

Resources for Year-Round Worship

The Daily Office: Morning Prayer

Written and adapted by Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S.Ed.

Gracious and loving God, we are reminded through the lessons and words of your son, Jesus Christ, that we are called to share our love with others, knowing that they are your beloved children. Amen.

PSALM 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand.

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. Amen. Please observe a moment of silence.

PSALM 90:2

Before the mountains were born, and before you created the earth and the world, you are God. You have always been, and you will always be.



COMPASSION PRAYER

by J. Bradley Wigger, adapted

O God of Moses, let your favor rest upon us, and bless the world for a thousand years and a million more.

How long will evil thrive and hatred flourish?

How long does it take for compassion to rule humanity's heart?

Sweep sin away like a bad dream we pray, and let joy grow and never fade away.

May the morning of your constant love come quickly.

May the day soon break, filled with the glad faces of thriving babies and flourishing children.

A READING FROM MATTHEW 22:36-40

The Pharisee asked, "Teacher, which command in the law is the most important?" Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.' This is the first and most important command. And the second command is like the first: 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' All the law and the writings of the prophets depend on these two commands."

CANTICLE 20

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of God, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of God; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God. Amen.

PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

We thank you, Jesus, for the people who mother and father us.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We give thanks for all the people in our families who help take care of us.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for teaching us how to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for music that inspires us to sing and dance.



We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for the patience of our caregivers to listen.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for those who help us make sense of the world with words.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for those who pray with us.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for healthy food to help us grow strong.

We thank you for the gift of love.

We especially thank you, Jesus, for the gift of love we give to others. We ask you to bless all children on the earth with gifts that nurture them so that they can thrive as children of God. Amen.

THE CREED

We believe in God the Father.
We believe in Christ the Son.
We believe in the Holy Spirit.
We are the Church and we stand as one.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.



CONCLUDING COLLECT

Holy and ever living God,
By your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service
and live this day in love to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**



Mom and her baby at Bible study, where participants studied the protection of children as outlined in Matthew 25. Faith leaders who carry the message of caring for children help reinforce the training brought by Early Childhood Development volunteers who work with parents and caregivers in their communities



The Daily Office: Midday Prayer

Written and adapted by Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S.Ed.

God is spirit. Those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth. Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.

Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, and honor, power and might, be to our God forever and ever!

Amen.

Love one another, for love is of God, and whoever loves is born of God and knows God. Spirit of God, search our hearts.

PSALM 86:11

Lord, teach me what you want me to do. And I will live by your truth. Teach me to respect you completely.

PRAYER

Learning to Walk by J. Bradley Wigger, adapted

O God of steadfast love, trusting you, we devote our hearts to learning and our lives to walking.

Teach us the truth, that we may walk with courage.

Teach us mercy, that we may walk with humility.

Teach us forgiveness, that we may walk with compassion.

Teach us grace, that we may walk with strength.

Teach us wonder, that we may walk with praise.

Teach of goodness, that we may walk with those in need.

O God of steadfast love, learning from you, may we walk well.

A READING FROM ISAIAH 12:2-6

God is the one who saves me.

I trust him. I am not afraid.

The Lord, the Lord, gives me strength and makes me sing.

He has saved me."

You will receive your salvation with joy.



You will take it as you would draw water from a well.

At that time you will say,

"Praise the Lord, and worship him. Tell everyone what he has done.

Tell them how great he is.

Sing praise to the Lord, because he has done great things.

Let all the world know what he has done.

Shout and sing for joy, you people of Jerusalem

The Holy One of Israel does great things before your eyes."

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. Amen.

A READING FROM ROMANS 5:5

And this hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out his love to fill our hearts. God gave us his love through the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to us.

CANTICLE

Benedicite

Let the whole creation bless the Lord: Praise and exalt our God for ever.

Bless the Lord you heavens: Praise and exalt our God forever.

Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: Bless the Lord all you heavenly hosts.

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. Amen.

