

# Night Prayer

FRIDAY, August 20, 2021



## *Notes about this Resource:*

At the beginning and end of each day during CLAY, our entire gathering community comes together for times of worship. Those sessions are built right into the schedule - we will all participate simultaneously, from wherever we are across the country.

Depending on how your Home Team is choosing to connect with each other during the gathering, you might want to meet for a small group morning or night prayer as well. In each document, you will find suggested readings and songs that match up with the theme of the day.

This resource is meant to give you one option for daily prayers. Feel free to adapt it in a way that makes sense in your context. You can use the entire prayer outline as provided, or you can use the suggested readings and songs as part of the daily prayer liturgy that your group is used to.

If your Home Team is not holding daily prayer together and you would like to pray with someone else virtually, podcast versions of these daily prayers are also available.

~ ~ ~

## **GATHERING**

The angels of God guard us through the night,  
**and quieten the powers that stir us from our rest.**

The Spirit of God be our guide  
**to lead us to peace and to glory.**

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,  
and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.  
For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

*Silence*

My siblings in Christ, our help is in the name of the eternal God,  
**who is making the heavens and the earth.**

Dear God, thank you for all that is good, for our creation and for our humanity, for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth, for the gifts of life and of one another, for your love which is unbounded and eternal. O thou, most holy and beloved, my Companion, my Guide upon the way, my bright evening star.

We repent the wrongs we have done:

*Silence*

We have wounded your love. **O God, heal us.**

We stumble in our transgressions. **Light of the world transfigure us.**

We forget that we are your home. **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips,

**that our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the God of love. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

**[Optional Song / Hymn]**

**WORD**

**READ:** Psalm 121

**READ:** Ruth 1

**[Optional Song / Hymn]**

*Choose a song from the suggestions listed below, or choose a song of your preference.*

**PRAYERS:**

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,

**for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.**

Keep me, O God, as the apple of your eye;

**hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

Preserve us, O God, while waking,

**and guard us while sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in your peace.**

**SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)**

Praise be to God, **I have lived to see this day. God's promise is fulfilled, and my duty done. At last you have given me peace, for I have seen with my own eyes the salvation you have prepared for all nations – a light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,

**as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (alternative from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*)**

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

**Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom**

**sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

**SENDING PRAYER:**

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,

**for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.**

Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver,

**let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.**

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,

**glorified and exalted above all for ever.**

Lord, it is night.

The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

What has been done has been done; what has not been done has not been done;

let it be.

The night is full of uncertainty.

Let our fears of the unknown of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. **Amen.**

~ ~ ~

## **MUSIC SUGGESTIONS:**

### ***Common Praise***

Hymn #482 - "Come and Journey with a Saviour"

Hymn #29 - "The Day Thou Gavest"

### ***Evangelical Lutheran Worship:***

Hymn #536 - "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

Hymn #659 - "Will You Let Me be Your Servant"

### ***Contemporary Hymns:***

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever" Delirious, cover by Dre and Leah

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQsorxxRFAI>

"One Thing Remains," Kristian Stanfill, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoYgi0sdOqc>

This liturgy is adapted from the form for Night Prayer contained in "Supplementary to The Book of Alternative Services" which was adapted from the form for Night Prayer from "A New Zealand Prayer Book". Text used and adapted with permission.