

Morning Prayer May 18-24, 2025

Scriptures: Acts 11: 1-18, Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6, John 13: 31-35

Sunday - Preparation

Centering

Father, you hold the cosmos in your hands...
(pause - bell)

Suspend us in your love,
Surrounded by your peace
And supported by your wisdom.

We pause.

Prepare our hearts
to accept your grace
as you have welcomed
us in our fear and unbelief.
(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

On this day of preparation and presence
We give thanks to you - oh loving and gracious God.
You create space when the world is crushing in and
Call our attention to the things that matter most.

You sit with us in our uncertainty and
Stand with us in the face of the unknown.
You gather us in your hands and
Hold us in the calluses of your memory.

We thank you for your gentle touch,
The pushes and prods that prompt us
To refocus on your word and lead us
Out of chaos into light.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: John 13: 34-35

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on how God creates space for us to experience his love and how we are called to lovingly invite others into that same space.

Prayer of Intercession

Loving and Gracious God,
You call us to your table by name.
You set a place for us so that we may
Gather around and come to know you.

You are the one who created the stars and the heavens,
The one who distinguished yellow from green.
It was you who separated water from earth
And watched the fawn tremble through its first tenuous steps.

Shape our hearts in your wisdom,
Help us to hear the silent cries of our neighbors.
Give us the courage to pull more tables together
When the world who have us push them father apart.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of silent preparation
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of relentless action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,

Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.

Monday - Prayer

Centering

We breathe in your peace...
...and exhale our worry.
(pause - bell)

Through this action of breath
We gather at your feet
And open ourselves
To your Word and to each other.
(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of the ages
God of the stars and the seas
We give thanks this day
for the gift of prayer.

We give thanks
For the opportunity
to engage with you,
To listen to your voice,

To recognize its resonance
in our bones
And echo its song
to all who long to hear it.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Reflection Prompt:

Reflect on how God is making all things new and how his words are trustworthy and true.

Prayer of Intercession

Father and Mother of us all,
Creator of Heaven and earth,
At this time and in this space,
We light a candle of hope.

We light our candles
With your spark that is love
And set them on your table
To serve as a beacon of mercy.

May the weak and the weary
The hopeless and the hurting
Be guided by these gentle flames
And find their peace at your table.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of eager reflection
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of intentional action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,

Be with us.

Amen.

Tuesday - Work

Centering

God of creation,
You are welcome here.
(pause - bell)

Guide our hands this day,
Teach us to use mind, body, and spirit
To build upon your work in our lives
and the lives of our neighbors.
(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

Oh Holy God
On this day and every day
We give thanks for the love
That invites us into life everlasting.

We give thanks for the sharpened chisel
That shapes the wood of our hearts.
We give thanks for the jubilant dandelion
That blooms in defiance of empire.

We give thanks for the steadfast boat
That carries us through rolling seas,
And we give thanks for the loving oak
And the loving pockets of refugia underneath.

Oh Holy God
On this day and every day
We give thanks for the love
That invites us into life everlasting.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: John 13: 31-35

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on the gospel and how "all people will know that [we] are [his] disciples."

Prayer of Intercession

God of the carpenter,
God of the cobbler,
God of the farmer,
God of the grocer,

Hear our prayers.

God of the plumber,
God of the teacher,
God of the cashier,
God of the preacher,

Hear our prayers.

God of the meek,
God of the patient,
God of the serpent,
God of the merchant,

Hear our prayers.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of eager reflection
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of intentional action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.

Wednesday - Table

Centering

The table is set...
(pause - bell)

...let us arrive to it with
Hands that are willing
To clasp the hands
Of our neighbors

And Hearts that are
Full - ready to pour
Into the hearts
Of our neighbors

Amen.

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

Way Maker, Pain Bearer
Earth Shaker, Caregiver
You are welcome here

We give thanks this day
For the table you have prepared
And the seats that lay in wait

We give thanks this day
For the cup and the bowl
Lovingly molded by your gentle hands

We give thanks this day
For the root and the vine
For the bounty they provide

We give thanks this day
For the smile and the song
Knitting us in love, forever

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Acts 11: 1-10

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on the gospel and the new order created from Jesus' sacrifice on the cross - how all are transformed at God's table.

