

Contemplative Prayer Form

(20th Sunday after Pentecost - Year A)



Note: This is for individual or small group use. It is intended to be a form of contemplative “Lectio Divina” based on the scripture readings for the week and the themes of the liturgical season. Repetition, silence, and intercession are utilized to allow space for focus over a short or long period of time. It may be helpful to use your fingers to count the number of scripture phrases you utter during the times of repetition. The Scripture prayer section is structured for easy use with [Anglican Prayer Beads](#) for those who might find a tactile expression to be helpful (✚ = Cross ⦿ = Invitatory bead ⬠ = Cruciform bead ● = Weeks bead).

Gospel Reading:

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?”

But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

“Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

-Matthew 22:15-22 (NIV)

Scripture Prayer:

✚ The earth is the Lord’s for he made it. Come, let us adore him.

⦿ Almighty God, preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name. Amen.

⬠ I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

-Isaiah 45:5

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble
-Psalm 99:1a

- ◇ Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy.
-Psalm 99:9

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
-Psalm 96:1

- ◇ For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.
-Psalm 96:4-5

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness...
-Psalm 96:9a

- ◇ Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness.
-Psalm 96:13

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad...
-Psalm 96:11a

- ◇ “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”
-Matthew 22:21

✿ *The Lord’s Prayer*

✝ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.

Silence and Intercessions