

Home Prayers

October 24, 2021 • Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

(adapted from the *Book of Alternative Services*, pages 685-679)

*If you are praying with one or more others, the service can be divided between the plain and bold text.
If you are praying by yourself, you can say all of the prayers aloud or silently.*

The Preparation

O God, you command a light to shine out of darkness.
Shine in our hearts that we may be as lights in the world
reflecting the glory of Jesus in our lives.
God is light and in him is no darkness.

A hymn may be sung.

1. The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, our Lord;
we are a new creation
by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and taught us
what perfect love can be;
through life and death he sought us,
and rose to set us free.
2. The church in ev'ry nation
is one through all the earth;
our charter of salvation,
one God, one faith, one birth;
one name together blessing,
one holy food we share,
to one hope ever pressing,
at one in work and prayer.
3. Still, schisms, tribulation,
and hatred fuel our war;
we wait the consummation
of peace forevermore.
The saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.
4. Yet we on earth have union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic, sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, happy ones and holy!
God, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
may live eternally.

Text by S.J. Stone (1839-1900)

The collect of the day may be said.

Accept us now,
as we give thanks to you for this place
where we have come to praise your name,
to ask your forgiveness,
to know your healing power,
to hear your word,
and to be nourished by the body and blood of your Son.
Be present always to guide and to judge,
to illumine and to bless your people.
This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reading

The gospel of the day or another passage of scripture may be read. The following is Acts 2:14a, 36-41.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Following the reading you may contemplate in silence, or discuss the scripture passage with others, or read a related work of literature.

Apostles' Creed

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 to the dead.
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.

Intercessions

Prayers may be offered for the church, those in authority, the world, those in need, and the departed.

For the Church universal, of which these buildings are a visible symbol,
we thank you, Lord.

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered in your name,
we thank you, Lord.

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God,
we thank you, Lord.

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us,
we thank you, Lord.

For our past and a vision of the future that lies ahead,
we thank you, Lord.

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in baptism,
we thank you, Lord.

For the pardon of our sins when we have fallen short of your glory,
we thank you, Lord.

For the holy eucharist in which we have a foretaste of your eternal kingdom,
we thank you, Lord.

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness,
we thank you, Lord.

For the faith of those who have gone before us and for our encouragement by their perseverance,
we thank you, Lord.

For all the benefactors of this place who have died in the peace of Christ and are at rest,
we thank you, Lord.

For the fellowship of all your saints,
we thank you, Lord.

Here other intercessions can be offered.

This concluding prayer can then be said:

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 us faith to go forward with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.