

Preparation

- Consider and set your “prayer space”
 - If you are praying alone, consider finding a quiet, prayerful space. If you are praying with your family or other members of a household, consider gathering around a coffee table or dining table.
 - Add optional items that may enhance your prayer if you desire: a small table with a purple cloth, a lit candle, a cross, holy images or statues.
 - You may want to have a journal available to write down reflections or words as you pray.
 - Lighting affects our mood. Consider dimming the lights or using a lamp instead of bright overheads.
- If you are praying in a group, you may want to assign parts to read along with the livestream. This is a great way to keep children engaged. You may want to consider splitting your “group” in half and alternating reading aloud each paragraph.
- Silence cell phones or tend to things that have the potential to disrupt your prayer time.

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Gathering We take a few moments to quiet our hearts.

Introduction

[All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader begins.]

Leader: God, + come to our assistance.

ALL: ***Lord, make haste to help us.***

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

ALL: ***As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

RIVER OF GLORY

Dan Schutte

Refrain

Riv - er of glo - ry, springs of our birth, flood of God's
 rich - es poured on the earth. We are born from the dark - ness
 and clothed in the light! We are bathed in the glo - ry of
 God! God, bathed in the glo - ry of God!

1-4 to Verses Final

Verses

1. Foun - tain of mer - cy, grace flow - ing free, streams of sal -
2. Here there is ha - ven, heal - ing and health, joy for the
3. Bread for our jour - ney God will pro - vide. Hope for all
4. Dark - ness is ban - ished, night turned a - way. Christ is our

to Refrain

1. va - tion, spill - ing with love from a tree!
2. ask - ing, love in a - bun - dance of wealth!
3. a - ges, Je - sus, com - pan - ion and guide!
4. sun - light, lift - ing and lead - ing our way!

Leader: *Do not let your hearts be troubled; have faith in me, alleluia.*

In God alone is my soul at rest;
my help comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.

How long will you all attack one man
to break him down,
as though he were a tottering wall,
or a tumbling fence?

Their plan is only to destroy:
they take pleasure in lies.
With their mouth they utter blessing
but in their heart they curse.

In God alone be at rest, my soul;
for my hope comes from him.
He alone is my rock, my stronghold,
my fortress: I stand firm.

In God is my safety and glory,
the rock of my strength.
Take refuge in God, all you people.
Trust him at all times.
Pour out your hearts before him
for God is our refuge.

Common folk are only a breath,
great men an illusion.
Placed in the scales, they rise;
they weigh less than a breath.

Do not put your trust in oppression
nor vain hopes on plunder.
Do not set your heart on riches
even when they increase.

For God has said only one thing:
only two do I know:
that to God alone belongs power
and to you, Lord, love;
and that you repay each man
according to his deeds.

Glory to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

***ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.***

ALL: Do not let your hearts be troubled; have faith in me, alleluia.

Silence We sit in sacred silence for a few moments to allow our hearts to listen to the voice of the Spirit.

Psalm-prayer

Leader: Lord God, you reward each one according to his works. Hear us as we pour out our hearts to you, seeking your grace and secure protection. We look to you for our stable hope in a constantly changing world. We ask this through Christ, our risen Lord,

ALL: Amen.

Psalm Psalm 67: All peoples, praise the Lord

Leader: *Let the peoples praise you, Lord God; let them rejoice in your salvation, alleluia.*

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its fruit
for God, our God, has blessed us.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

***ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.***

ALL: Let the peoples praise you, Lord God; let them rejoice in your salvation, alleluia.

Silence

Psalm-prayer

Leader: Be gracious and bless us, Lord, and let your face shed its light on us, so that we can make you known with reverence and bring forth a harvest of justice. We ask this through Christ, our risen Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Canticle Colossians 1: Christ the firstborn of all creation and firstborn from the dead

Leader: *His glory covers the heavens and his praise fills the earth, alleluia.*

Let us give thanks to the Father
for having made you worthy
to share the lot of the saints
in light.

He rescued us
from the power of darkness
and brought us
into the kingdom of his beloved Son.
Through him we have redemption,
the forgiveness of our sins.

He is the image of the invisible God,
the first-born of all creatures.
In him everything in heaven and on earth was created,
things visible and invisible.

All were created through him;
all were created for him.
He is before all else that is.
In him everything continues in being.

It is he who is head of the body, the church;
he who is the beginning,
the first-born of the dead,
so that primacy may be his in everything.

It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in him
and, by means of him, to reconcile everything in his person,
both on earth and in the heavens,
making peace through the blood of his cross.

Glory to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

***ALL: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.***

ALL: His glory covers the heavens and his praise fills the earth, alleluia.

Reading Hebrews 7: 24-27

Jesus, because he remains *forever*, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because Jesus Christ our Lord has done this once and for all by offering himself.

Reflection

Short Responsory

Leader: The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.

ALL: The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.

Leader: They saw the Lord, alleluia, alleluia.

ALL: The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.

Leader: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

ALL: The disciples rejoiced, alleluia, alleluia.

Canticle Magnificat: My soul rejoices in the Lord

Leader: *The man who lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God, alleluia.*

**I will lift my voice, I will raise my hands
To the one who is the great I am!
My soul proclaims the greatness of His name,
And my spirit will rejoice in God my Savior!**

He has looked upon me in His love,
And my name will be forever blessed.
For the Lord, who is mighty, has done great things for me
My soul proclaims, "Holy is His name!"

His mercy flows on every generation
On those who follow in fear
He has scattered the proud and cast the mighty from their thrones
The meek and the lowly are exalted!

He has filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich he sends away.
He has given help to Israel, remembering his mercy!

ALL: The man who lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God, alleluia.

Prayers and intercessions

Leader: In his Son, risen from the dead, God has opened for us the way to everlasting life. Let us ask the Father:

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: God of our fathers, you raised your Son Jesus from the dead and clothed him in glory; move our hearts to complete repentance, that we may walk in newness of life.

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: You have led us back to the shepherd and bishop of our souls, keep us faithful under the guidance of the shepherds of the Church.

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: You chose the firstfruits of Christ's disciples from the Jewish people, reveal to the children of Israel the fulfillment of the promise made to their forefathers.

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: Remember the lonely, the orphaned and the widowed, and do not abandon those who have been reconciled with you by the death of your Son.

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: You called Stephen to your presence when he bore witness to Jesus, standing at your right hand, welcome our deceased brothers and sisters who in faith and love hoped for the vision of your glory.

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

Leader: For what else shall we pray? (Type your intentions in the comments section.) And for these, we pray,

ALL: Through the victory of Christ, save the people he has redeemed.

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.

Prayer

Leader: Year by year, Lord,
we recall the mystery of Easter,
the mystery which restored mankind to its lost dignity
and brought the hope of resurrection.
Grant that we may possess eternally in love
what we now worship in faith.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

Dismissal

Leader: May the Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us go forth wishing each other peace either in the comments section or with a wave and smile.