

Denominational Day of Prayer Suggested Resources

The following are scripture passages and prayers from *The Worship Sourcebook, 2nd edition* that can be used in planning a prayer service. Note that these are just a few of the many prayers and readings in this resource that may be used to plan a prayer service.

Invitation to Pray

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,
for kings and all who are in high positions,
so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life
in all godliness and dignity.
This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,
who desires everyone to be saved
and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
—1 Timothy 2:1-4, NRSV

Prayer of Adoration

King of glory,
we adore you, our Savior and Lord.
You suffered on the cross
and gave your life as a ransom for many.
We bless and thank you for the outpouring of your love
and offer our worship today out of unspeakable gratitude. Amen.

Prayer of Invocation

Hear our prayer, O Lord;
let our cry come to you.
—from Psalm 102:1, NRSV

Prayers of Petition

Topics for Petitions for Extemporaneous Prayer (adapted)

For the Creation

Harvest

Environmental concerns

Natural disasters

Restoration

For the World

War

Injustice

Hunger

Disease

Racial strife
World governments
International crisis
International relief organizations

For the Nation

Courts and judges
National leaders
Military personnel
Lobbyists and advocates for justice and peace

For the Local Community

Local government, law enforcement, first responders
Housing
Racial strife
Poverty
Employment
Government services
Schools

For the Worldwide Church

Unity of the church
Holiness of the church
Missionaries and mission agencies
Christian education: schools, colleges, seminaries
Denominations
Denominational missions and programs

For the Local Church

Pastor(s)
Elders and other leaders
Deacons and others who serve
Staff members
Teachers
Musicians and artists
People leaving for service opportunities
All members in their witness in the community
Local mission
Unity in the congregation

Loving God,
we offer these prayers,
joining our voices to the great chorus of those
who sing your praise and depend on you alone.
We long for that day when all your children

will live in your peace and praise your name.
Until that day, give us sturdy patience and enduring hope,
rooted only in Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

A Prayer of Petition in Litany Form

Gracious God,
we pray for the faithful all over the world,
that all who love you may be united in your service.
We pray for the church . . .(add your specific prayers for the church)
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the peoples and leaders of the nations,
that they may be reconciled one to another
in pursuit of your justice and peace.
We pray for the world . . .(add your prayers for the world)
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer from prejudice, greed, or violence,
that the heart of humanity may warm with your tenderness.
We pray especially for all prisoners of politics or religion
and for all refugees.
We pray for all who are oppressed . . .(add your prayers for the oppressed)
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all in need
because of famine, flood, or earthquake,
that they may know the hope of your faithfulness
through the help of others.
We pray especially for the people of . . . (add your prayers for those in need)
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the land, the sea, the sky—
for your whole creation, which longs for its redemption.
We pray for the growing season, for crops, for the harvest.
We pray that we may live with respect for your creation
and use your gifts with reverence.
We pray for healthy environments in which to live and raise our children.
We pray for the creation and provision from the land . . . (add your prayers)
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of compassion,
into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,
Trusting in your mercy now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Jesus Christ is our peace;
in his flesh he has broken down the dividing wall,
that is, the hostility between us.
He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances,
that he might create in himself one new humanity
in place of the two, thus making peace,
and might reconcile both groups to God
in one body through the cross,
thus putting to death that hostility through it.
So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off
and peace to those who were near;
for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.
Christ is the sure source of our peace.
May Christ's peace be always with you.

And also with you.

—based on Ephesians 2:14-18, NRSV

Doxology

To Christ, our Lord, who loves us and freed us
from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom,
priests serving his God and Father,
to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

—from Revelation 1:5-6, NRSV

Blessing

May the love of God surround you,
the wisdom of Christ guide you,
and the power of the Holy Spirit encourage you
as you joyfully proclaim:
Our world belongs to God!