



*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. . . .
The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.*

Isaiah 11:1; Romans 15:12

MORNING & EVENING PRAYER

Advent & Christmas

November 30, 2015—January 2, 2016



know



be known



make known

Why Should You Use This Guide for Morning and Evening Prayer?

- It frames each day in prayer and helps us pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).
- It unites Sunday worship to daily worship during the week so that each reinforces the other. The structure follows the same ancient pattern of worship by which God renews his covenant relationship with us:
 - Opening prayers of praise
 - Confessing our sin and receiving God's forgiveness
 - Hearing God's instruction from his word
 - Praying our petitions for the church and the world
 - Being sent with God's blessing

The prayers and readings also correlate with Sunday sermon theme and amplify its effect with further meditation and prayer.

- It teaches us to pray by giving us structure and language for prayer from the Bible. The prayer guide will cover the whole book of Psalms, the Bible's prayerbook, every seven weeks.
- It gives us variety so that we don't get bored praying the same old things for the same old things.
- It unites the whole church in common prayer. We pray together as one body.

Tips and Resources for Praying Morning and Evening Prayer

1. When praying with a group, the leader reads light print and whole groups responds with the text printed in boldface.

2. Remember the children. The daily readings for children are taken from the following books:

JSB = *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones (Zondervan, 2007).

BPSB = *The Big Picture Story Bible* by David Helm (Crossway, 2010).

GSB = *The Gospel Story Bible* by Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2011).

Old Story New: Ten-Minute Devotions by Marty Machowski (New Growth Press, 2012).

BPSB is most suitable for very young children while JSB and GSB are more suitable for children in early-to-middle elementary school. All have very colorful illustrations attractive to children of all ages. The book *Old Story New* is a collection of short daily devotions for families based on the stories in GSB.

3. Pray from the Bible. The psalms and other scripture texts are provided primarily to be the . Use the ideas and language from these texts to guide the content and words of your prayer. For practical guidance in praying from God’s word, see these resources:

- Donald Whitney, *Praying the Bible* (Crossway, 2015).
- Evan Howard, *Praying the Scriptures: A Field Guide for Your Spiritual Journey* (IVP, 1999).
- T. M. Moore, *God’s Prayer Program: Passionately Using the Psalms in Prayer* (Christian Focus, 2005).

4. Don’t neglect petition. The structure of the daily liturgy leads us from praise to petition. Spend ample time each day asking God to supply the specific needs of the church and the world in the following areas:

- Personal life: your relationship with God; your character and patterns of sin; your relationships with friends, family, enemies, neighbors, co-workers, and their needs; your work/vocation; your physical health
- Central Presbyterian Church: worship; community life; outreach
- St. Louis: the mission and flourishing of St. Louis churches, our neighborhoods, the peace and flourishing of our city; local cultural issues, e.g., racial reconciliation and justice; local governments
- Nation: faithfulness and flourishing of churches in America; cultural issues, e.g., education, media, business, arts, systemic injustice; state and national governments
- World: the mission and flourishing of the worldwide church, missionaries supported by Central Presbyterian Church and other churches; other nations/cultures

5. When praying the Lord’s Prayer, you may use either of the two forms found in Sunday worship services at Central:

The Lord’s Prayer (English Standard Version)

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

The Lord’s Prayer (King James Version)

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.*

MORNING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord
our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

**O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.** *Psalms 51:5*



Come thou long _ ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
Joy to those _ who long to see _ thee, Day - spring from on high, _ ap - pear.
Come to earth _ to taste our sad - ness, he whose glor - ies knew _ no end.
Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet _ a king,



from our fears _ and sins re - lease _ us, let us find our rest _ in thee.
Come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long _ to hear!
By his life _ he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
born to reign _ in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength _ and con - so - la - tion, hope of all _ the earth _ thou art:
O'er the hills _ the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of _ a birth:
Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in _ a cat - tle stall,
By thine own _ e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all _ our hearts _ a - lone;



dear _ de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
"Go _ to him, _ your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord _ has come to earth."
this _ the ev - er last - ing won - der, Christ was born _ the Lord of all.
by _ thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to _ Thy glo - rious throne.

