



— THE —
TABLE

Evening Prayer for Table Groups Lent 2020

The gathering place is darkened. A central candle may be used with any other number of candles. When the candles are lit, the Candlelighter greets the people.

Greeting

Candlelighter: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Candlelighter reads one of the following short lessons:

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." - *John 8:12*

Prayer for Light

Candlelighter: Let us pray.

The Candlelighter reads the following prayer.

Almighty and most merciful God, kindle within us the fire of love, that by its cleansing flame we may be purged of all our sins and made worthy to worship you in spirit and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Gracious Light

All together:

**O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

Grace at Meals

One of the following prayers is prayed before the meal:

Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all your mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed are you, O Lord God, King of the Universe, for you give us food to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dear God, the eyes of all creation look to you and you give to us our food in due season. Open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For these and all his mercies, God's holy Name be blessed and praised, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

After the meal, the service continues:

The Psalms

One or more Psalms are read, after which is said:

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

Scripture Reading

A selection from Scripture is read, after which is said:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Song of Mary *Magificat - Luke 1:46-55*

My soul magnifies the Lord, *

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;

For he has regarded *

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from now on, *

all generations will call me blessed;

For he that is mighty has magnified me, *

and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on those who fear him, *

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throughout all generations.

He has shown the strength of his arm; *

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has brought down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has exalted the humble and meek.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent empty away.

He, remembering his mercy, has helped his servant Israel, *

as he promised to our fathers,

Abraham and his seed for ever.

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.

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

The Lord be with you.

and also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. And 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.**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace in your Church and in the whole world,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be
condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the
communion of The Table and all your saints, entrusting one
another and all our life to Christ,

We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day *(from the previous Sunday)*

Ash Wednesday *(February 26, 2020)*

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Sunday in Lent *(March 1, 2020)*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations, and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday in Lent *(March 8, 2020)*

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Third Sunday in Lent *(March 15, 2020)*

Heavenly Father, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you: Look with compassion upon the heartfelt desires of your servants, and purify our disordered affections, that we may behold your eternal glory in the face of Christ Jesus; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Fourth Sunday in Lent *(March 22, 2020)*

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Fifth Sunday in Lent *(March 29, 2020)*

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Palm Sunday *(April 5, 2020)*

Almighty and everlasting God, in your tender love for us you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon himself our nature, and to suffer death upon the Cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and come to share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Monday of Holy Week *(April 6, 2020)*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the Cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Tuesday of Holy Week *(April 7, 2020)*

O Lord our God, whose blessed Son gave his back to be whipped and did not hide his face from shame and spitting: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Wednesday of Holy Week *(April 8, 2020)*

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Assist us mercifully with your grace, Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the meditation of those mighty acts by which you have promised us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Maundy Thursday *(April 9, 2020)*

Almighty Father, whose most dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it in thankful remembrance of Jesus Christ our Savior, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Good Friday *(April 10, 2020)*

Almighty God, we beseech you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the Cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy Saturday *(April 11, 2020)*

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then follows:

A Collect For Faith

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Personal Prayer

Intercessions and thanksgivings are offered, after each is said:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

A Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will grant their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Grace *Romans 15:13*

May the God of hope **+** fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



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