

THE ORDER OF SERVICES IN OSLO CATHEDRAL



*The order of services
in Oslo Cathedral*

The principal service *p. 5*
at 11:00 AM on Sundays, feast days, and other holy days

Wednesday service *p. 15*
at 12:00 PM on Wednesdays

Friday service *p. 19*
at 4:30 PM on Fridays

Weekday service *p. 25*
at 3:30 PM on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

Weekday prayer *p. 29*
at 3:30 PM on Wednesdays

The principal service

I *Gathering*

Preparation

Before the service, the congregation is free to light candles, sit in silence, or in prayer. The church bells ring for five minutes before the service starts. After a short silence, a bell is rung three times.

Prelude and procession

The congregation stands.

Entrance hymn

For this and the following hymns, please refer to the printed Norwegian 'Order of the day' for specific hymn numbers.

Greeting and intimation

LITURGIST In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

ALL Amen.

The congregation is seated. If there is a baptism, the rite takes place after the intimation, and the confession and Kyrie are omitted.

The confession

LITURGIST Let us bow before God and confess our sins.

ALL Holy God, heavenly Father. Look with grace on me, a sinful person,
who has acted against you in thought, word and deed,
and who harbours evil inclinations in my heart.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have patience with me.
Forgive all my sins and allow me to revere and love you alone.

Kyrie

The Kyrie and Gloria are sung.

ALL Kyrie eleison. God our Father, have mercy.
Christe eleison. Lord Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison. Holy Spirit, have mercy.

Gloria

LITURGIST Glory to God in the highest,

ALL and peace on earth to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

CHOIR We give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty Father.

ALL We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

CHOIR Lord, the only-begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.

ALL We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you.

CHOIR For you alone are holy, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

ALL We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you. Amen.

The Gloria is omitted during Lent and Advent.

The prayer of the day – Collect

LITURGIST Let us all pray.

The liturgist says the prayer of the day.

ALL Amen.

2 *The word*

First reading

From the Old Testament.

Psalm

From the Book of Psalms, sung by the choir.

Second reading

From the New Testament.

Gospel procession – Alleluia / hymn

The congregation stands.

Gospel reading

The reading concludes with:

LITURGIST This is the holy Gospel.

ALL Praise be to God.

Response

As the minister ascends to the pulpit, either the alleluia is repeated, or a short hymn is sung, or the choir sings the following response:

CHOIR Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.

Sermon

The congregation is seated. The minister preaches over the Gospel text and concludes with the doxology:

LITURGIST Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

The creed

CANTOR Let us confess our holy faith.

The congregation stands and sings the Nicene creed in response with the cantor:

CANTOR We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

ALL We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

CANTOR God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

ALL begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

CANTOR For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

ALL was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

CANTOR For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

ALL On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

CANTOR He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

ALL We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

CANTOR who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

ALL We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

CANTOR We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

ALL We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

On occasion a creedal hymn is sung instead, or the Apostles' creed is said:

ALL I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

After the creed, the congregation is seated.

3 *The intercessions*

Notices

Intercessions for the church and the world

After each petition, the congregation responds:

ALL Lord, hear our prayer.

And after the last petition:

ALL Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

The peace litany

The peace litany may on occasion replace the intercessions:

CANTOR We pray for God's blessing.

LITURGIST Blessed be your kingdom, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for all eternity.

ALL Amen.

CANTOR Let us pray in peace to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For peace from on high and salvation for our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For peace in the whole world, for solidarity in your Holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For this holy house and for those who enter in it in faith, reverence, and respect of God, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For all the people of God, for all servants of the church, for our priests and our bishop, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For this city/community and for all nations and places, and for all people of faith, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For fine seasonal weather, for rich growth on earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR For those who travel on the sea, land and in the air, for the sick and for those who suffer, for prisoners and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR That we may be freed from all temptation, wrath, need, and danger, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL Lord, have mercy

CANTOR Help us, save us, have mercy on us, and protect us, Lord, in your grace.