THE CREED

We believe in one God who made all things.

We believe in Jesus, the only son of God, who saves us.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who helps us grow to be like Jesus.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.



Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYERS

Loving God, who promises to be faithful and righteous, help us to make your vision real for all young children so that they are valued for who they are, not who they will be, encouraged and supported, not forgotten or neglected, listened to and challenged, not ignored or stifled, free to play safely, not forced to grow up before their time.

Loving God, wise parent to us all, inspire us to be people who let the young play, encourage them to grow, and enable them to flourish, in communities of faithful people, sharing wisdom and joy. **Amen.**

Blessed God, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms; grant that all the children of the earth may be drawn to your uplifted love; for your kingdom's sake. **Amen.**



Moms with their infants gathered to hear a presentation on health, covering the prevention of diseases such as malaria, diarrhea, and pneumonia, from Ghanaian Health Services and ADDRO, an Episcopal Relief & Development partner in Ghana.



The Daily Office: Intergenerational Cross-Cultural Evening Prayer

Written and adapted by Maximillion Elliott-Quinerly

The poor you will have with you always.

We will feed, clothe, and shelter the poor.

More importantly, we will advocate and fight in solidarity for the liberation of all God's people, from all forms of poverty and oppression.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk-in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

The priest alone standing or deacon kneeling

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

O God, creator and sustainer of all, as we come to the end of this evening with love and adoration, we lift our hearts to you.

PSALM 92: 1-10

It is good to praise the LORD, to sing praises to God Most High.

It is good to tell of your love in the morning and of your loyalty at night.

It is good to praise you with the ten-stringed lyre and with the soft-sounding harp.

LORD, you have made me happy by what you have done.

I will sing for joy about what your hands have done.

LORD, you have done such great things!

How deep are your thoughts!

Stupid people don't know these things.

Fools don't understand.

Wicked people grow like the grass.

Evil people seem to do well.



But they will be destroyed forever.
But, LORD, you will be honored forever.
LORD, surely your enemies, surely your enemies will be destroyed.
All who do evil will be scattered.
But you have made me as strong as a wild ox.
You have poured fine oils on me.

THE LESSONS

A reading from Genesis 1:1-2, 26-30

In the beginning God created the sky and the earth. The earth was empty and had no form. Darkness covered the ocean, and God's Spirit was moving over the water...

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image and likeness. And let them rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky. Let them rule over the tame animals, over all the earth and over all the small crawling animals on the earth."

So God created human beings in his image. In the image of God he created them. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said, "Have many children and grow in number. Fill the earth and be its master. Rule over the fish in the sea and over the birds in the sky. Rule over every living thing that moves on the earth."

God said, "Look, I have given you all the plants that have grain for seeds. And I have given you all the trees whose fruits have seeds in them. They will be food for you. I have given all the green plants to all the animals to eat. They will be food for every wild animal, every bird of the air and every small crawling animal." And it happened.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We will reflect on the lesson in silent meditation as we listen to the Canticle:

Click to listen

A READING FROM REVELATION 7:9-12

Then I looked, and there was a great number of people. There were so many people that no one could count them. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language of the earth. They were all standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were white robes and had palm branches in their hands. They were shouting in a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." The elders and the four living things were there. All the angels were standing around them and the



throne. The angels bowed down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God. They were saying, "Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength belong to our God forever and ever. Amen!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We will reflect on the lesson in silent meditation as we listen to the Canticle: The Church's One Foundation

Click to listen - #525 in the Hymnal 1982

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come 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 life everlasting.

Amen.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.



God who created humankind in your very image and likeness

Your steadfast love endures forever.

God from whose abundance and grace provides all that is truly needed

Your steadfast love endures forever.

God whose covenant is true and sure

Your steadfast love endures forever.

God of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, and Keturah. God, who takes those things that may be meant to harm and works them together for your good, we pray that as this evening comes to a close, you find our hearts fixed on you and our spirit inclined to your will. Grant us peace this night as we prepare to rest, that we may rise in the morning with the sun/Son, and be about your business.