Prayer of Intercession

Loving and Gracious God
We gather at your table
We clasp hands and give thanks
We engage with open hearts and open minds.

Transform us from the inside out.

Call forth a bubbling fountain
Of peace, of mercy, of love
That fills our cups and overflows
the boundaries we create between us.

We set these intercessions before you
With hope and expectation.
We go forth into the world
Confident that we will hear your answer.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of eager reflection
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of intentional action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.

Thursday - Neighbor

Centering

You knew us when we were but stardust...
(pause - bell)

You knew us in our making
You knew us in our waking

You know us in our learning
You know us in our stumbling

You know us in our groaning
You know us in our crying

You know us in our hearing
You know us in our seeing

You know us, just as you know our neighbor
Our neighbor before us, beside us, and behind us

We hear their cries and recognize our own.
(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks for our neighbors
Of every make, color, and size
We see you in their spirits
You take shape before our eyes

In our neighbor with feathers
Our neighbor with leaves
Our neighbor with antennae
And our neighbor that grieves

We learn from our neighbors
And they learn from us
We're in this together
Til Your kindom comes.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Acts 11: 11-18

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on the gospel and how God works to create change in us so that we may be his hands and feet for our neighbors.

Prayer of Intercession

Our prayer to you this day
Gentle Father and Great Mother
Is that you remind us of our faults
So we can give grace to each other

Grace in our speech
Grace in our thoughts
Grace in our movement
Grace in our hearts

Remind us of your grace
In every moment of every day
Remind us that to you, oh God
We all are the same.

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of eager reflection
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of intentional action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.

Friday - Rest

Centering

At your table, I find rest..
(Pause - bell)

Rest for my body
Rest for my mind
Rest for my spirit
Rest that is kind
(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

The lap of the waves
The turn of a page
The kneading of dough
The weave of crochet

The dirt of the garden
The call of a bird
The smell of fresh coffee
The peace of the herd

The creak of a swing
The grip of callused hands
The murmur of whispers
The colors of the land

The swell of a bell
The crisp charge of a storm
We give thanks to you, Lord
For rest in all these forms.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Acts 11: 18

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on the gospel and how God reveals himself to us in silence and in celebration.

Prayer of Intercession

Peace, precious God
Peace is what we seek
When rest is beyond reach
And weary bones creak

Grant us your peace

In this moment
We lament to your ear

Grant us your peace
In this moment
When chaos draws near

We ask for ourselves
We ask for our friends
We ask for our neighbors
That these frayed ropes may yet mend

Amen.

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of eager reflection
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of intentional action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.

Saturday - Celebration

Centering

We open our eyes to the joy of your morning...
(pause - bell)

We breathe in the smell of your grace.

We hear your heart in the laughter of children.

We taste the triumph of peace in the breeze.

(pause - bell)

Opening Prayer of Thanksgiving

Black, Purple, Orange,
pink And blue

We greet this sweet morning
In all of its hues.

We are blessed by your presence
We are blessed by your love

We are blessed by our neighbors -
all the fabric that for us you wove

We give thanks for the sunrise
We give thanks for this life

We give thanks for each other -
that we are precious in your sight

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 148

Reflection Prompt

Reflect on the little miracles you encountered this week - celebrate how God showed up to you and for you in your daily rhythms.

Prayer of Intercession

Lord of the pipe and the horn
Remind us of your glory
In times of celebration
and in times we need your story

Remind us of the patterns
We find ourselves in
Remind us of your Word
When we forget amidst our wins

Remind us that no triumph
Is accomplished alone
There are others here with us
Who are looking for home

In our work
In our rest
In our prayer
At our best

Remind us that at your table
We are called to accept

Amen

Closing Prayer

Father as we move from this place of celebration
And enter into hours and minutes and seconds of joyous action,
Be with us.

As we praise your holy name
And lay our hopes, fears, and dreams at your feet,
Be with us.

As we go about doing the work to which we are called
And seek to balance that work with rest,
Be with us.

As we pull more tables together for a feast with our neighbors,
and set them with the foods of your mercy, grace, and love,
Be with us.

Amen.