ALL Lord, have mercy.

CANTOR Let us draw inspiration from those who were faithful believers even unto death, so that we may surrender ourselves, our lives and our relationships to the Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL Praise to you, O Lord.

LITURGIST For victory, glory and power belong to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, today, tomorrow and for all eternity.

ALL Amen.

Offertory

The congregation sings a hymn while the offering is taken up in the pews.

Prayer for the gifts

LITURGIST Eternal God, the earth and all that fills it is yours. All that we have belongs to you. It is what we have received that we return to you. Receive our gifts, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

ALL Amen.

4 *The Eucharistic meal*

The greeting – Preface dialogue

The congregation stands. The dialogue, preface and Sanctus are sung.

LITURGIST The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

LITURGIST Lift up your hearts.

ALL We lift our hearts up to the Lord.

LITURGIST Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right and just.

The preface

The preface varies through the church year. It has the following form:

LITURGIST It is truly right and just, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, through our Lord Jesus Christ ... Through him the angels praise your glory, and heaven and earth sing forth your praise while we, with all the church, proclaim your glory in harmonious praise, singing:

Sanctus

ALL Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
All earth is full of his glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer – Epiiclesis

LITURGIST We praise you, holy God, maker of heaven and earth. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, so that he should save us from sin and death and gain a holy people. We pray to you: Send down your Spirit on us and these gifts, so that we may in faith receive Jesus Christ in the bread and the wine.

The Lord's prayer

The Lord's prayer is sung.

ALL 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The words of institution – Verba

LITURGIST In the same night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Prayer – Anamnesis

LITURGIST Gracious God, we celebrate this meal with joy and thanksgiving for the sacrifice of your son, believing in his victorious resurrection and ascension and in expectation of his return in glory. Fill us with your love, so that we may recognise Christ in those who hunger and thirst. Teach us to love one another as you have loved us, and grant that we one day may be gathered with you in your kingdom.

Agnus Dei

The Agnus Dei is sung.

ALL Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

The peace – Pax

LITURGIST Our Lord Jesus Christ says: Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.
Let us greet one another with a handshake and wish God's peace.

All are invited to greet their neighbours with a handshake and the words 'The peace of God be with you'.

The distribution

LITURGIST Come, for everything has been prepared.

The congregation comes forward to receive the sacrament. The Eucharist is distributed by intinction: The communicant accepts the bread from the minister and dips it into the wine. All hosts are gluten free.

The words of distribution are:

LITURGIST This is the body of Christ.
This is the blood of Christ.

Music during the distribution – Communio

The choir performs a motet. On occasion, a hymn is sung by the congregation.

The wish of peace

LITURGIST The crucified and risen Jesus Christ has given us his holy body and blood which he gave as atonement for all our sins. May he strengthen us and uphold us in true faith to eternal life. Peace be with you.

The thanksgiving prayer

LITURGIST Let us give thanks and pray. We thank you, heavenly Father, for your blessed gifts. We pray that, with these gifts, you will preserve our faith in you, unite us in your love and confirm us in the hope of eternal life, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

ALL Amen.

5 *The dismissal*

Closing hymn

The congregation stands for the remainder of the service.

The blessing

The blessing is sung.

LITURGIST Let us praise the Lord.

ALL God be praised. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Alternatively, during Lent and Advent:

LITURGIST The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

LITURGIST The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ALL Amen. Amen. Amen.

A bell is rung nine times, in groups of three chimes with a short pause in between.

The dismissal

LITURGIST Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Postlude / recessional

A postlude is played on the organ during the recessional. The congregation may exit the cathedral following the clergy and other participants.

Wednesday service

I *Gathering*

Organ recital

A recital on the organ precedes the service, either as a substantial piece from the organ literature or in the form of an improvisation.

Words of gathering

LITURGIST In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

ALL Amen.

