

Midday Prayer

The Church lives in time and with time, and this truth is borne out by the observance of prayer even in the midst of a busy day.

Prayer at midday provides a way to consecrate the day at its centre and to realise the presence of God in the heart of life.

The admonition of Jesus that we pray and not be weary is fulfilled in this way, and we identify with him on the cross, the centre of his work.

Midday Prayer is one among many opportunities for God's people, laity, religious orders, or clergy to extend the range of daily prayer.

Invocation

E te whānau / My brothers and sisters,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Eternal Spirit,
flow through our being and open our lips,
that our mouths may proclaim your praise.

Silence

Let us worship the God of love.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Psalm

The following or some other psalm is said.

Sunday

Walking in God's path

Blessèd are those who are honest in their ways,
who walk in the paths of God's law.

Blessèd are those who treasure God's wisdom,
who seek God with all their heart.

Those who do no evil deeds
are those who tread the way of justice.

Dear God, you have given command
that we diligently hold to your word.

May my ways be kept steadfast
on the narrow road of your love.

So shall I not be confounded
while I respect the whole of your counsel.

I shall thank you with unfeigned heart
as I learn to be guided by your Spirit.

I shall hold fast to your truths:
do not utterly abandon me.

Psalm 119:1-7

Reading

One of the following or some other passage of scripture is read.

Silence may follow the reading.

Sunday

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It is God who through Christ has won us back and given us a share in this work of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18

Canticle

4 The Lake of Beauty

Edward Carpenter

Let your mind be quiet, realising the beauty of the world,
and the immense, the boundless treasures that it holds in store.
All that you have within you, all that your heart desires,
all that your Nature so specially fits you for - that or the
counterpart of it waits embedded in the great Whole, for you.
It will surely come to you.

Yet equally surely not one moment before its appointed time
will it come. All your crying and fever and reaching out of
hands will make no difference.

Therefore do not begin that game at all.
Do not recklessly spill the waters of your mind
in this direction and in that,
lest you become like a spring lost and
dissipated in the desert.

But draw them together into a little compass, and hold them
still, so still;
And let them become clear, so clear - so limpid, so mirror-like;
at last the mountains and the sky shall glass themselves in
peaceful beauty,
and the antelope shall descend to drink and to gaze at her
reflected image, and the lion to quench his thirst,
and Love himself shall come and bend over and catch his
own likeness in you.

Prayers

Lord have mercy.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

Kyrie eleison.

Christ have mercy.

E te Karaiti kia aroha mai.

Christe eleison.

Lord have mercy.

E te Ariki kia aroha mai.

Kyrie eleison.

*One of the following three sections is said, ending with the **Collect for Midday** and **The Lord's Prayer**.*

2

For the hungry and the overfed
May we have enough.

For the mourners and the mockers
May we laugh together.

For the victims and the oppressors
May we share power wisely.

For the peacemakers and the warmongers
May clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony.

For the silenced and the propagandists
May we speak our own words in truth.

For the unemployed and the overworked
May our impress on the earth be kindly and creative.

For the troubled and the sleek
May we live together as wounded healers.

For the homeless and the cosseted
May our homes be simple, warm and welcoming.

For the vibrant and the dying
May we all die to live.

COLLECT FOR MIDDAY

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

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

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.

Blessing

In the following a deacon or layperson says 'us' instead of 'you'.

May the Creator
bless you and keep you;
may the beloved companion face you
and have mercy upon you;
may the eternal Spirit's countenance
be turned to you and give you peace;
may the Three in One bless you.

Silence

The service concludes

The divine Spirit dwells in us.

Kia noho te Wairua o te Runga Rawa ki a tātou.

Thanks be to God.

Whakamoemititia a Ihowā.