

If you have any questions liturgical, please do not hesitate to contact the Prayer and Worship Office staff.

PAX

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Items needed:

Paschal candle
Incense
Lectionary
Worship aids
Presider's script and binder
Cantor's script and binder

Ministers needed:

Presider
Cantor
Lector
Incense Bearer

Music needed:

“Christ, Be Our Light” (Farrell) or other appropriate gathering song
Setting of Psalm 23, 72, 85, or 122 (pick two psalms, or choose from other appropriate psalms)
Gospel Acclamation, if needed
Setting of the Magnificat
“This is My Song” (Stone) or other appropriate closing song

✠ **Praise** ✠

(all stand)

Introductory Verse

Presider: **O God, ✠ come to my assistance.**

All: Lord, make haste to help me.

(all bow)

Presider: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:**

(all rise)

All: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Hymn:

“Christ, Be Our Light” (B. Farrell, OCP) or other
appropriate song

*(if there is no music leader available, the following are songs that
can be sung well without accompaniment or song leader and can be found
in most hymnals: “Amazing Grace” (traditional), “Jesus, Remember Me”
(Berthier), “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Bonar). “Day is Done”
(Quinn)*

*(Incense, Paschal Candle, and Lectionary are processed in and placed in the sanctuary.
Other candles in the sanctuary may be lit from the Paschal Candle as hymn is sung.)*

(all sit)

Psalmody: Ps. 23, 72, or 85

(A setting of one of these psalms is lead by the cantor and sung by the assembly. If no music leader or cantor is available, the psalm may be spoken antiphonally by the whole assembly.)

Silence

(At least one minute of silence is observed after the psalm.)

(all stand)

Psalm Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray. *[pause]*

**God of power and mercy,
you destroy war and put down earthly pride.
Banish violence from our midst
and wipe away our tears
that we may all deserve to be called your sons
and daughters.**

**We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

Amen.

(all sit)

Psalmody: Ps. 72, 85, or 122

(A setting of one of these psalms is lead by the cantor and sung by the assembly. If no music leader or cantor is available, the psalm may be spoken antiphonally by the whole assembly)

Silence

(At least one minute of silence is observed after the psalm.)

(all stand)

Psalm Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray. *[pause]*

**God of perfect peace,
violence and cruelty can have no part with you.
May those who are at peace with one another
hold fast to the good will that unites them;
may those who are enemies
forget their hatred and be healed.**

**We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

Amen.

(all sit, or remain standing if the reading is from one of the Gospels; a Gospel Acclamation may be sung if needed)

Reading: Isaiah 57:15-19 (Peace to the far and the near.)
Micah 4:1-4 (They shall beat their swords into plowshares.)
Colossians 3:12-15 (Christ's peace must reign in your hearts.)
Ephesians 4:30-5:2 (Get rid of all bitterness and anger.)
Matthew 5:1-12 (How blest are the poor in spirit.)
Matthew 5:38-48 (Love your enemies.)

(One of the above readings, or another appropriate Scripture reading, is proclaimed.)

(all sit)

Response to the Word

(A period of silence may be observed after the reading, a homily may be given, or a suitable song may be sung Other appropriate texts on peace, for example from the US Bishops or other contemporary readings, may also be shared.)

(all stand)

Gospel Cantic:

Presider: Let us stand and bless the Lord.

(A setting of the Magnificat is sung by the assembly. If no music leader or cantor is available, the cantic may be spoken by the whole assembly.)

⊕ **Petition** ⊕

Litany of Deliverance

Presider: **In this time of war,
we beg our God to deliver us from evil
and grant us peace in our day.**

Lector: *Our response is “Gracious God, deliver us.”*

- ❖ From the curse of war and the human sin that causes war, we pray...
- ❖ From pride and unbelief that turns its back on God, we pray...
- ❖ From national vanity that poses as patriotism, from loud-mouthed boasting and blind self-worship that admits no guilt, we pray...
- ❖ From the self-righteousness that will not compromise, and from selfishness that gains by the oppression of others, we pray...
- ❖ From the lust for money or power that drives people to kill, we pray...
- ❖ From trusting in the weapons of war, and mistrusting the councils of peace, we pray...
- ❖ From hearing, believing, and speaking lies about other nations, we pray...
- ❖ From groundless suspicions and fears that stand in the way of reconciliation, we pray...
- ❖ From words and deeds that encourage discord, prejudice, and hatred; from everything that prevents the human family from fulfilling God’s promise of peace, we pray...

(A moment of silence is shared before continuing.)

Lector: *Our response is “Give peace in our time, O Lord.”*

- ❖ For the church in the world, we pray...
- ❖ For the people of the United States, we pray...
- ❖ For the people of Iraq, we pray...
- ❖ For all the children, we pray...
- ❖ For those who serve in our military, we pray...
- ❖ For those they will fight, we pray...
- ❖ For the United Nations, we pray...
- ❖ For international federations of labor, industry, and commerce, we pray...
- ❖ For departments of state, ambassadors, diplomats, and world leaders, we pray...
- ❖ For worldwide agencies of compassion, which bind wounds and feed the hungry, we pray...
- ❖ For all who in any way work to further the cause of peace and goodwill, we pray...
- ❖ For common folk in every land who today may live in fear, we pray...

Lord's Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father...
For the kingdom...

Closing Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray. *[pause]*

**Eternal God, use us,
even our ignorance and weakness,
to bring about your holy will.
Hurry the day when all people
shall live together in your love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Amen.

Closing Blessing and Dismissal:

(The presider uses these or other suitable words:)

Presider: May the Lord bless us, ✠ protect us
from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Song: “This is My Song” (text: L. Stone, tune: FINLANDIA,
Lorenz Publishing) other appropriate song.

(See suggestions for the Gathering Song in cases when there is no song leader or musical accompaniment available.)