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	146, 147	1 John 3:4-10	JSB: Get ready! (pp. 170-175)
Monday	1, 2, 3	Genesis 3:14-15	BPSB: Part 12 (pp. 229-241)
Tuesday	5, 6	Matthew 4:1-11	
Wednesday	119:1-24	Hebrews 2:10-18	
Thursday	18:1-20	1 Peter 5:6-11	
Friday	16, 17	Ephesians 6:10-20	
Saturday	20, 21	James 4:1-10	

**may be read during evening prayer*

Memory verse: 1 John 3:8

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Almighty God,
you have made all things to serve you;
now prepare the world to honor your rule.
Come quickly, Lord Jesus,
to end war and oppression, to cleanse all corruption,
to crush the head of Satan, to destroy death itself,
to wipe away every tear, to heal every pain,
and to make all things new
so that your glory will cover the earth
as the waters cover the sea.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

O God, our Mighty Fortress,
defend us today in all assaults of the evil one,
that we may trust in your strength
and may not fear the power of any trial or challenge;
through the might of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)

Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)

Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

EVENING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord
our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

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

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, and the day is almost over.

Be our light in the darkness, and grant us a peaceful night. *based on John 1:5*

*If you missed the song “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” this morning
and wish to sing it now, see p. 3.*

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Confessing our sin

**Lord, we live in a world where Satan dwells,
and we often do not resist his schemes.
We trust in idols that cannot save,
and we are slaves to immoral desires that cannot satisfy.
We are ashamed and sorry, and we humbly repent.**

(silent prayers)

Father, forgive us for failing to hold fast to Christ’s name.
In the power of your Spirit, help us stand firm in the faith
to conquer our enemies of sin and Satan
and to serve you with courage in holiness and truth.

Receiving God's forgiveness

God the Father has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:12-14

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	111, 112, 113	1 John 3:4-10	JSB: "Get ready!" (pp. 170-175)
Monday	4, 7	Genesis 3:14-15	BPSB: Part 12 (pp. 229-241)
Tuesday	10, 11	Matthew 4:1-11	
Wednesday	12, 13, 14	Hebrews 2:10-18	
Thursday	18:21-50	1 Peter 5:6-11	
Friday	22	Ephesians 6:10-20	
Saturday	110, 116, 117	James 4:1-10	

**if not read during morning prayer*

Memory verse: 1 John 3:8

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Almighty God,
you have made all things to serve you;
now prepare the world to honor your rule.
Come quickly, Lord Jesus,
to end war and oppression, to cleanse all corruption,
to crush the head of Satan, to destroy death itself,
to wipe away every tear, to heal every pain,
and to make all things new
so that your glory will cover the earth
as the waters cover the sea.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Sovereign Lord,
visit this place and drive the evil one far from us.
Let your holy angels dwell with us as ministers of your peace.
Give us the peace that the world cannot give
so that our minds may be fixed on doing your will.
Deliver us from all fear
so that we may serve you with courage and joyful hope;
through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

MORNING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord
our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

Psalm 19:14

1. What child is this who laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate, where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to feed - ing him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:
Nails, spear, shall pierce the him through; the cross be borne for me, for you
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by:

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y.

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children’s Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	148, 149, 150	Mark 10:35-45	JSB: He's Here (pp. 176-181)
Monday	25	Genesis 22:1–14	BPSB: Part 13 (pp. 243-257)
Tuesday	26, 28	Exodus 12:21–27	GSB: Story 79 (pp. 158-159)
Wednesday	38	Isaiah 53:4–6	Old Story New: Week 1 (pp. 8-14)
Thursday	37:1-18	John 13:1–17	
Friday	31	1 Peter 1:13–21	
Saturday	30, 32	1 Peter 4:8–11	

**may be read during evening prayer*

Memory verse: Mark 10:45

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Father,
as you speak your promises to us through the prophets,
open our ears to hear your word,
open our hearts to repent and rejoice in your grace,
open our lives to your presence and power,
that we may follow you faithfully
and be found pure and blameless on that glorious day
when Christ will return in power and glory.
Help us to be your faithful servants
and heralds of your coming kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our gracious Judge and holy Savior.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Gracious Father,
your Son willingly suffered death for the sake of our endless joy.
Help us to follow Christ today in the way of the cross,
killing our sins to enjoy life in Christ,
denying ourselves to choose joy in Christ,
laying down our lives to serve others like Christ,
through the power of Christ Jesus, our risen and reigning Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)

Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)

Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
equip you with everything good that you may do his will,
working in us that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Hebrews 13:20-21

Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord
our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

**Let our prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Psalms 141:2

*If you missed the song “What Child Is This?” this morning
and wish to sing it now, see p. 9.*

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Confessing our sin

Lord Jesus,
you gave yourself as our ransom
to offer grace to everyone.
But we often refuse to suffer
unless we receive praise and honor from everyone.
You are Lord and King over all things,
and you humbled yourself to serve.
But we often exalt ourselves as gods
who are too important to be humble.
You have saved us to serve one another as you serve us.
But we are often eager to be served rather than to serve.
Lord, have mercy on us.

