority, for conscience' sake.(l) Infidelity, or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates' just and legal authority, nor free the people from their due obedience to them:(m) from which ecclesiastical persons are not exempted,(n) much less hath the Pope any power and jurisdiction over them in their dominions, or over any of their people; and, least of all, to deprive them of their dominions, or lives, if he shall judge them to be heretics, or upon any other pretense whatsoever.(o)

(h) I Tim. 2:1, 2.

(i) I Pet. 2:17.

(k) Rom. 13:6, 7.

(l) Rom. 13:5; Tit. 3:1.

(m) I Pet. 2:13, 14, 16.

(n) Rom. 13:1; I Kings 2:35; Acts 25:9, 10, 11; II Pet. 2:1, 10, 11; Jude ver. 8, 9, 10, 11.

(o) II Thess. 2:4; Rev. 13:15, 16, 17.

8/28-9/3 Chapter 24

Of Marriage and Divorce.

I. Marriage is to be between one man and one woman: neither is it lawful for any man to have more than one wife, nor for any woman to have more than one husband; at the same time.(a)

(a) Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5, 6; Prov. 2:17.

II. Marriage was ordained for the mutual help of husband and wife,(b) for the increase of mankind with a legitimate issue, and of the Church with an holy seed;(c) and for preventing of uncleanness.(d)

(b) Gen. 2:18.

(c) Mal. 2:15.

(d) I Cor. 7:2, 9.

III. It is lawful for all sorts of people to marry, who are able with judgment to give their consent.(e) Yet is it the duty of Christians to marry only in the Lord:

(f) and therefore such as profess the true reformed religion should not marry with infidels, papists, or other idolaters: neither should such as are godly be unequally yoked, by marrying with such as are notoriously wicked in their life, or maintain damnable heresies.(g)

(e) Heb. 13:4; I Tim. 4:3; I Cor. 7:36, 37, 38; Gen. 24:57, 58.

Su M T W Th F Sa

(f) I Cor. 7:39.

(g) Gen. 34:14; Exod. 34:16; Deut. 7:3, 4; I Kings 11:4; Neh. 13:25, 26, 27; Mal. 2:11, 12; II Cor. 6:14.

IV. Marriage ought not to be within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity forbidden by the Word;(h) nor can such incestuous marriages ever be made lawful by any law of man or consent of parties, so as those persons may live together as man and wife.(i) The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own; nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own.(k)

(h) Lev. 18; I Cor. 5:1; Amos 2:7.

(i) Mark 6:18; Lev. 18:24, 25, 26, 27, 28.

(k) Lev. 20:19, 20, 21.

V. Adultery or fornication committed after a contract, being detected before marriage, giveth just occasion to the innocent party to dissolve that contract.

(l) In the case of adultery after marriage, it is lawful for the innocent party to sue out a divorce:(m) and, after the divorce, to marry another, as if the offending party were dead.(n)

(l) Matt. 1:18, 19, 20.

(m) Matt. 5:31, 32.

(n) Matt. 19:9; Rom. 7:2, 3.

VI. Although the corruption of man be such as is apt to study arguments unduly to put asunder those whom God hath joined together in marriage: yet nothing but adultery, or such willful desertion as can no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrate, is cause sufficient of dissolving the bond of marriage:(o) wherein, a public and orderly course of proceeding is to be observed; and the persons concerned in it not left to their own wills and discretion, in their own case.(p)

(o) Matt. 19:8, 9; I Cor. 7:15; Matt. 19:6.

(p) Deut. 24:1, 2, 3, 4.

9/4-9/10 Chapter 25

Of the Church.

I. The catholic or universal Church which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the Head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.(a)

(a) Eph. 1:10, 22, 23; Eph. 5:23, 27, 32; Col. 1:18.

II. The visible Church, which is also catholic or universal under the Gospel (not confined to one nation as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion;(b) and of their children:(c) and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ,(d) the house and family of God, (e) out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.(f)

Su M T W Th F Sa

- (b) I Cor. 1:2; I Cor. 12:12, 13; Ps. 2:8; Rev. 7:9; Rom. 15:9, 10, 11, 12.
 (c) I Cor. 7:14; Acts 2:39; Ezek. 16:20, 21; Rom. 11:16; Gen. 3:15; Gen. 17:7.
 (d) Matt. 13:47; Isa. 9:7.
 (e) Eph. 2:19; Eph. 3:15.
 (f) Acts 2:47.

