

RELIGIOUS BROTHERS DAY EVENING PRAYER MAY 1

Call to Prayer

Leader: In the quiet of this evening moment, as darkness creeps in,
All: We wait for you, O God, for it is in You alone,
We find our real joy and hope.
Glory be...

Call to Awareness

All: As light gives way to darkness
And the busyness of the day concedes to night's stillness,
As conscious thought surrenders to dreams
And our bodies long for rest
We pause to listen....

For the beat of Your presence in all things
Pulsing in the light of the distant galaxies
Sounding in the depths of our soul
Vibrating in every vein of earth's body.

One sound as vast as the universe
One universe filled with Presence
One Life within every life.

In the darkness of this night
In the stillness that surrounds us
In the unknown depths of our being,
We pause.

Call to Silent Listening

Call to Sing Praise

"Eye Has Not Seen" by Marty Haugen

R: Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him;
Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus, teach us the wisdom of God.

1. When pain and sorrow weigh us down, be near to us, O Lord,

forgive the weakness of our faith, and bear us up within your peaceful word.

2. Our lives are but a single breath, we flower and we fade,
yet all our days are in your hands, so we return in love what love has made.

3. To those who see with eyes of faith, the Lord is ever near,
reflected in the faces of all the poor and lowly of the world.

4. We sing a mystery from the past in halls where saints have trod,
yet ever new the music rings to Jesus, Living Song of God.

Call to Listen Colossians 3:12-15

*Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves,
You must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy,
kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.*

Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you.

Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

Let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts.

For as members of one body you are called to live in peace.

Always be thankful!

The Word of God. All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Respond

Psalm 119 (Nan Merrill)

O, how I love your friendship!
I walk with You wherever I go.
Your Love is the life-giving force
Of Creation, Imbue us with your living rays
Of peace and joy.

For, as we surrender ourselves to
Your living Presence,
We will be filled with the radiance of Love.
As we open our hearts to the spiritual Life,
We will be filled with wisdom and freedom, ready to serve.

O, how glorious are the ways of the Spirit!
How wondrous are your Works!
The path of love is sure, unhurried
And filled with mystery.

How sweet are your words to my taste,
Sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through your Mind I receive understanding;
I no longer take pleasure in my Former ways.

Yes, your Truth is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.
You give me strength as I descend into the inner sanctum,
To uncover the hidden blessings,
To seek the treasures of the Spirit.

When I am filled with fear,
I meditate upon your Light.
I yearn to have every doubt and fear
Quelled and transformed;
O Heart of all hearts, bless me with your healing Light,
That I may be a loving presence.

Though the ignorant lay snares for me,
Let me not stray from You.
Your Word is my heritage forever;
Yes, it is the joy of my heart.
I shall open my heart's ear to converse
With You Forever, to the end.

When I meditate upon your Light,
My heart opens with compassion for all life. Glory

Call to Reflection

Brothers and Sisters:

**Jesus speaks these words to us each day and always:
May we allow our ears to hear and our heart to respond:**

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?

It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket,

But on the lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see

Your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-20)

The Word of God. All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Silence

To whom were you salt and light today in your encounters with others?

Call to Intercession

Leader: To our Creator God whose gift to us is the Word of Life, Jesus Christ our Brother, we make these prayers. Our response will be:

Response: Jesus, Your Word, is Spirit and Life for us!

- 1. For us Religious Brothers in the Church who live the charism of our founders that we may be tireless witnesses in the world to the infinite love and mercy of our gracious God, we pray.**
- 2. We bring to God's Presence this evening those brothers and sisters who are sick in mind or body and all those who suffer oppression and persecution because of their faith, that they may find the strength and consolation they need, we pray.**
- 3. We pray that the Jesus the Lord will give to all people an abundance of the good things of this earth. We pray for a just and fair distribution of the earth's goods founded on true brotherhood, we pray.**
- 4. We pray for religious vocations that abundant witness to the love of Jesus Christ may flourish in the Church and world as a proclamation of God's Reign promised by our Brother Jesus, we pray.**
- 5. For all of us, whom the Lord has called to his service, that by prayer, study and witness of our lives, we may be empowered to speak of God's love in truth, we pray.**

Leader: Lord God, turn a favorable ear to our prayers which we ask in the name of Jesus, your Son and our Brother. Amen.

Call to Praise God the Father

Leader: Gathering all our prayers and praises into one, let us offer our lives to our God in the words Jesus taught us. *Our Father*

Call to Blessing

May the almighty angels of Heaven
Guard the four corners of earth this night.
May the mighty messengers of Life

*Hold in balance the sacred elements of the universe.
May the mighty bearers of Presence
Safeguard the direction of our hearts this night
That we may sleep in peace
That we may dream of justice
That we may wake again to the world's oneness
That we may wake to the world's newborn oneness.*

Amen!

John Philip Newell "Praying With the Earth"

Leader: May Jesus live in our hearts this night and always.

All: Forever and ever. Amen.