

Contemplative Prayer Form

(Christ the King - Year C)



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 23:33-43 (NIV)

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the jews.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Scripture Prayer:

✝ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Come, let us adore him.

☼ Almighty God, whose will it is to restore all things in your Son: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth may be brought together under his most gracious rule. Amen.

◇ God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.
-Psalm 46:1

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

...we will not fear, though the earth give way...
-Psalm 46:2a

◇ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.
-Psalm 46:4

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

...God will help her at break of day.
-Psalm 46:5b

◇ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
-Psalm 46:6

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
-Psalm 46:7

◇ Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth.
-Psalm 46:8-9a

- **Repeat Seven Times:**

"Be still, and know that I am God..."
-Psalm 46:10a

◇ He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
-Psalm 46:10-11

☼ *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

Christ the King, guide us by your Spirit and gather all the nations into your care. Guide your Church in this place and around the world...

Keep us steady in faith and set our hearts to desire your Kingdom...

Come, Holy Spirit, heal our wounded souls and misshaped desires...

Free us from anxiety and lead us to trust you...

We pray for the leaders of the nations and the unrest in our own nation...

Father, support those who are going through trials, for those suffering in body or mind...

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

For our country, our region (village, town...), that the Christians there may be witnesses to your life and unity...

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.