

CHAPTER 7 PRAYER SERVICE

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

Leader: He commands his angels to guard you wherever you go.

Reader: You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,

who abide in the shade of the Almighty,

Say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress,

my God in whom I trust."

All: He commands his angels to guard you wherever you go.

Reader: He will rescue you from the fowler's snare,

from the destroying plague,

He will shelter you with his pinions,

and under his wings you may take refuge;

his faithfulness is a protecting shield.

All: He commands his angels to guard you wherever you go.

Reader: You shall not fear the terror of the night

nor the arrow that flies by day,

Nor the pestilence that roams in darkness,

nor the plague that ravages at noon.

All: He commands his angels to guard you wherever you go.

Reader: For he commands his angels with regard to you,

to guard you wherever you go.

With their hands they shall support you,

lest you strike your foot against a stone.

You can tread upon the asp and the viper,

trample the lion and the dragon.

All: He commands his angels to guard you wherever you go.

Reader: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [Jesus] said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: After his Resurrection, Jesus gave his disciples the authority to forgive sins. In this way, through the line of apostolic succession and the sacrament of the priesthood, Jesus’s ministry of mercy continues among us today. Let us now join our hearts and minds in prayer for the people who lead our church and our world.

Reader: Our response will be, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

For Pope Leo XIV, that he would be strengthened in his role as Vicar of Christ. We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For priests and bishops, that they would lead their flocks with sacrificial love. We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all world leaders, that they would make decisions and enact policies that uphold the dignity of all human life. We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For all Christian parents, that they might be given the grace to bring their children closer to Christ. We pray to the Lord . . .

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us offer these prayers and petitions to God through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel as we pray . . .

All: St. Michael the Archangel,

defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,

and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly hosts,

by the power of God,

thrust into hell Satan,

and all the evil spirits,

who prowl about the world

seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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