PRAYER AND INTERCESSIONS (SILENT OR ALOUD)

Loving, liberating, and life-giving God, by your grace you have brought us safely to the end of this day. As we gather together in your Name, we trust that your presence is with us, that you are for us, and from creation to the final consummation, your steadfast love will endure. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, guide us with your Wisdom, govern us with your Grace, and hold our lives eternally boundless in your love, for the Glory of your Holy Name. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*Canticles may be altered according to congregational worship style, talent and gifts.



The Daily Office: Compline

Written and adapted by the Rev. Dr. Kathy Bozzuti-Jones and the Rev. Dr. Mark Bozzuti-Jones

Let us be quiet.

Let us quiet our minds and settle our thoughts,
suspending our plans and worries, for a little while.

Let us open our hearts to God's loving care for all children,
especially the most vulnerable, and come into stillness.

Those who worship God must worship God in spirit and in truth. -John 4:24

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.

Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit.

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.

You have redeemed us, Lord God of truth.

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of all praises.

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.

Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God and all who love know God.

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.

Blessed be God who has brought us to the closing of this day.

Loving God, we rest in Your holy presence.



For the next few minutes, let us pause and reflect silently on the day using the following form:

EXAMEN (REFLECTION ON THE DAY)

- 1. Become aware of God's presence.
- 2. Review the day with gratitude. Recall moments, encounters, conversations...
- 3. Call to mind your emotions, in the good moments and the challenging moments.
- 4. Choose one experience from the day. Offer a prayer of thanks, pardon or guidance.
- 5. Invite the Holy Spirit to help you face tomorrow as a child of God.

PSALM 62

For God alone my soul waits in silence,

for my hope is from God.

God alone is my rock and my salvation,

my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor;

my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in God at all times, O people;

pour out your heart before God; God is a refuge for us. Selah

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. **Amen.**

Please observe a moment of silence.

A READING

Mark 6:30-31

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.

(OR)

Matthew 11:28

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Please observe a moment of silence

Choose one or more of the following prayers:



Now is the time for stillness.

Now is the time to set aside any ideas of separateness from God or one another, and to rest in God's presence, here and now.

We hold in our hearts our brothers and sisters struggling to grow, to learn, and to thrive in harsh conditions of hunger and need.

We ask for inspiration to become involved in protecting and empowering all children at risk, as well as their parents and families. **Amen.**

(OR)

At the end of a day of working and dancing, of receiving and giving, of light and shadow, of joy and of suffering,

both personal and social, give us Your peace, O Holy One.

Give rest to our bodies, replenish our spirits, and restore our souls.

Open our hearts and imaginations to the struggles of vulnerable children and the caregivers who nurture them.

Unite us all in love and service.

May our shared desires to live lovingly awaken your Spirit within us and find expression in all that we do. **Amen.**

(OR)

Fill us with your Spirit, O God, as we lift our hearts to You this night. Guide us in the morning light, to walk in your way, and to tell the truth, to ourselves and to others, about whether we are actually on the path of Love. May we become the world that we deeply desire and long for through loving action in our daily lives, in our families and partnerships, in our communities and connections. Bless all who bring positive change to the lives of children and families struggling with access to good nutrition, healthcare, and the opportunity to grow into their fullness as unique and beautiful expressions of God's Love. **Amen.**



CANTICLE

Nunc Dimittis

Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.

Now, Master, let your servant go in peace.

You have fulfilled your promise. My own eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the sight of all peoples. A light to bring the Gentiles from darkness;

the glory of your people Israel.

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.**

Save us, Lord, while we are awake; protect us while we sleep; that we may keep watch with Christ and rest with him in peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.



