

Daily Devotions for Families and Individuals

These devotions follow the basic structure of the Daily Office of the Church, with the added Monastic Offices of Lauds, Terce, and None.

The Psalms and Readings may be replaced by those appointed in

- a) The Lectionary for Sundays, Holy Days, the Common of Saints, and Various Occasions, BCP page 888.*
- b) The Daily Office Lectionary, BCP page 934*
- c) Some other manual of devotion, which provides daily selections for the Church Year.*

Late Night (Lauds - Dawn/Sunrise)

This devotion may be used after midnight up to the dawn hour.

From Psalm 112

Happy are those who fear the Lord,*
who greatly delight in his commandments.
They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;*
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.
It is well with those who deal generously and lend,*
who conduct their affairs with justice.
They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;*
their righteousness endures forever;
their horn is exalted in honor.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Genesis 1:1-5

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Gracious Father, You have awoken us to a new day, with the promise of hope to come: Grant us peace and safety, that we may know you are with us until our time is over on earth, before we join you in Heaven, with your son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

Mid-Morning (Terce – third hour of the day)

This devotion may be used during a mid-morning break.

From Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;*
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
The sun's rising is from the end of the heavens,*
and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.
The law of the Lord is perfect,*
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,*
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right,*
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,*
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is pure,*
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true*
and righteous altogether.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading

A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty

Matthew 13:3; 8

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Collect

Almighty God, who gives us day and night and labor and rest, be with us in this hour of labor, that we may know your will as we perform our duties as your creation, with your son our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.

At Noon (Sext – sixth hour)

This devotion may be used during the mid-day break.

From Psalm 113

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.

Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.

The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading

O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength.

Isaiah 26:3; 30:15

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your mercies' sake. Amen.

or this

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us
and keep us. Amen.

Mid-Afternoon (None – ninth hour)

This devotion may be used during a mid-afternoon break.

From Psalm 128

Happy is everyone who fears the Lord,*
who walks in his ways.

You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;*
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.

The Lord bless you from Zion.*

May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, all the days of your life.

May you see your children's children.*

Peace be upon Israel!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading

The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

Matthew 20:1-2; 6-7

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Collect

Blessed Christ: you gave your last breath at the ninth hour; give us more breath to finish this day, that we may join you in the Kingdom of Heaven when it is our time, after all our tasks have been completed. Amen.

or this

Lord Christ, grant us strength to finish our labor, as we prepare for the end of this day. Show us your mercy as our tired bodies anticipate rest; so that we may be prepared for the labors to come before your return. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. Amen.

In the Early Evening (Vespers – dusk/sunset)

This devotion may be used before or after the evening meal.

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.

A Reading

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

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us
and keep us. Amen.

At the Close of Day (Compline – retiring)

This devotion should be used immediately prior to sleep.

Psalm 134

Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, *
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.
Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; *
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

A Reading

Lord, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your Name: Do
not forsake us, O Lord our God.

Jeremiah 14:9,22

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see;
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

*Prayers for ourselves and others may follow. It is appropriate that prayers of
thanksgiving for the blessings of the day, and penitence for our sins, be
included.*

The Lord's Prayer

The Collect

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy;
let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your
blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us
and keep us. Amen.