(silent prayers of confession)

Son of man, forgive our inhuman conceit.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit
so that we will grow more and more into your image and likeness
as humble servants of all.

Receiving God's forgiveness

You were ransomed from the futile ways of the world,
not with perishable things such as silver or gold,
but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

adapted from 1 Peter 1:18-19

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift.
In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you,
and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	114, 115	Mark 10:35-45	JSB: He's Here (pp. 176-181)
Monday	9, 15	Genesis 22:1-14	BPSB: Part 13 (pp. 243-257)
Tuesday	36, 39	Exodus 12:21-27	GSB: Story 79 (pp. 158-159)
Wednesday	119:25-48	Isaiah 53:4-6	Old Story New: Week 1 (pp. 8-14)
Thursday	37:19-42	John 13:1-17	
Friday	35	1 Peter 1:13-21	
Saturday	42, 43	1 Peter 4:8-11	

**if not read during morning prayer*

Memory verse: Mark 10:45

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Father, as you speak your promises to us through the prophets,
open our ears to hear your word,
open our hearts to repent and rejoice in your grace,
open our lives to your presence and power,
that we may follow you faithfully
and be found pure and blameless on that glorious day
when Christ will return in power and glory.
Help us to be your faithful servants
and heralds of your coming kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our gracious Judge and holy Savior.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

O God our Creator, you gave us the day for work and the night for rest.
Give us rest in peace and quietness during the coming night
so that tomorrow we may do our appointed work with strength and joy.
Because you neither slumber nor sleep,
keep watch with those who work or weep this night,
tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering,
comfort the afflicted, protect the joyful;
for the sake of your Son, in the power of your Spirit.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven, . . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,
equip you with everything good that you may do his will,
working in us that which is pleasing in his sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Hebrews 13:20-21

Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Psalms 90:14

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time, and be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings,

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - them!"
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	63, 98	John 10:10-18	JSB: The Light of the Whole World (pp. 184-191)
Monday	41, 52	Ezekiel 34:11–16, 25–31	BPSB: Part 14 (pp. 259-269)
Tuesday	45	Isaiah 61:1–4, 10–11	GSB: Story 80 (pp. 160-161)
Wednesday	119:49-72	Isaiah 25:6–9	Old Story New: Week 2 (pp. 15-21)
Thursday	50	John 5:24–29	
Friday	40, 54	John 6:35–40	
Saturday	55	Rev. 21:22-22:5	

**may be read during evening prayer*

Memory verse: John 10:10 (or 10-11)

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Almighty God,
you wonderfully created
and wonderfully restored
the dignity of human nature.
Let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ
who came to share our humanity.
Help us always find our true life in him,
who came to live in us and for us
that we might have abundant life forever.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Heavenly Father,
to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom.
Guide and govern us today by your Holy Spirit,
that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you,
but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight;
through Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father,
who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,
comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Amen.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

EVENING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me
will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

John 8:12

*If you missed the song “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” this morning
and wish to sing it now, see p. 15.*

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Confessing our sin

**Almighty and merciful Father,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
You give us life and power over sin,
but we let evil reign in our minds and bodies.
You give us life and power
to offer ourselves to you and your mission,
but we offer ourselves to evil desires and become their slaves.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

(silent prayers of confession)

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us.
Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit
so that we will live in the true freedom
of people brought from death to life
and walk in newness of life in Christ
to the glory of your holy name.