CLOSING PRAYERS

Be with us where we are at the end of this day, O God. May your divine inspiration move in us and through us as we rest in the hope of another new day. And when we awaken, may justice be our way. May every child step into the fullness of Your vision of human flourishing for all. May we be gifted with the grace to see the holy everywhere and to serve the world with hearts transformed by compassionate care and just action, on behalf of the poor and marginalized. **Amen.**

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Those who worship God must worship God in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24)

God is Love. If it is not about Love, it is not about God. God is Love.



A young boy, in Ghana while his parents attend a health workshop sponsored by Ghanaian Health Service and the Anglican Diocesan Development and Relief Organization.



Intergenerational Eucharist

Written and adapted by Lisa Puccio and Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S. Ed.

The people's responses are in bold

OPENING SONG (See suggested songs and hymns below)

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.

We can love God with all our hearts.

We can love God with all our souls.

We can love God with all our minds.

We can love our neighbors as ourselves.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God who is always with us, we pray for healthy food to eat, beautiful music that moves us, relationships that bond us, for play with friends and grown-ups, and for the gift of listening.

Thank you for these ways to care for each ither and inspire us to continue to share in your love.

Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Homily

Jesus began his ministry after he was baptized by John in the River Jordan, and that's when our ministry begins too. When we're baptized, we are made ready to serve God. Even if we are just babies, our baptism makes us part of God's family and turns us into his helpers.

When we're baptized, the people who love us make promises with us and for us to do the work that Jesus taught people to do. We promise to respect and love our neighbors, to follow Jesus, and to help those in need. These are important and serious promises, but God gives us people to help us keep the promises.



Today we're going to think about neighbors that we will probably never meet but are part of God's big family. Children around the world want to grow up healthy and strong and their families love them just like your family loves you. But not everyone has the things they need to grow up healthy and strong, and that's when we can help be good neighbors.

Children and grown-ups need healthy food and people to love. We all need someone to listen to us and someone to play with. We need music and laughter, friends and hugs and prayers. Most of us have the things we need, and there are people who work to help everyone have the things they need. These helpers go around the world to be teachers and friends to families who want to learn about growing up safe and strong. We can help too by praying for children and families who are missing the things they need.

Praying is a good way to be a helper, and a good way to keep your promise to God. You can also tell your friends that you are praying for children and families who need help. You can be thankful for all the things that you have and learn about how people around the world grow and learn in different ways. Our church, and other churches like ours, are helpers too. We send money and prayers to Episcopal Relief & Development. This way we can share with families who are learning to grow and be healthy. The people who work for Episcopal Relief & Development want us to all work together to better know our neighbors.

We are all part of God's big family. Be thankful for neighbors we haven't ever met, who live far away, but who know that we care about them.

THE CREED

These are the things we believe.

We believe in God, who made everything.

We believe in Jesus, God's son, who loves us.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is always with us helping us to love each other.

Now we pray for others.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the life of the world...

For our loved ones ... those whom we know and hold in our hearts, and all of your children who are unknown to us but always known to you. Help us keep the needs of all, especially the youngest amongst us, in our prayers. Bond us through your love and inspire us to action alongside the voiceless. God of love, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who teach us... our teachers at school and church, our family at home, and in all places we learn and grow. Help us to listen and pray with patience as we learn from God and one another. God our teacher, **Receive our prayer.**



For those who lead us... give the leaders of our nations, towns, communities, and homes wisdom to serve people of all ages in love and peace. Give us all the language and intention to share your love in the world. God who guides us, **Receive our prayer.**

For the sick and poor... We pray for access that meets the needs of those who do not have enough. For nutritious food, housing, loving relationships, and all of the things that help us to thrive. God of the vulnerable, **Receive our prayer.**

For ourselves... Thanksgiving for play, for music that moves us and all of the good things you bless us with. Inspire us to dwell in the stories of others and respond to the needs of our neighbors as you have taught us. God who walks with us, **Receive our prayer.**

Exchange the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Offering

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, we thank you for everything you have given us:

This beautiful world, our families and friends and our gifts and abilities.



Especially we thank you for sending us Jesus, your Son.