2 *The word*

Reading

Hymn

3 *The Eucharistic meal*

The greeting – Preface dialogue

The congregation stands, singing:

LITURGIST The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

LITURGIST Lift up your hearts.

ALL We lift our hearts up to the Lord.

LITURGIST Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right and just.

Prayer – Euclogesis

LITURGIST Holy Lord God, we thank you through your Son Jesus Christ. He is the eternal word, and according to this word you have made everything. When the time was at hand, you sent him to the world as our saviour and liberator to reveal your love. For this we bless you, together with all the angels in heaven and on the earth. We pray to you: Send down your spirit on us and these gifts, so that this bread may become the body of Christ, and this cup the blood of Christ.

The words of institution – Verba

LITURGIST In the same night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Prayer – Anamnesis

LITURGIST Gracious God, grant that we may take part in this holy meal with humble and sincere hearts when we come to your table to receive your body and blood. Grant that we may be united to you as the branches are united to the vine. Teach us to love one another as you have loved us, and grant that we one day may be gathered with you in your kingdom.

The Lord's prayer

ALL 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

The Agnus Dei is sung.

ALL Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

The peace – Pax

LITURGIST Our Lord Jesus Christ says: Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.
Let us greet one another with a handshake and wish God's peace.

All are invited to greet their neighbours with a handshake and the words 'The peace of God be with you'.

The distribution

LITURGIST Come, for everything has been prepared.

All hosts are gluten free. The words of distribution are:

LITURGIST This is the body of Christ.
This is the blood of Christ.

The wish of peace

LITURGIST The crucified and risen Jesus Christ has given us his holy body and blood which he gave as atonement for all our sins. May he strengthen us and uphold us in true faith to eternal life. Peace be with you.

The thanksgiving prayer

LITURGIST Let us give thanks.
God, we thank you because in a world of hunger and war,
we have been granted the promise of abundance and peace;
because in a world of oppression and tyranny,
we have been granted the promise of service and freedom;
because in the midst of doubt and despair,
we have been granted the promise of faith and hope;
because in a world of hatred and death,
we have been granted the promise of love and life;
because in a world of sin and transience,
we have been granted the promise of salvation and renewal;
because in the middle of a world of death,
we can taste the resurrection.

ALL Amen.

4 *The dismissal*

The blessing

LITURGIST Receive the blessing.

The congregation stands.

LITURGIST The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ALL Amen.

A bell is rung nine times, in groups of three chimes with a short pause in between.

Postlude / recessional

The congregation is seated.

Notices

The dismissal

LITURGIST Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Friday service

I *Gathering*

Prelude

Words of gathering

LITURGIST The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL Amen.

Hymn

2 *The word*

Prayer

LITURGIST Let us pray. God, open up our hearts to your Word, so that we may be renewed in our faith in you, and find courage and hope as new days dawn.

ALL Amen.

Reading

Lighting of candles

The congregation is invited to light candles in the cathedral's candle globes. Candles are free of charge during the service.

3 *The Eucharistic meal*

Hymn

1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord,
like empty vessels.
Come to us, God, and give us life
from springs where living waters flow.

2 What good and blessing you bestow
is freely given.
Your power will make the weakest strong
and barren branches start to bud.

3 We lift our hands to you, O God,
our world upholding.
Let those who suffer shelter find
from human hearts of ice and snow.

4 O, make our barren trees to grow,
our hands to blossom,
and let our lives bring forth such fruit
that heals our neighbour's grief and pain.

5 As summer follows springtime's rain,
so grace to sorrow,
and grief and joy shall bear much fruit,
though hidden from our human eyes.

6 Through grace your new creation lies
in open, empty hands.
God, giver of all goodness, come,
dwell with us in our earthly home!

Svein Ellingsen

The greeting – Preface dialogue

The congregation stands. The dialogue, preface and Sanctus are sung.

LITURGIST The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

LITURGIST Lift up your hearts.