III. Unto this catholic visible Church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints, in this life, to the end of the world: and doth by His own presence and Spirit, according to His promise, make them effectual thereunto.(g)

- (g) I Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11, 12, 13; Matt. 28:19, 20; Isa. 59:21.

IV. This catholic Church hath been sometimes more, sometimes less visible.

(h) And particular Churches, which are members thereof, are more or less pure, according as the doctrine of the Gospel is taught and embraced, ordinances administered, and public worship performed more or less purely in them.(i)

- (h) Rom. 11:3, 4; Rev. 12:6, 14.

- (i) Rev. 2 and 3; I Cor. 5:6, 7.

V. The purest Churches under heaven are subject both to mixture and error:(k) and some have so degenerated, as to become no Churches of Christ, but synagogues of Satan.(l) Nevertheless, there shall be always a Church on earth, to worship God according to His will.(m)

- (k) I Cor. 13:12; Rev. 2 and 3; Matt. 13:24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 47.

- (l) Rev. 18:2; Rom. 11:18, 19, 20, 21, 22.

- (m) Matt. 16:18; Ps. 72:17; Ps. 102:28; Matt. 28:19, 20.

VI. There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ(n). Nor can the Pope of Rome, in any sense, be head thereof.

- (n) Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22.

9/11-9/17 Chapter 26

Of the Communion of the Saints.

I. All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head by His Spirit and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His grace, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory:(a) and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces,(b) and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.(c)

- (a) John 1:3; Eph. 3:16, 17, 18, 19; John 1:16; Eph. 2:5, 6; Phil. 3:10; Rom. 6:5, 6; II Tim. 2:12.

- (b) Eph. 4:15, 16; I Cor. 12:7; I Cor. 3:21, 22, 23; Col. 2:19.

- (c) I Thess. 5:11, 14; Rom. 1:11, 12, 14; I John 3:16, 17, 18; Gal. 6:10.

II. Saints by profession are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God; and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification;(d) as also in relieving each other in outward things, according to their several abilities, and necessities. Which communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus.(e)

(d) Heb. 10:24, 25; Acts 2:42, 46; Isa. 2:3; I Cor. 11:20.

(e) Acts 2:44, 45; I John 3:17; II Cor. 8 and 9 chapters; Acts 11:29, 30.

III. This communion which the saints have with Christ, doth not make them, in any wise, partakers of the substance of His Godhead; or to be equal with Christ, in any respect: either of which to affirm is impious and blasphemous.

(f) Nor doth their communion one with another, as saints, take away, or infringe the title or propriety which each man hath in his goods and possessions.(g)

(f) Col. 1:18, 19; I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 42:8; I Tim. 6:15, 16; Ps. 45:7,
with Heb. 1:8, 9.

(g) Exod. 20:15; Eph. 4:28; Acts 5:4.

9/18-9/17 Chapter 27

Of the Sacraments

I. Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace,^a immediately instituted by God,^b to represent Christ and His benefits; and to confirm our interest in Him;^c as also, to put a visible difference between those that belong unto the Church, and the rest of the world;^d and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ, according to His Word.^e

a) Rom 4:11; Gen 17:7,10.

b) Matt 28:19; I Cor 11:23.

c) I Cor 10:16; I Cor 11:25-26; Gal 3:17.

d) Rom 15:8; Exod 12:48; Gen 34:14.

e) Rom 6:3-4; I Cor 10:16,21.

II. There is in every sacrament a spiritual relation, or sacramental union, between the sign and the thing signified: whence it comes to pass, that the names and effects of the one are attributed to the other.^f

f) Gen 17:10; Matt 26:27-28; Tit 3:5.

III. The grace which is exhibited in or by the sacraments rightly used, is not conferred by any power in them: neither doth the efficacy of a sacrament depend upon the piety or intention of him that doth administer it:^g but upon the work of the Spirit,^h and the word of institution, which contains, together with a precept authorizing the use thereof, a promise of benefit to worthy receivers.ⁱ

(g) Rom 2:28-29; 1 Pet 3:21.

(h) Matt 3:11; 1 Cor 12:13.

(i) Matt 26:27-28; Matt 28:19-20.

IV. There be only two sacraments ordained by Christ our Lord in the gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord: neither of which may be dispensed by any but by a minister of the Word lawfully ordained.^k
k) Matt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:20,23; 1 Cor 4:1; Heb 5:4.

V. The sacraments of the Old Testament, in regard of the spiritual things thereby signified and exhibited, were, for substance, the same with those of the New.^l

l) Cor 10:1-4.