Jesus came and took care of the lonely and the sick,

The poor and the people who were left out.

And he showed us how to love one another.

We learned from Jesus to put you first God, to love you and to listen for your word to us.

Jesus followed your word even to the cross, showing us that God's love can overcome even death and bring new life. For all of this, we praise you, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

On the night before he died, Jesus sat at the table with his friends. He gave them bread and said, "Take this bread. Whenever you eat it, I will be with you. Then he took the cup and said, "Whenever you drink it, I will be with you." Now we offer this bread and this wine and ourselves at this table, in faith remembering that:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We ask that your Holy Spirit come to this table and fill this bread and this cup with God's powerful love that can make all things new. Remember _____, ____ for whom we pray this day. We pray that we too will be filled with the Spirit and joined together as one people blessed and filled with hope. We pray this giving honor and praise to God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

And now in the words that Jesus taught us to pray:



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

Post Communion Prayer

Holy God, you have welcomed us into the family of Jesus, your son, and you have given us spiritual food to nourish our body and soul. Send us out into the world to make all things new. Give us strength, courage, and hope to love and serve you with grateful hearts through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song

Concluding Collect

God, we thank you for always being with us. Open and transform our hearts that we might connect more deeply with the needs of others and be moved to be your love and care in the world. Help us to keep courage as we learn, share, and give. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!



CLOSING SONG

Suggested Playlist

Songs

"Bare Necessities" from Disney's Jungle Book

"What the World Needs Now Is Love"

"Happy" by Pharrell Williams

"Can't Stop This Feeling" by Justin Timberlake (from the *Trolls* movie)

"Count on Me" by Bruno Mars

"What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong

"Lean on Me" by Bill Withers

"Best Day of My Life" by American Authors

Hymns

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

"This Little Light of Mine"

"We are Marching in the Light of God"

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

"Morning has Broken"

"This Is the Day"

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

"Let There Be Peace on Earth (and Let it Begin with Me)"



Children's Chapel: An Order of Service

Written and adapted by Lisa Puccio and Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S. Ed.

OPENING COLLECT

God who is love; we pray in thanksgiving for the ways you nurture us. We pray for children everywhere and for the grown-ups who care for them. That they, with open hearts, continue to look, listen and feel for ways to grow, learn, share and give. Amen.

HOMILY

Jesus began his ministry after he was baptized by John in the River Jordan, and that's when our ministry begins, too. When we're baptized, we are made ready to serve God. Even if we are just babies, our baptism makes us part of God's family and turns us into his helpers.

When we're baptized, the people who love us make promises with us and for us to do the work that Jesus taught people to do. We promise to respect and love our neighbors, to follow Jesus and to help those in need. These are important and serious promises, but God gives us people to help us keep these promises.

Today, we're going to think about neighbors who we will probably never meet but are part of God's big family. Children around the world want to grow up healthy and strong, and their families love them just like your family loves you. But not everyone has the things they need to grow up healthy and strong, and that's when we can help be good neighbors.

Children and grown-ups need healthy food and people to love. We all need someone to listen to us and someone to play with. We need music and laughter, friends and hugs and prayers. Most of us have the things we need, and there are people who work to help everyone have the things they need. These helpers go around the world to be teachers and friends to families who want to learn about growing up safe and strong. We can help, too, by praying for children and families who are missing the things they need.

Praying is a good way to be a helper and a good way to keep your promise to God. You can also tell your friends that you are praying for children and families who need help. You can be thankful for all the things that you have and learn about how people around the world grow and learn in different ways.

Our church, and other churches like ours, are helpers, too. We send money and prayers to Episcopal Relief & Development. In this way, we can share with families who are learning to grow and be healthy. The people who work for Episcopal Relief & Development want us to all work together to know our neighbors better.

We are all part of God's big family. Be thankful for neighbors we haven't ever met, who live far away but know that we care about them.



SIMPLIFIED CREED

Storyteller: This is what we believe.

