

EVENING PRAISE & PRAYER

Proclamation of the Light

You are encouraged to light an unadorned candle as the following words are spoken. If you are so inclined, you may also burn incense during this service. Since the fourth century of the early church, the burning of incense has served as a devotional sign of prayer (based on Psalm 141).

Light and peace in Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

We call upon you, O Lord;
come quickly to us;
give ear to our voice when we call to you.
Let our prayer be counted
as incense before you,
and the lifting up of our hands
as an evening sacrifice.

adapted from Psalm 141:1-2

The Doxology

adapted from No. 95, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, you heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Psalm 143

Common English Bible

Listen to my prayer, LORD!
Because of your faithfulness, hear my requests
for mercy!
Because of your righteousness, answer me!
² Please don't bring your servant to judgment,
because no living thing is righteous before you.
³ The enemy is chasing me,
crushing my life in the dirt,
forcing me to live in the dark
like those who've been dead forever.
⁴ My spirit is weak inside me—
inside, my mind is numb.
⁵ I remember the days long past;
I meditate on all your deeds;
I contemplate your handiwork.
⁶ I stretch out my hands to you;
my whole being is like dry dirt, thirsting for
you. *Selah*
⁷ Answer me, LORD—and quickly! My breath is
fading.
Don't hide your face from me
or I'll be like those going down to the pit!
⁸ Tell me all about your faithful love come morning
time,

because I trust you.
Show me the way I should go,
because I offer my life up to you.
⁹ Deliver me from my enemies, LORD!
I seek protection from you.
¹⁰ Teach me to do what pleases you,
because you are my God.
Guide me by your good spirit
into good land.
¹¹ Make me live again, LORD, for your name's sake.
Bring me out of distress because of your
righteousness.
¹² Wipe out my enemies because of your faithful
love.
Destroy everyone who attacks me,
because I am your servant.

Giving Thanks

Prayers of the People

You are encouraged to offer your voice to this time of prayer. After each petition, you may add your specific prayers of thanks and intercession. After each prayer, the pray-er should end with "Amen."

Together let us...

pray for our world.
pray for our community and
neighborhoods.
pray for our friends and family.
pray for ourselves.

The Lord's Prayer

No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Our 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Conclusion

Abide with us, O Christ,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.
As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you.

May God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace.
Amen.