Receiving God's forgiveness

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. *Ephesians 2:4-7*

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	103	John 10:10-18	JSB: The Light of the Whole World (pp. 184-191)
Monday	44	Ezekiel 34:11–16, 25–31	BPSB: Part 14 (pp. 259-269)
Tuesday	47, 48	Isaiah 61:1–4, 10–11	GSB: Story 80 (pp. 160-161)
Wednesday	49, 53	Isaiah 25:6–9	Old Story New: Week 2 (pp. 15-21)
Thursday	33	John 5:24–29	
Friday	51	John 6:35–40	
Saturday	138, 139	Rev. 21:22-22:5	

**if not read during morning prayer*

Memory verse: John 10:10 (or 10-11)

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Almighty God,
you wonderfully created
and wonderfully restored
the dignity of human nature.
Let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ
who came to share our humanity.
Help us always find our true life in him,
who came to live in us and for us
that we might have abundant life forever.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Lord God,
your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,
triumphed over the powers of death
and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem.
We gave thanks today for his resurrection;
may we praise you in that eternal City
where he is the light
and where we will live and reign forever and ever with him.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father,
who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace,
comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Amen.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

MORNING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me,
let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.** *Psalms 43:3*

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply e - cho back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

Glo - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	33, 146	John 17:1-5	JSB: The King of All Kings (pp. 192-199)
Monday	50, 147:1-11	Hebrews 1:1-4	GSB: Story 81 (pp. 162-163)
Tuesday	18:1-20, 147:12-20	Philippians 2:1-11	Old Story New: Week 3 (pp. 22-28)
Wednesday	102, 148	Hebrews 2:1-10	
Thursday	90, 149	1 Timothy 2:12-17	
Friday	2, 148	Ephesians 1:3-20	
Saturday	116, 149	2 Corinthians 4:6-18	

**may be read during evening prayer*

Memory verse: 1 Corinthians 10:31

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

God of glory,
you have poured upon us
the new light of your incarnate Word.
Kindle this light in our hearts
that his glory may shine forth in our lives
through Jesus Christ, Light of Life and Word made flesh.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Father of glory,
as you caused the sun to rise today,
shine the light of Christ in our hearts
to dispel the darkness
and to transform us from glory to glory
into the image of your Son.
Let his love show in our deeds,
his wisdom shine in our words,
and his healing in our touch;
through Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven, . . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .

Being sent with God's blessing

May God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," shine in our hearts
to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

2 Corinthians 4:6

EVENING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night.**

Psalm 92:1–2

*If you missed the song “Angels We Have Heard on High” this morning
and wish to sing it now, see p. 21.*

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Confessing our sin

**Father, of glory
you have made us to reflect your glory to the world.
But our lives fail to show the world your goodness and glory.
You have called us to be in the world but not of it.
But we are too much of the world,
meekly following its evil ways.
And we are too removed from the world,
fearfully fleeing its challenges and needs.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

(silent prayers of confession)

Father, set us apart from the world
so that we may serve the world with your truth and love.
Fill us with delight in your glory
so that your joy may flow from us to give the whole world hope
in the good news of Jesus.

Receiving God's forgiveness

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth,
and from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

John 1:14, 16

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift.
In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you,
and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	85, 94	John 17:1-5	JSB: The King of All Kings (pp. 192-199)
Monday	53, 17	Hebrews 1:1-4	GSB: Story 81 (pp. 162-163)
Tuesday	126, 62	Philippians 2:1-11	Old Story New: Week 3 (pp. 22-28)
Wednesday	130, 16	Hebrews 2:1-10	
Thursday	132, 114	1 Timothy 2:12-17	
Friday	98, 96	Ephesians 1:3-20	
Saturday	119:1-24, 27	2 Corinthians 4:6-18	

**if not read during morning prayer*

Memory verse: 1 Corinthians 10:31

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

God of glory,
you have poured upon us
the new light of your incarnate Word.
Kindle this light in our hearts
that his glory may shine forth in our lives
through Jesus Christ, Light of Life and Word made flesh.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

O God our Creator, we give into your hands our unfinished tasks,
our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes,
knowing that your strong hands surround us
to shield us now against dangers only you see and control,
and to lead us tomorrow in wise paths only you foresee and understand.
Give us true peace, which comes only through Christ
in the power and presence of his Spirit.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)

Our Father in heaven,. . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)

Our Father, who art in heaven,. . .

