

# *The Order for Evening Prayer*

Modernized & Adapted from the Book of Common Prayer (1662) for Oceanside United Reformed Church

Scripture from the *English Standard Version (ESV)*

## *Scripture Sentences*

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house

**and the place where your glory dwells.**

*Psalm 26:8*

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 19:14-15*

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him,

**“Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.”**

*Luke 15:18-19*

## *Invitation*

**D**EARLY beloved, the Scripture stirs us up in various places to acknowledge and confess our various sins and wickedness and that we should not hide them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with a humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; that we may obtain forgiveness of them by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet primarily we ought to do so when we assemble and meet together to give thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are required and necessary for the body as well as the soul. Therefore I urge and beseech as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice, to the throne of heavenly grace, saying:

## *Prayer of Confession*

**A**LMIGHTY and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep; we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts; we have offended against Your holy laws; we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us.

**O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders; spare us, as we confess our faults; restore us, as we are penitent, according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## *The Absolution or Remission of Sins*

**A**Lmighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that they may turn from wickedness and live; and has given power and commandment to his Ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardons and absolves all you that truly repent, and sincerely believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that how we live now may please him and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the end we may enter his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

## *The Lord's Prayer*

**O**UR 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.

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## *Responsive Prayers*

**O**LORD, open my lips.  
**And my mouth shall show forth your praise.**

*Psalm 51:15*

Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

**O Lord, make haste to help me.**

*Psalm 70:1*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Praise the Lord.

**The Lord's name be praised.**

*Psalm 113:1*

## *Psalm 3*

**O**LORD how many are my foes!  
**Many are rising against me;**  
many are saying of my soul,

**"There is no salvation for him in God."**

But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,

**my glory, and the lifter of my head.**

I cried aloud to the LORD,

**and he answered me from his holy hill.**

I lay down and slept;

**I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.**

I will not be afraid of many thousands of people

**who have set themselves against me all around.**

Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God!

**For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked.**

Salvation belongs to the LORD;

**your blessing be on your people!**

*Psalm 4*

**A**NSWER me when I call, O God of my righteousness!  
**You have given me relief when I was in distress.**

**Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!**

O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

**How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**

But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;

**the LORD hears when I call to him.**

Be angry, and do not sin;

**ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**

Offer right sacrifices,

**and put your trust in the LORD.**

There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"

**Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"**

You have put more joy in my heart

**than they have when their grain and wine abound.**

In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

**for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

*Prayers*

**T**HE Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*For God's mercy to us...*

**O** Lord, show us your mercy.  
**And grant us your salvation.**

*For the world...*

**O** Lord, save the nations.  
**And mercifully hear us when we call upon you.**

*For ministers and congregations...*

**C**LOTHE your ministers with righteousness.  
**And make your chosen people joyful.**

*For the universal church...*

**O** Lord, save your people.  
**And bless your inheritance.**

*For peace...*

**G**IVE peace in our time, O Lord.  
**Because there is no one else that fights for us, but only you, O God.**

*For the needy...*

**L**ET not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten.  
**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

*For sanctification...*

**O** God, create in us clean hearts.  
**And take not your Holy Spirit from us.**

*For the Fifth Sunday in Lent*

**W**E, beseech you, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon your people; that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*For Peace*

**O** God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: give to us your servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments and also that we, being defended by you from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*For Aid Against All Perils*

**E**NLIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord; and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*For the President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority*

**A**Lmighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting and power infinite: have mercy upon this whole land; and so rule the hearts of your servants the President of the United States, the Governor of this State, and all others in authority, that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek your honor and glory; and that we and all the People, duly considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honor them, in you, and for you, according to your blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever, one God, world without end. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*1892 US Book of Common Prayer*

*For the Clergy and People*

**A**Lmighty and everlasting God, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: send down upon all ministers and upon the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of your grace; and, that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing. Grant this for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*For Missions*

**O** GOD, who made of one blood all nations of humanity to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those that are far off and to those that are near: grant that all people everywhere may seek after you and find you. Bring the nations into your fold and

add unbelievers to your inheritance. And we pray for you shortly to accomplish the number of your elect and to hasten your kingdom; through the Jesus Christ our Lord. And all of God's people say, "Amen."

*1892 US Book of Common Prayer*

*A Prayer for all Conditions of Men*

**O** God, the Creator and Preserver of all humanity, we humbly beseech you for all kinds and conditions of people; that you would be pleased to make your ways known to them, your saving health to all nations.

More especially we pray for your holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by your good Spirit that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and hold the faith in unity of spirit in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life.

Finally we commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind body or situation in life [*specific intercessions*]; may it please you to comfort and relieve them according to their various needs giving them patience under their sufferings and a happy outcome out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. And all of God's people say, "Amen."

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

**A**LMIGHTY God, who has given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you; and promises that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant their requests: fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of your servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. And all of God's people say, "Amen."

*A General Thanksgiving*

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, your unworthy servants, do give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men.

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we beseech you, give us that due sense of all your mercies, that our hearts may be sincerely thankful; and that we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*God's Blessing*

**T**HE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. And all of God's people say, "**Amen.**"

*2 Corinthians 13:14*