

Contemplative Prayer Form

20th Sunday of Trinitytide - Year C



The Liturgy Letter

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: Luke 18:9-14 (NIV)

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Scripture Prayer:

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

◉ Almighty God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command. Amen.

◇ We acknowledge our wickedness, Lord, and the guilt of our ancestors; we have indeed sinned against you.
-Jeremiah 14:20

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’
-Luke 18:13b

◇ Do any of the worthless idols of the nations bring rain? Do the skies themselves send down showers? No, it is you, Lord our God. Therefore our hope is in you, for you are the one who does all this.
-Jeremiah 14:22

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

...our hope is in you...
-Jeremiah 14:22b

◇ Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled. You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.
-Psalm 65:1-2

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.
-Psalm 65:3

◇ Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.
-Psalm 65:4

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

...God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth...
-Psalm 65:5b

◇ The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.
-Psalm 65:8

- ✿ *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 + Intercessions

Father, guide your Church in this place and around the world...

Jesus, your faithfulness enables us to remain faithful to you. Increase our faith and humility. Set our hearts to desire your Kingdom and learn your ways...

Holy Spirit, help us to endure hardship and grow in the ministries you have given us...

Lord, comfort the sick and give strength to the weak...

For kings and all those in authority, that they may genuinely desire humility and serve the common good...

For families and friends, for all who have asked for our prayers and who pray for us...

Lord, we thank you for the gifts you have given us...

Lord, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, unite us in prayer, the breaking of the bread, and simplicity of heart. Bring us with your saints to glory everlasting, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.