

CHAPTER 1 PRAYER SERVICE

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

Leader: God come to my assistance.

All: Lord make haste to help me.

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

All: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: We are His people, the flock He shepherds.

Group 1: Shout joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful song.

Group 2: Know that the LORD is God,
he made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the flock he shepherds.

Group 1: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.

Group 2: Good indeed is the LORD,
His mercy endures forever,
his faithfulness lasts through every generation.

Group 1: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

All: We are His people, the flock He shepherds.

Reader: A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.
Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do
know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Pause for a few moments of reflective silence.

Group 1: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.

Group 2: Through his holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

Group 1: This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

Group 2: You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

Group 1: In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Group 2: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Leader: Let us offer our prayers of petition and thanksgiving to the Lord who loves us
and calls us his own. I invite you now to mention your prayers out loud. After each
petition, our response will be, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

*Give students a few minutes to speak their prayers out loud, being sure to respond to
each one with, “Lord, hear our prayer.”*

Leader: Let us pray. Our Father . . .

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