ALL We lift our hearts up to the Lord.

LITURGIST Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right and just.

The preface

The preface varies through the church year. It has the following form:

LITURGIST It is truly right and just, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, through our Lord Jesus Christ ... Through him the angels praise your glory, and heaven and earth sing forth your praise while we, with all the church, proclaim your glory in harmonious praise, singing:

Sanctus

ALL Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
All earth is full of his glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer – Epiclesis

LITURGIST We praise you, holy God, maker of heaven and earth. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, so that he should save us from sin and death and gain a holy people. We pray to you: Send down your Spirit on us and these gifts, so that we may in faith receive Jesus Christ in the bread and the wine.

The Lord's prayer

ALL 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The words of institution – Verba

LITURGIST In the same night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Prayer – Anamnesis

LITURGIST God, embrace us all just as a loving mother gathers her children in around herself. Grant that we might love one another, just as you love us. Grant that the meek and lowly be lifted up, and the hungry filled with good things.

Agnus Dei

The Agnus Dei is sung.

ALL Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

The peace – Pax

LITURGIST Our Lord Jesus Christ says: Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Let us greet one another with a handshake and wish God's peace.

All are invited to greet their neighbours with a handshake and the words 'The peace of God be with you'.

The distribution

LITURGIST Come, for everything has been prepared.

All hosts are gluten free. The words of distribution are:

LITURGIST This is the body of Christ.
This is the blood of Christ.

The wish of peace

LITURGIST The crucified and risen Jesus Christ has given us his holy body and blood which he gave as atonement for all our sins. May he strengthen us and uphold us in true faith to eternal life. Peace be with you.

The thanksgiving prayer

LITURGIST Let us give thanks.
God, we thank you because in a world of hunger and war,
we have been granted the promise of abundance and peace;
because in a world of oppression and tyranny,
we have been granted the promise of service and freedom;
because in the midst of doubt and despair,
we have been granted the promise of faith and hope;
because in a world of hatred and death,
we have been granted the promise of love and life;
because in a world of sin and transience,
we have been granted the promise of salvation and renewal;
because in the middle of a world of death,
we can taste the resurrection.

ALL Amen.

4 *The dismissal*

The blessing

LITURGIST Receive the blessing.

The congregation stands.

LITURGIST The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ALL Amen.

A bell is rung nine times, in groups of three chimes with a short pause in between.

Notices

The dismissal

LITURGIST Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Postlude

Weekday service

I *Gathering*

Words of gathering

LITURGIST The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL Amen.

Hymn

1 We raise our hands to you, O Lord,
like empty vessels.
Come to us, God, and give us life
from springs where living waters flow.

2 What good and blessing you bestow
is freely given.
Your power will make the weakest strong
and barren branches start to bud.

Svein Ellingsen

2 *The Word*

Prayer

LITURGIST Let us pray.
Lord Jesus, you are our peace.

ALL Kyrie eleison.

LITURGIST You are near to all who struggle in their lives.

ALL Kyrie eleison

LITURGIST You understand what no one except you can understand.

ALL Kyrie eleison.

LITURGIST You give us forgiveness of sins.

ALL Kyrie eleison.

LITURGIST You have conquered death.

ALL Kyrie eleison.

LITURGIST You give us new life.

ALL Kyrie eleison.

Reading

Prayer

LITURGIST Let us join one another in prayer and reflection. You are welcome to light candles for someone or something especially on your mind.

A short silence for prayer, reflection, and lighting candles. Candles are free of charge during the service.

LITURGIST Gracious God, you see the candles that are lit and the prayers that are written on this day. You have heard our prayers; the ones we have found words for, and the wordless ones that we carry within us. We thank you because you share our joys and carry our sorrows together with us.

ALL Amen.

3 *The Eucharistic meal*

Hymn

The greeting – Preface dialogue

The congregation stands.

LITURGIST The Lord be with you.

ALL And also with you.

