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T A B L E
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Evening Prayer
for Table Groups

*Before dinner, everyone gathers in the kitchen or dining room.
An unlit candle is placed in sight of all.*

Opening Acclamation / Scripture / Prayer

Leader: Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The candle is now lit.

Phos Hilaron *(said 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 the Meal

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the food we are about to receive, for the hands that prepared it, and for all gathered at this table. Make us mindful of the needs of others, and strengthen us in your service. **Amen.**

During dinner, people may share “highs and lows” of the day, as well as thanksgivings.

Kids may be dismissed to play while adults continue to talk.

After dinner, 15 minutes before the end of the evening, everyone gathers again in a central place for prayer.

Prayers and Intercessions

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others as people share needs, ending with:

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Song of Mary *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, *
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 Lord's Prayer *(said together)*

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For yours is the the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**



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TABLE
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thetableindy.org