Being sent with God's blessing

May God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," shine in our hearts
to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

2 Corinthians 4:6

MORNING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**Your steadfast love, O LORD never ceases;
your mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.**

Lamentations 3:22–23



1. As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2. As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly cra - dle - bed,
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare at that cra - dle rude and bare;
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
5. In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure, and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious God, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
so may we with wil - ling feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly King.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	34, 150	Luke 1:68-79	JSB: Heaven Breaks Through (pp. 200-207)
Monday	2, 145	Genesis 22:15–18	BPSB: Part 15 (pp. 271-280)
Tuesday	96, 146	Joshua 1:1–9	GSB: Story 82 (pp. 164-165)
Wednesday	93, 147:1-11	2 Samuel 7:8–16	Old Story New: Week 4 (pp. 29-35)
Thursday	98, 147:12-20	Ezekiel 39:25–29	
Friday	98, 148	Micah 7:18–20	
Saturday	48, 149	Malachi 3:1–4	

**may be read during evening prayer*

Memory verse: Psalm 16:8

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Who are we, Father, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited us, your people,
and redeemed us in your Son.
As we celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Our Gracious King and Good Shepherd,
drive far from us all wrong desires,
incline our hearts to keep your law,
and guide our feet into the way of peace,
that we may do your will with joy during the day,
and when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks;
through Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning Lord.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven, . . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,
and may your whole spirit and soul and body
be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.
Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

EVENING PRAYER

Opening prayers

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God,
the true God become true man.

**I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.**

**I have set the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

Psalm 16:7–8

*If you missed the song “As with Gladness Men of Old” this morning
and wish to sing it now, see p. 27.*

Free prayers of praise and thanks

Confessing our sin

**Most holy and merciful Father,
we acknowledge before you our sinful nature and our many offenses.
We are prone to do evil,
slow to trust,
and slow to do good.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your way,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
Lord, have mercy on us.**

(silent prayers of confession)

Lord, we are sorry for all the ways that we have displeased you.
Father, teach us to hate our rebellious acts, cleanse us from our secret faults,
and forgive our sins for the sake of your Son.
Help us to love you with all our heart and mind and strength.
And give us the power of your Holy Spirit
so that we may walk in your ways and serve you all of our days.

Receiving God's forgiveness

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood,
much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son,
much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. *Romans 5:9-10*

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift.
In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you,
and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

Hallelujah, Amen!

Hearing the word of God

	Psalms	Other readings*	Children's Bibles (for any day of the week)*
Sunday	19, 121	Luke 1:68-79	JSB: Heaven Breaks Through (pp. 200-207)
Monday	110, 111	Genesis 22:15–18	BPSB: Part 15 (pp. 271-280)
Tuesday	132, 97	Joshua 1:1–9	GSB: Story 82 (pp. 164-165)
Wednesday	89:1-18, 39:19-52	2 Samuel 7:8–16	Old Story New: Week 4 (pp. 29-35)
Thursday	45, 96	Ezekiel 39:25–29	
Friday	99, 8	Micah 7:18–20	
Saturday	9, 29	Malachi 3:1–4	

**if not read during morning prayer*

Memory verse: Psalm 16:8

Praying from the word of God for the church and the world

Opening

Who are we, Father, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited us, your people,
and redeemed us in your Son.
As we celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Free prayers of petition

Pray for specific requests and needs using the particular words and themes from the psalms, other scripture readings, and other prayers to guide the content and language of your specific prayers.

Closing

Abide with us, Lord, for the day is spent.
Abide with us at the end of the day,
at the end of our life,
at the end of the world.
Abide with us with your grace and goodness,
with your strength and blessing.
Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us,
the night of fear and despair,
the night when death draws near.
Abide with us and with your whole church, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer (English Standard Version)
Our Father in heaven, . . .

The Lord's Prayer (King James Version)
Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .

Being sent with God's blessing

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,
and may your whole spirit and soul and body
be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.
Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Cover Art

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“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Text: stanzas 1, 4, Charles Wesley 1744;

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Tune: Rowland H. Pritchard 1830 (HYFRYDOL)

“What Child Is This?”

Text: William C. Dix 1871

Tune: Traditional English melody (GREENSLEEVES)

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Text: Charles Wesley 1739; st. 1, George Whitefield 1753

Tune: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1840 (MENDELSSOHN)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Text: Traditional French carol

Tune: Traditional French melody; harm. Edward S. Barnes 1937 (GLORIA)

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Text: William C. Dix 1858

Tune: Conrad Kocher 1838

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