

WOMEN OF HOPE PRAYER SERVICE

Greeting: In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Leader: To our God who shares divinity with us. To our God who unsettles and inspires us.

All: Let us give praise and thanks. Amen.

LET US PRAY:

Left: O God of the entire universe, we praise and thank you for all the good gifts that you have given us and especially for the gift of light to see with hope- filled eyes.

Right: We ask that you will renew our sight, so that we may envision a new heaven and a new earth, a world in which all women and men will work together joyfully in cooperation and love.

Left: These are new and challenging times in the Church and in the world. Give us wisdom so that we may be always conscious of tradition yet open to the new ways in which the Spirit calls us.

Right: Guide us as we learn from the wisdom of each other. Give us a Spirit of trust so that we may more fully collaborate with our sisters and brothers.

Left: May our lives be those of priestly people, a people who are filled with hope because of your presence in our midst, a people who recognize that it is in serving each other that we serve you.

Right: We ask you all these favors because you are the giver of life and light, the one who enlightens our vision, touches it with wisdom, and gives it strength and brilliance.

Introduction to Scripture Reading

Scripture: Romans 8:24-28

All: Thanks be to God.

Litany of Hope

(After the leader reads the entire line, *the assembly repeats the part in italics*).

Blessed be Eve, *the first woman of our tradition*, whose very life gives us a lesson in hope for the future of humanity.

Blessed be Sarah, *partner of Abraham*, whose ability to remain open to laughter, love, and the miracle of creation gave her a son in her old age.

Blessed be Mary, *the Mother of God and our Mother*, who knew pain and humiliation yet never lost faith.

Blessed be Priscilla, *collaborator with Paul*, whose faith and hope enabled him to minister.

Blessed be Teresa of Avila, *doctor of the Church*, whose experience of the awareness of God teaches all generations the value of prayer in times of doubt.

Blessed be Dorothy Day, *cofounder of the Catholic Worker Movement*, who has given hope and witness to the Church of the poor and the oppressed.

Blessed Be *women religious, vowed celibates*, who have served the church tirelessly through all the ages and have never lost faith.

Blessed be *single women, mothers to many*, who by their unique call offer time and talents to all God's family.

Blessed be *wives and mothers*, who have nurtured children and families in a spirit of joy, hope, and self-giving.

Blessed be *widows*, who in sorrow and loss are signs of fidelity, strength, and perseverance.

Blessed be *poor women and women who are abused or oppressed*, for they give to all of us a lesson in determination and hope.

Let us Pray:

Leader: Creator God, you who have given us these strong yet gentle women, help us to draw strength from their lives so that we may be ever faithful. Help us to embrace a life of mercy and compassion as we rejoice in the hope of the promises made by your Son, Jesus. Living in joyful hope for the coming of the Lord, we go forth in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

CANDLE CEREMONY

Candles have been distributed to each on the tables. The leader lights her candle, passes the light to the next person, and so on until all candles are lighted. Hold lighted candles during the closing hymn.

PEOPLE OF PEACE

Refrain: To be people of faith in times of doubt;
to be people of hope in times of despair;
to be people of peace, people of peace,
O lord, your instruments of peace.

Where we encounter hatred, let us bring your love,
where hurt has been oppressive, your healing care;
wherever there are people who need to be free;
make your church an instrument of peace.

Refrain

To heal the broken hearted, to comfort those who mourn;
to go to those imprisoned, bring freedom to the bound;
to be a light for all who struggle to be free;
make your church an instrument of peace.

Refrain

In giving to the hungry, in satisfying thirst;
in welcoming the stranger, in comforting the ill;
in being those who hunger for justice and for truth;
make us all your instruments of peace.

Refrain

Please extinguish your candles.

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TUESDAYS PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE

THEME: Peace needs to be lived at all levels. In this prayer we ask for the deepest kind of peace that comes from God.

OPENING HYMN: "Peace" verses 1, 2, and 3 on page 15 in this book.

In the opening procession the Word of God will be enthroned, followed by five candle bearers representing:

- * Peace in self
- * Peace in the home
- * Peace in community
- * Peace in the country
- * Peace in the world

GATHERING PRAYER

Leader: Loving God, source of our peace, hear the prayers that come from our hearts. We offer you the works of our hands as a sign of our commitment to peace. Bless us and all those who strive for peace in our world.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 11: 6-9

All: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PRAYER

Reader: I bless you, Lord, with all that is within me. Blessed is Your Holy name.

