

## Evening Prayer for Individual Use

### Opening

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
the light no darkness can overcome.

### Hymn of Light

*A hymn of praise to Christ the light may follow.*

Joyous light of glory of the immortal Father;  
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.  
We have come to the setting of the sun,  
and we look to the evening light.  
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:  
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.  
O Son of God, O giver of life:  
The universe proclaims your glory.

### Psalmody

*Psalm 141 (below), a song of forgiveness and protection; Psalm 121; or another suitable psalm may be prayed.*

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.  
O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I cry to you.  
Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.  
Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,  
and guard the door of my lips.  
Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;  
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.  
But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;  
in you I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.  
Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

*A time of silence for reflection may be kept. The psalmody may continue with one or more additional psalms, and each may be followed by silence. A hymn or song may follow.*

## **Word**

### **Readings**

*One or more scripture passages may be read, followed by silence for reflection. The reflection may conclude with the following:*

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

### **Gospel Cantic**

*The gospel cantic for evening, the song of Mary, may be prayed. "My soul proclaims your greatness" (p. 253) may be used as an alternative.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me  
and holy is your name.  
You have mercy on those who fear you,  
from generation to generation.  
You have shown strength with your arm  
and scattered the proud in their conceit,  
casting down the mighty from their thrones  
and lifting up the lowly.  
You have filled the hungry with good things  
and sent the rich away empty.  
You have come to the aid of your servant Israel,  
to remember the promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our forebears,  
to Abraham and his children forever.

### **Prayers**

*The following or another form of the prayers may be used. Specific, personal prayers may be offered after each petition.*

In peace, I pray to you, O Lord. I thank you for the blessings of this day, and I bring before you the world that you so love.

Especially I pray—

for the peace from above and for salvation . . .

for the peace of the whole world . . .

for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all . . .

for the health of the creation and for abundant harvests that all may share . . .

*Other intercessions may be added.*

I pray to you, O Lord, for others in my life and for all in public service. May the love you have revealed in Jesus Christ comfort, renew, and empower them.

Especially I pray—

for public servants, the government, and those who protect us . . .

*[for the president of the United States and all who lead . . .]*

*[for military leaders, and all service members and their families . . .]*

*[for others in my unit who serve beside me day after day . . .]*

for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place . . .

for friends and family near and far who support me . . .

*Other intercessions may be added.*

I pray to you, O Lord, for all who are in any need. As you care for all your children, help me to be an instrument of your peace, justice, and healing.

Especially I pray—

for deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need . . .

for those who travel . . .

for those who are sick and suffering . . .

for those who are in prison or held captive . . .

and for all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy . . .

*Other intercessions may be added. A time of silence may follow.*

Giving thanks for all who have gone before and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, I commend myself and my whole life to you, O Lord.

*One or more of the following or other appropriate prayers may be prayed.*

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give me faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where I go, but only that your hand is leading me and your love supporting me; through Jesus Christ my Lord.

**Amen.**

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**Amen.**

I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I

have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**OR**

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of the gift of baptism.*

Almighty God, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve me.  
Amen.

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