

An Order for Morning Prayer

Call to Prayer: (Psalm 96: 2 – 4)

L: Sing to the Lord and bless his Name,

P: proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

L: Declare his glory among the nations

P: and his wonders among all peoples.

L: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

P: he is more to be feared than all gods.

The request for Presence (Psalm 90:14)

L: Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning,

P: So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

Blessing One: Creation. A Thanksgiving for Creation

(A prayer or scripture reading)

Blessing Two: Revelation (A Scripture Reading)

The Shema

All: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One.

(Silent reflection)

All: Praised be God's glorious sovereignty throughout all time.

The Morning Psalm

(Suggested Psalms: 145; 150; 18; 91; 81; 93; 100; 94; 95)

Response (Silent reflection, meditation, witness, song, or prayer)

Blessing Three: God alone is Eternal Redeemer

Who is like You, Lord, among all that is worshiped? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, working wonders?

(Exodus 15:11)

The redeemed sang a new song for You. They sang in chorus at the shore of the sea, acclaiming Your sovereignty: "The Lord shall reign throughout all time." (Exodus 15:18)

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer for the Day

All: Lord God, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your almighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day Seven

✠ Itinerary: Mt of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Mt. Zion,
Upper Room, St. Peter in Gallicantu, Garden Tomb

We begin this day with the prayer that Jesus himself would have said:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One. Praised be God's glorious sovereignty throughout all time. Amen

Mount of Olives – Luke 19:37-44; Mark 11:1-11; Matthew 21 (Palm Sunday walk)

Reflection: Can you place yourself in the crowd that gathered that day of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem? Imagine the sun beating down, the shouts of the crowds, the sounds and smells of the animals. Can you see yourself among the people spreading cloaks in the road, making a kind of carpet upon which the donkey and its rider would travel? Are you joining the chorus of "Blessed be the king who comes ...! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest!"

In Luke's gospel, the religious leaders disapprove of the crowd and the shouting and they tell Jesus to order his followers to stop. Jesus tells the religious leaders that if the people were to stop, that the stones would shout and sing. What do you think the stones would say? How do you (or do you) express joy in the presence of Jesus with whom you take this daily walk of life?

Garden of Gethsemane – Mark 14:32-52 (Jesus prays and is betrayed)

Reflection: Sometimes we underestimate what it cost Jesus to submit his will to God's Will. The price of saying yes led to the cross, to the very giving of self—all of self—on behalf of others. A surrender of our will to God's Will...that is what Jesus models. We must be pliable in God's hands, allowing God's designs and desires to mold and shape our hearts for the present and coming days.

"Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting yielded and still. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway. Fill with they Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!"

Mt. Zion

The room of the Last Supper and the Tomb of David are in the Mt. Zion area.

Upper Room – Luke 22:7-23; Mark 14:12-29; Matthew 26:17-35 (The Last Supper)

Reflection: When was the last time you thought about, talked about, taught, or shared about why we celebrate communion? What's this practice all about? (for the modern world?)
Good question.

We share this meal to:

1. Remember Jesus, his life, his teachings, his new interpretation of the Passover meal, his creation and institution of something new—The Lord's supper/Eucharist/Communion—and to remember Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
2. Rejoice, for whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:26, NIV). Death does not have the last word.
3. Repent. Sharing communion provides opportunity to examine ourselves and, if the Holy Spirit shines a piercing light on anything in our lives that is unworthy of the body and blood of the Lord, we have the opportunity to repent and experience forgiveness and cleansing anew so that we might celebrate worthily.
4. Reconcile. We are all a part of the one body: the church of Jesus Christ. If I have resentment toward even one person I really am judging myself. I'm no better than anyone of you here. At this table we are on equal standing.



The table of Holy Communion is Christ's table, not the table of The United Methodist Church or any one congregation. It is not a meal in the clubhouse for members only! It is open to all regardless of age or church membership. The table is open to anyone who seeks to respond to Christ's love and seeks to lead a new life of peace and love.

Christ invites you to take the bread and the cup that proclaim his loving sacrifice of love for everyone and to commit yourself once again to participate, proclaim, and walk today and the days ahead in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

St. Peter in Gallicantu

The Church of St Peter in Gallicantu stands on the eastern slope of Mt. Zion. The church commemorates the apostle Peter's triple denial of his Master, his immediate repentance, and his reconciliation with Christ after the resurrection.

Garden Tomb – Mark 15:42-16:8 (Jesus arose from the grave)

Reflection: Walking with Jesus means you will encounter the unexpected. Meeting an angel at the tomb was bewildering. Jesus had told them to expect the resurrection, and yet all are astounded that they do not find the body of Jesus at the tomb.

Jesus had astounded the people many times earlier through healings, walking on water, multiplying a boy's lunch, and a catch of fish. And at each point along the way, I hear Jesus asking the same question he asked his first disciples when they were on the boat together after Jesus had calmed the storm: "Do you not have faith yet?"

As you continue to walk with Jesus, how will you respond when you meet God unexpectedly?

Call to Prayer:

L: God is a faithful King.

P: Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is One.

All: Praised be God's glorious sovereignty throughout all time.

A Reading: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might. And these words which I command you this day you shall take to heart. You shall diligently teach them to your children. You shall recite them at home and away, morning and night. You shall bind them as a sign upon your hand, they shall be a symbol above your eyes, and you shall inscribe them upon the doorposts of your homes and upon your gates. (*Deuteronomy 6:4-9*)

Prayer: Help us, our dear Lord, as we come to the end of this day, to lie down in peace; and awaken us to life again. Spread over us Your shelter of peace, guide us with Your good counsel. Save us because of Your mercy. Shield us from enemies and pestilence, from starvation, sword and sorrow. Remove the evil forces that surround us, shelter us in the shadow of Your wings. You, O God, guard us and deliver us. You are a gracious and merciful King. Guard our coming and our going, grant us life and peace, now and always. Praised is the Lord by day and praised by night, praised when we lie down and praised when we rise up. In Your hand are the souls of the living and the dead, the life of every creature, the breath of all flesh. Into Your hand I entrust my spirit: You will redeem me, Lord God of truth. Our God in Heaven, assert the unity of Your rule; affirm Your sovereignty, and reign over us forever. Amen

Biblical Verses (These biblical verses recall God's blessings and protection in ancient times:)

Then Jacob said: "May the angel who has redeemed me from all harm bless the lads. May they carry on my name and the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac. May they become teeming multitudes upon the earth." And God said: "If you will listen diligently to the voice of the Lord your God, doing what is right in His sight, heeding His mitzvot and keeping all His laws, then I will not inflict upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians, for I the Lord am your healer."

The angel of the Lord said to Satan: "The Lord rebuke you, Satan. May the Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you. Is not this man a brand snatched from the fire?" Behold Solomon carried in his litter — sixty of Israel's heroes are its escort. All of them are skilled swordsmen, all trained at war, each with his sword at the ready to ward off any danger of the night. May the Lord bless you and guard you. May the Lord show you favor and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you kindness and grant you peace.

The Guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps.

Blessing and Thanksgiving

This is the day that the Lord has made! Thank you for your blessings throughout this day. Thank you for walking with us, Jesus, as we seek to walk more closely with you. Bless us now as we rest and fill us with your spirit this evening in ways that renew our mind, body, soul, and spirit so that we may awaken to your fullness of life ready to learn, and grow as disciples who multiply your transforming love and grace!

*** Adapted from various resources*