

Contemplative Prayer Form

(Christmas - Year A)



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: John 1:1-14 (NIV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Scripture Prayer:

✚ Alleluia! Unto us a child is born. Come, let us adore him.

✿ Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin; grant that we may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

◇ O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

-Psalm 98:1

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

The Lord has made known his victory.

-Psalm 98:2a

◇ ...he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

-Psalm 96:2b-3a

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

-Psalm 98:3b

◇ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

-Psalm 98:4

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

Sing praises to the Lord...

-Psalm 98:5a

◇ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,

-Psalm 98:7-8

● **Repeat Seven Times:**

...for he is coming to judge the earth.

-Psalm 98:9b

◇ He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

-Psalm 98:9b

✿ *The Lord's Prayer*

✙ May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Silence + Intercessions

God with us, draw near and guide us by your Spirit. 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 coming 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...

Thank you for coming to save us. Amen.