LITURGIST Lift up your hearts.

ALL We lift our hearts up to the Lord.

LITURGIST Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL It is right and just.

Prayer – Euclogesis

LITURGIST We thank you, O God, maker of heaven and earth, and we praise your holy name. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, so that he should save us and reveal your love.

The words of institution – Verba

LITURGIST In the same night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

LITURGIST Great is the mystery of faith.

ALL Glory be to you for the love which is stronger than death.

Prayer – Anamnesis

LITURGIST God, embrace us all just as a loving mother gathers her children in around herself. Let the day come when the lowly be lifted up, and the hungry filled with good things.

The Lord's prayer

ALL 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The peace – Pax

LITURGIST The peace of God be with you.

ALL The peace of God be with you.

Agnus Dei

LITURGIST Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

ALL have mercy on us.

LITURGIST Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

ALL have mercy on us.

LITURGIST Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

ALL grant us your peace.

The distribution

LITURGIST Come, for everything has been prepared.

All hosts are gluten free. The words of distribution are:

LITURGIST This is the body of Christ.

This is the blood of Christ.

The thanksgiving prayer

LITURGIST We have received Jesus Christ.

ALL Keep us for all eternity. Amen.

4 *The dismissal*

The blessing

LITURGIST Receive the blessing.

The congregation stands.

LITURGIST The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

ALL Amen.

The dismissal

LITURGIST When the path is long, Christ wanders with you.

When the path is difficult, God's Spirit carries you.

When the path is dangerous, God's hands embrace you.

Go in peace as God's beloved child.

Weekday prayer

Words of gathering

LITURGIST In the name of our maker, our liberator, and our life-giver.

ALL Amen.

LITURGIST O God, to you we come,

ALL with our fear and our unrest, with our longing and our hope. Meet us with your goodness, and feed us with the peace that your presence brings. Free us from that which weighs down upon us and binds us, so that we may enjoy life. Amen.

Reading

Prayer

LITURGIST Let us pray. When we feel helpless, when lies have a hold on us, when fear and indifference increase:

ALL Let your kingdom come.

LITURGIST When joy is absent, when love is weak, when unrest is strong:

ALL Let your kingdom come.

LITURGIST To the sick and the lonely, to the imprisoned and the tortured, to the hungry and the homeless:

ALL Let your kingdom come.

LITURGIST To the people of our city, in our prayer and in our song:

ALL Let your kingdom come.

LITURGIST To our hands, to our eyes, to our hearts:

ALL Let your kingdom come.

LITURGIST We will light a candle in the name of our maker, who gave light to the world and the pulse of life to us.

ALL Let your light shine over all creation.

Grant that we may take care of the earth, the sky, and the water.

Grant that we may take care of plants, animals, and human beings.

LITURGIST We will light a candle in the name of our liberator, who brought salvation to the world, and extended his hand to us.

ALL Let your light shine on our lives, so that we see that we are loved, and can share your love with those that we meet on our way.

LITURGIST We will light a candle in the name of our life-giver, who embraces the world, and blesses our soul with longing.

ALL Let your light shine in our community, and let it be accessible to all. Be our wisdom and truth, so that there may be goodness and peace.

LITURGIST You are welcome to light candles and say prayers for someone or something especially on your mind.

A short silence for prayer, reflection, and lighting candles. Candles are free of charge during the service.

LITURGIST Gracious God, these are our candles and our prayers; the ones we have shared with one another, and the ones that we carry in the depths of our hearts. We thank you because you share our joys and carry our sorrows together with us.

The Lord's prayer

ALL 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Hymn

The blessing

LITURGIST The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Blessed be your eyes, so that you may see clearly.

Blessed be your mouth, so that you may speak the truth.

Blessed be your ears, so that you may hear what is said to you.

Blessed be your heart, so that you may be filled with love.

Blessed be your feet, so that you may find and walk the path which is right for you.

Amen.

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