

A Disciples' Liturgy for Daily Prayer

Revised February 2017

Preface: The Disciples' Liturgy for Daily Prayer
is designed to be communal – prayed with others.
So whenever you use this daily liturgy,
especially when you are alone,
always remember others are praying it with you.

PRAYER ADDRESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Almighty and loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth,
God of Abraham and Sarah,
LORD God of Israel, David, and the Prophets,
God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Triune God, Creator, Savior, Spirit,
Living God, who was, is, and ever shall be.
In the name of Jesus, and in the power of the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy and hear our prayers.

PRAYERS OF PRAISE

“The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You will love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.”
(Deuteronomy 6:4)

“I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.
O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.
Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
This poor soul cried out, and was heard by the LORD,
and was saved from every trouble.
The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.
O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.”
(Psalm 34:1-8)

Doxology *(To be sung when possible)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

(Sin is anything not in harmony with the will of God; sin separates us from God. "To confess our sins to God is not to tell God anything God doesn't already know. Until we confess them, however, they are the abyss between us. When we confess them, they become the bridge." Frederick Buechner)

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8, 9)

Most Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

"Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. I acknowledged my sin to you, I did not hide it; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin."

(Psalm 32:1-2, 5)

Thanks be to God for the gift of forgiveness.

The Apostles' Creed

(A written confession of orthodox Christianity for over 1600 years.)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PERSONAL PETITIONS

“The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
(Philippians 4:5b-7)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of all blessings,
thank you for the gift of life:
for the breath and prayer that sustains us,
for the food and Scripture that feeds us,
for the shelter and Church that protects us,
and for the love of family and fellowship that upholds us.
Above all we thank you for the immeasurable love
revealed in our Lord Jesus.

We pray for such an awareness of your blessings
that with thankful hearts we praise you by giving
ourselves to your service all our days.

For these, and all blessings,
we give you thanks, eternal, loving God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

(Personal thanksgiving can be added.)

Intercession for Family and Friends

Lord Jesus, please bless our families, and brothers and sisters in
Christ. Watch over and protect . . . *(Lift up family, godchildren, and
friends by name.)*

Intercession for those in Need

Holy Spirit, healing power of God, we lift up to you those we know who
are sick, grieving, or with any special need. *(Lift up individuals on your
heart)*. We also lift up to you those whom it would be easy to forget:
the homeless, the hungry, the destitute, the aged, those who have no
one to care for them. Empower us to help those who are broken in
body or spirit so that the whole world will know the healing power of
Christ's love.

Prayer for our Enemies

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.” (Matthew 5:43-45)
(Lift up anyone who comes to mind.)

Personal Petitions

Christ Jesus, my Lord and my God, have mercy on me and hear my prayers. *(Lift up personal requests to the Lord.)*

PSALM 23

“The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”

Jesus Prayer

(A common prayer in Christian liturgy since the 4th century.)

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me.

CONTEMPLATION – LISTENING PRAYER

(At one level prayer is simply a dialogue with God. We can express our thoughts, concerns, and requests to the Lord, which is called discursive prayer. Or we can listen to God, which is called contemplative prayer. Take some time to sit in silence and simply listen to the Lord. This can be for a few minutes or for as long as an hour.)

Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me.

THE DISCIPLES' PRAYER

(Also called "The Lord's Prayer" or "The Our Father.")

Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen

BEATITUDES

(The Beatitudes describe the heart and actions of a disciple of Jesus.)

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled."

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:3-10)

New Commandment

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34, 35)

Prayer for the Church

Lord Jesus, by the power of your Holy Spirit, draw your Church into one unified community of disciples, together following you into every walk of life, together serving in God's mission to share your healing power, and together witnessing to your love and truth to the whole world.

Prayer for All People

O God, you made us in your image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, use us to accomplish your will on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

"Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
(Matthew 28:20b)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen