A SIMPLE ORDER OF PRAYER & PRAISE WHEN UNABLE TO BE IN CHURCH

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God in Christ has revealed his glory. Come let us worship

From the rising of the sun to its setting the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord. O praise the name of the Lord!

Opening Prayer & Canticle

God of our days and years, we set this time apart for you. Form us in the likeness of Christ so that our lives may glorify you. Amen.

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving and be glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us worship and bow down and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God; we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Psalm 42

As the deer longs for the water brooks, so longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God; when shall I come before the presence of God?

My tears have been my bread day and night, while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your God?'

Now when I think on these things, I pour out my soul: how I went with the multitude and led the procession to the house of God,

With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, among those who kept holy day.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me?

O put your trust in God; for I will yet give him thanks, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

My soul is heavy within me;

therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan, and from Hermon and the hill of Mizar.

Deep calls to deep in the thunder of your waterfalls; all your breakers and waves have gone over me.

The Lord will grant his loving-kindness in the daytime; through the night his song will be with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

I say to God my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me, and why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresses me?'

As they crush my bones, my enemies mock me; while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your God?'

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me?

O put your trust in God; for I will yet give him thanks, who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

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

Scripture Readings

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the Lord, your God? *Joel 5: 14-15*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. *John 3: 16-17*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4: 4-7*

Affirmation of Faith

I believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life. I believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again. I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and dwells in our hearts through faith. This is the faith of the Church. I believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers

Spend some quiet time in prayer before God. Thank him for all the blessings of life. Lay before him the needs of the world and pray for peace. Remember those who are in need of any kind. Commend to him the souls of the departed. Share with him your worries and the things uppermost in your mind.

Say the Lord's Prayer. Our Father, who art in heaven

Ending

Lord God, you hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our anger and sorrow, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.