

A Brief Service for Mealtime March 22-29, 2020

This is a very brief service which you might like to use before the evening meal. It works well if one child or adult acts as the reader and lights the candle, and another person reads the Bible passage. You will need a purple candle (or whatever you have) and a Bible. If you do not have a Bible in your home here is a link to an online version: <https://www.bible.com/versions/2016-nrsv-new-revised-standard-version>. The Bible passages are great stories for Lent. Some of the passages are long, please feel free to shorten them. You might also want to read a version of the story from a children's Bible if you have one.

Reader: The Lord be with you.
Family: And also with you.
Reader: Let us pray.

Sunday: Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Monday: Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Tuesday: O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Wednesday: Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Thursday: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by your Holy Spirit those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

Friday: Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

Saturday: Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to *thy* never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that *thou* art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Reader: We are in the Church season called Lent. Lent is a time for doing extra things that will help us grow closer to God and a time to give up things that keep us from being loving people.

Second reader: A Reading from:

Sunday: Genesis, Chapters 2-3 (Creation)

Monday: Genesis, Chapters 6-9 (Noah)

Tuesday: Genesis 12: 1-8 (Abraham)

Wednesday: Psalm 23

Thursday: Luke 15: 11-32 (Prodigal Son)

Friday: Luke 19: 1-10 (Zacchaeus)

Saturday; John 6: 4-15 (Feeding the Five Thousand)

Reader: Lent is a time to prepare for Easter. Let us get ready for new life!

(Light the candle)

Reader: The Lord be with you.

Family: And also with you.

Reader: Let us pray.

Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all thy mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Family: Amen