

Contemplative Prayer Form

(Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost-Year B)



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).

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:2-16 (NIV)

Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

“What did Moses command you?” he replied.

They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.”

“It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,” Jesus replied. 6 “But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. He answered, “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Scripture Prayer:

✝ The earth is the Lord's for he made it. Come, let us adore Him.

☼ Almighty God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy ... through the merits and mediations of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

◇ Test me, Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;
-Psalm 26:2

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
-Psalm 8:1a

◇ ... for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.
-Psalm 26:3

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

You have set your glory in the heavens.
-Psalm 8:1b

◇ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?
-Psalm 8:3-4

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies.
-Psalm 8:2a

◇ Lord, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells.
-Psalm 26:8

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
-Psalm 8:1a

◇ My feet stand on level ground; in the great congregation I will praise the Lord.
-Psalm 26:12

☼ *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.