

DAILY PRAYER



MUNGER PLACE CHURCH

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INTRODUCTION

HOW TO USE THIS LITTLE BOOK.

This little booklet is meant to provide structure and direction for the Munger online community prayer services that take place every weekday, 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, though of course anyone, anywhere could use the services in this book, whether alone or with others, and I hope you will.

In addition to the morning and evening formats, I have included some occasional prayers that you may find helpful. Often at a birth or a death I find myself fumbling for the right words to say, and these occasional prayers have been a help to me. (I'd suggest copying the ones that seem most useful to you in your phone, so you can easily text them to others when the need arises.)

Some other thoughts:

CONSISTENCY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN INTENSITY.

Commit to beginning and ending your days with prayer. Small habits over time will change your life—consistency compounds.

HONESTY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ACCURACY.

That is, don't worry about praying for "the wrong things"—pray what's honestly on your heart, and let the Lord work with that. Prayer is ultimately about relationship with God, and relationships must be honest to have value; therefore, pray honestly.

PRAYING WRITTEN PRAYERS HELPS SHAPE OUR THOUGHTS AND DIRECTS OUR LOVES.

Before a musician can improvise, she must learn her scales. In the same way, by praying written prayers over time, our subsequent extemporaneous prayers will be deeper and richer. Jesus, after all, prayed the words of the Psalms while he hung on the cross.

A NOTE ON THE CREEDS.

By the time the Christian faith had spread around the Roman Empire by the early 4th century, it became clear to the church fathers that a basic summary of Christian teaching was needed, and so at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, the Nicene Creed was agreed upon. In contrast, The Apostles' Creed was never officially adopted by a Church Council but just sprang up, over time. Its name explains its origins—it was a simple summary of the

content of the teaching of the Apostles. Both creeds are ancient and edifying, and I think, remarkably beautiful. Learn them by heart and teach them to your children.

A NOTE TO PARENTS.

The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments ("The Decalogue"), and the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds are central to the Christian faith. Teach them to your children.

"O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**"

✝ Andrew Forrest
Lent
Anno Domini 2021

The prayers and liturgies from this book are drawn from the Book of Common Prayer of the Anglican Church of North America, 2019 edition. For more information, and to order your own Book of Common Prayer (highly recommended!), go to <https://bcp2019.anglicanchurch.net>.

— DAILY MORNING PRAYER —

1. GREETING

Leader:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I greet you in the name of the Lord;
The Lord be with you.

People:
And also with you.

Leader:
This is the day that the Lord has made!

People:
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24

2. CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader:
Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.
Silence is kept.

All:

Almighty and most merciful Father,

we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;

and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare all those who confess their faults

Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,

that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Leader:

Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. THE INVITATORY

Leader: O Lord, open our lips;

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Leader: O God, make speed to save us;

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

4. SCRIPTURE LESSON

An appropriate scripture passage may be read. As an alternative, The Decalogue (pg. 26) may be substituted.

The Leader then concludes:

The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

5. THE CREED

Choose either The Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed. Leader and People together, all standing.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**universal, belonging to the whole*

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is, visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**universal, belonging to the whole*

6. THE PRAYERS

Leader: Let us pray.

The People kneel or stand.

Leader: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

People: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

People: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: And let your people sing with joy.

Leader: O Lord, save your people;

People: And bless your inheritance.

Leader: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People: And defend us by your mighty power.

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Other prayers are offered here, as needed.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

7. CLOSING PRAYER

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day: Defend us by your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor run into any danger; and that, guided by your Spirit, we may do what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

O Lord, support us all the day long through this trouble-filled life, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

8. BENEDICTION

The Leader says one of these concluding sentences (and the People may be invited to join)

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.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

or

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

Romans 15:13

or

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20-21

May each of us bear witness to the love of God in this world so that those to whom love is a stranger will find in us generous friends. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

DAILY EVENING PRAYER

1. GREETING

Leader:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I greet you in the name of the Lord;
The Lord be with you.

People:
And also with you.

Leader:

Let our prayer be set forth as incense before you, Lord;

People:
And let the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice.

Psalm 141:2

2. CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader:

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence is kept.

All:

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare all those who confess their faults

Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Leader:

Grant to your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. PHOS HILARON ["O GLADSOME LIGHT"]

This evening hymn from the Byzantine liturgy is the oldest hymn in the church (outside of those found the New Testament itself). Composed in Koine Greek, it is called after its first 2 words in Greek "Phos Hilaron," which mean "Glad-dening Light" in English. It was traditionally sung as the evening lamps were lit, and so it is also referred to as "The Lamp-lighting Hymn."

**O gladsome light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
 O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
 we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and
 Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
 O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
 and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

4. SCRIPTURE LESSON

An appropriate scripture passage may be read. As an alternative, The Decalogue (pg. 26) may be substituted.

The Leader then concludes:

The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

5. THE CREED

*Choose either The Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed.
Leader and People together, all standing.*

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Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**universal, belonging to the whole*

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures;**

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped
and glorified,**

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**universal, belonging to the whole*

6. THE PRAYERS

Leader: Let us pray.

The People kneel or stand.

Leader: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

People: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: O Lord, guide those who govern us;

People: And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People: And let your people sing with joy.

Leader: O Lord, save your people;

People: And bless your inheritance.

Leader: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

People: And defend us by your mighty power.

Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

People: Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;

People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Other prayers are offered here, as needed.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

7. CLOSING PRAYER

O God, the source of all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to your servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments, and that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

or

Lighten our darkness, we beseech you, O Lord; and by your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

or

O God, the life of all who live, the light of the faithful, the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the dead: We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past, and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night. Bring us in safety to the morning hours; through him who died and rose again for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

or

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

or

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

8. BENEDICTION

The Leader says one of these concluding sentences (and the People may be invited to join).

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.**

2 Corinthians 13:14

or

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

Romans 15:13

or

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3:20-21

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; for you, LORD, only, make me dwell in safety. **Amen.**

Psalms 4:8

THE DECALOGUE
otherwise known as
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Leader God spoke these words and said:
I am the LORD your God.
You shall have no other gods but me.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not take the Name of the LORD your
God in vain.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader Honor your father and your mother.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not murder.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not commit adultery.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not steal.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Leader You shall not covet.

**People Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these, your laws, in our hearts, we
beseech you.**

Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS

A GRACE BEFORE MEALS

Bless us, O Lord, and these thy gifts, which we are about to receive from thy bounty, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

Blessed are you, O Lord God, King of the Universe, for you give us food to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR JOY IN GOD'S CREATION

O heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR OUR NATION

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure conduct. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one

united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom, in thy Name, we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR A BIRTHDAY

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR A CHILD, OR FOR A BIRTHDAY

Watch over your child *N.*, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless *him* and guide *him*, and keep *him* unspotted from the world. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* falls; and in *his* heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR A MARRIAGE OR ANNIVERSARY

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants [as they begin another year], that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ON SUNDAYS

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks that demand our best efforts, and for

leading us to accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he conquered death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the wonder of your creatures, large and small; and for all the loveliness that surrounds us. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR OUR ENEMIES

O God, the Creator of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice

to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you in Jesus Christ; in whose Name we pray. **Amen.**

FOR THE RECOVERY OF A SICK PERSON

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servant *N.* the help of your power, that *his* sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

AT THE TIME OF DEATH

Rest eternal grant to *N.*, O Lord; and may *his* soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and in the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection. **Amen.**

FOR DESIRING GOD

O God, grant that we may desire you, and desiring you seek you, and seeking you find you, and finding you be satisfied in you for ever. **Amen.**