All: We believe in one God who made us and all things.

We believe in Jesus, the only son of God, who saves us.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who helps us grow to be like Jesus.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the life of the world... for our loved ones, those whom we know and hold in our hearts, and all of your children across the world. Bond us in your love. God of love, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who teach us... our teachers at school and church, our parents and family at home, and in all places we learn. Help us to listen with patience as we grow. God our teacher, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who lead us... give the leaders of our nations, towns and communities wisdom to serve people in love and peace. Give us all the language to share your love in the world. God who guides us, **Receive our prayer.**

For the sick and poor... We pray for access that meets the needs of those who do not have enough. For nutritious food, housing, loving relationships and all of the things that help us to thrive. God of the vulnerable, **Receive our prayer.**

For ourselves... Thanksgiving for playing with friends and grown-ups, for music that moves us and all of the good things you bless us with. Inspire us to respond to the needs of our neighbors as you have taught us. God who walks with us, **Receive our prayer.**

CONFESSION

Storyteller: We are sorry for the things that we've done wrong

and for the things we should have done but didn't.

We will try our best to love you and follow you.

All: Amen.

Storyteller: God loves us and forgives us and helps us.



CONCLUDING COLLECT

God, we thank you for always being with us. Open and transform our hearts so that we might connect more deeply with the needs of others and be moved to be your love and care in the world. Help us to keep courage as we learn, share and give. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

Suggested Playlist

Songs

"Bare Necessities" from Disney's Jungle Book

"What the World Needs Now Is Love"

"Happy" by Pharrell Williams

"Can't Stop This Feeling" by Justin Timberlake (from the *Trolls* movie)

"Count on Me" by Bruno Mars

"What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong

"Lean on Me" by Bill Withers

"Best Day of My Life" by American Authors

Hymns

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

"This Little Light of Mine"

"We are Marching in the Light of God"

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

"Morning has Broken"

"This Is the Day"

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

"Let There Be Peace on Earth (and Let it Begin with Me)"



A Prayer for Children & Caregivers

Written by Meredith Scott and Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S.Ed.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, for the vulnerable children of the earth as they survive the harsh realities of this world. We grieve for those living in communities of constant hardship where children struggle every day.

Let your light shine upon them and keep them from the darkness.

Give strength and courage to the caregivers who nurture these children.

Walk beside them on all difficult journeys.

When they are weary, carry them.

Protect their bodies from ailments and heal those already sick.

Guide them to places of comfort, care and kindness.

Merciful Father, open our hearts and minds to persevere in service to the needs of others.

We lovingly ask that you grant us this prayer, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



Episcopal Relief & Development has been working with our partner, the Zambia Anglican Council (ZACOP), to create safe spaces for children to grow and thrive. The program's holistic approach leverages the churches' networks and volunteers – to organize communities, empower parents and caregivers, and provide stimulation and enrichment for young children.



Children's Litany: An Order of Service

Written by Jamie Martin-Currie, M.S.Ed.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for the people who mother and father us.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We give thanks for all the people in our families who help take care of us.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We give thanks for our brothers, sisters, and friends who play with us.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for teaching us how to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for music that inspires us to sing and dance.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for the patience of our parents to listen.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for those who help us make sense of the world with words.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for those who pray with us.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We thank you, Jesus, for healthy food to help us grow strong.

Children: We thank you for the gift of love.

Leader: We especially thank you, Jesus, for the gift of love we give to others. We ask you to bless

all vulnerable children on the earth with gifts that nurture them so that they can thrive as

children of God. Amen.



Collects and Prayers of the People: For Children's Chapel or Intergenerational Worship

Written by Emily Keniston and the Rev. Katie Holicky

COLLECTS

To be used for Children's Chapel or Intergenerational Worship

God who is love; we pray in thanksgiving for the ways you nurture us. We pray for children everywhere, and for the grown-ups who care for them, that they, with open hearts, continue to look, listen and feel for ways to grow, learn, share and give. Amen.