All: Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

Reader: I bless you Lord, and I do not forget all your benefits—
how you forgive all our iniquities, how you heal all our
diseases.

All: Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

Reader: For you crown us with your steadfast love and mercy, you
satisfy us with good as long as we live, so that our youth
is renewed like the eagles.

All: Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

Reader: Lord, you are merciful and gracious, slow to anger and
abounding in steadfast love. As a father has compassion for
his children, you Lord have compassion for those who fear you

All: Bless the Lord, O my Soul.

GOSPEL: Mt. 5: 38-48

All: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

INTERCESSIONS:

Leader: Lord God , we come to you in our need: create in us an awareness of the massive and seemingly irreversible proportions of the crisis we face in the world today and a sense of urgency to activate the forces of goodness.

Left: Where there is blatant nationalism, let there be global, and universal concern.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Right: Where there is war and armed conflict, let there be negotiation.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Left: Where there is stock piling, let there be disarmament.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Right: Where people struggle toward liberation, let there be no interference.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Left: Where there is consumerism, let there be a choice for a simple lifestyle and sharing.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Right: Where there is reliance on external activism, let there be a balance of prayerful dependence on you, O Lord.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Left: Where there is selfish individualism, let there be openness to community.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Right: Where there is the sin of injustice, let there be guilt, confession and atonement.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Left: Where there is paralysis and numbness before the enormity of the problems, let there be confidence in our collective effort.

Response: Lord God, we come to you in our need.

Leader: Let us pray together:

Prayer for Peace and Hope

O Lord our God, You are the source of peace, inspire the Women of the League to live in peace by acting justly, Loving tenderly and walking humbly with You, our God. We pray that You enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we may see what hope Your call holds for us. May we be firm in the hope we profess and always be ready to give the reason for the hope we have.

*Composed by Yvonne Colleaux
Saskatchewan Provincial President*

On your table are paper doves, one for each person. I invite you to write a petition for peace on it, fold it in half and bring it up to the table putting it in the burning bowl, as a sign of your prayers rising to God. We will do this while we sing our closing hymn.

Closing Hymn: "Peace" verses 4, 5, 6, & 7.

PEACE

Refrain:

Peace I leave with you my friends, peace the world cannot give.
Peace I leave with you my friends, so that your joy be ever full.

1. The father's love I came to give,
To be the hope for all who live. Refrain
2. Take--- his gift and be at peace;
The Spirit of our love I bring. Refrain
3. By--- this love which you should have,
All---will know you are my friend. Refrain
4. Take--- my words of life to heart,
All you will live with hope and joy. Refrain
5. All ---I have I give to you,
I share with you the Father's love. Refrain
6. I came so that you may have life.
And have it to-----the full. Refrain

7. If---you love me, keep my word,
And ---our home we'll make with you. Refrain

All That We Have

Refrain:

All that we have and all that we offer comes from a heart both frightened and free. Take what we bring now and give what we need, all done in his name. ***Repeat after each verse.***

Some would rely on their power, others put trust in their gold; Some have only their Savior, whose faithfulness never grows old.

Sometimes the road may be lonesome, often we may lose our way; take courage and always remember love isn't just for a day.

Sometimes when troubles are many, life can seem empty, it's true, but look at the life of the Master, who loving suffered for you.

Mary, Mother of Good Counsel

Sung to the tune of "Ode to Joy"

Mary Mother of Good Counsel, you found favor in God's sight. Over shadowed by the Spirit, you brought forth the world's true light. Filled with faith and holy wisdom, you were worthy of God's choice. May we too possess these virtues so that we may hear God's voice.

All God's people give you honor, graceful bearer of Good News. Be for us a constant model, holy one whom God did choose. May we sing God's saving power; may we tend to human need. May God's word dwell deep within us counsel for each holy deed.

Glory to the God who made us, who is author of all life; Glory to the Word Incarnate, who redeemed us from all strife; Glory to the Holy Spirit, who in water gives rebirth; For the gift of Blessed Mary to the pilgrim Church on earth