God who is always with us, we pray for healthy food to eat, beautiful music that moves us, relationships that bond us, for play with friends and grown-ups and for the gift of listening. Thank you for these ways to care for each other and inspire us to continue to share in your love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For Children

Let us pray for the life of the world...

For our loved ones ... those whom we know and hold in our hearts, and all of your children across the world. Bond us in your love. God of love, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who teach us... our teachers at school and church, our parents and family at home, and in all places we learn. Help us to listen with patience as we grow. God our teacher, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who lead us... give the leaders of our nations, towns and communities wisdom to serve people in love and peace. Give us all the language to share your love in the world. God who guides us, **Receive our prayer.**

For the sick and poor... We pray for access that meets the needs of those who do not have enough. For nutritious food, housing, loving relationships, and all of the things that help us to thrive. God of the vulnerable*, **Receive our prayer.**

For ourselves... Thanksgiving for playing with friends and grown-ups, for music that moves us and all of the good things you bless us with. Inspire us to respond to the needs of our neighbors as you have taught us. God who walks with us, **Receive our prayer.**



CLOSING COLLECT

God, we thank you for always being with us. Open and transform our hearts that we might connect more deeply with the needs of others and be moved to be your love and care in the world. Help us to keep courage as we learn, share, and give. **Amen.**

*The word vulnerable is included as it is important for children's understanding of the Gospel message. Our suggestion is that it also be included and defined in other places in the liturgy and formation.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For Intergenerational Worship

Let us pray for the life of the world...

For our loved ones ... those whom we know and hold in our hearts, and all of your children who are unknown to us but always known to you. Help us keep the needs of all, especially the youngest amongst us, in our prayers. Bond us through your love and inspire us to action alongside the voiceless. God of love, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who teach us... our teachers at school and church, our family at home, and in all places we learn and grow. Help us to listen and pray with patience as we learn from God and one another. God our teacher, **Receive our prayer.**

For those who lead us... give the leaders of our nations, towns, communities, and homes wisdom to serve people of all ages in love and peace. Give us all the language and intention to share your love in the world. God who guides us, **Receive our prayer.**

For the sick and poor... We pray for access that meets the needs of those who do not have enough. For nutritious food, housing, loving relationships, and all of the things that help us to thrive. God of the vulnerable, **Receive our prayer.**

For ourselves... Thanksgiving for play, for music that moves us and all of the good things you bless us with. Inspire us to dwell in the stories of others and respond to the needs of our neighbors as you have taught us. God who walks with us, **Receive our prayer.**

CLOSING COLLECT

God, we thank you for always being with us. Open and transform our hearts that we might connect more deeply with the needs of others and be moved to be your love and care in the world.

Help us to keep courage as we learn, share and give. Amen.



CLOSING SONG

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Hymns

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

"This Little Light of Mine"

"We are Marching in the Light of God"

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

"Morning has Broken"



Sample Homily: For Children's Chapel or Intergenerational Worship

Written by Lisa Puccio

Jesus began his ministry after he was baptized by John in the River Jordan, and that's when our ministry begins, too. When we're baptized, we are made ready to serve God. Even if we are just babies, our baptism makes us part of God's family and turns us into his helpers.

When we're baptized, the people who love us make promises with us and for us to do the work that Jesus taught people to do. We promise to respect and love our neighbors, to follow Jesus and to help those in need. These are important and serious promises, but God gives us people to help us keep these promises.

Today, we're going to think about neighbors who we will probably never meet but are part of God's big family. Children around the world want to grow up healthy and strong, and their families love them just like your family loves you. But not everyone has the things they need to grow up healthy and strong, and that's when we can help be good neighbors.

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Praying is a good way to be a helper and a good way to keep your promise to God. You can also tell your friends that you are praying for children and families who need help. You can be thankful for all the things that you have and learn about how people around the world grow and learn in different ways.

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