

## The Law of the Lord

*A prayer service to be used with Chapter 9: A Spiritual Journey: A Look at Wisdom and Apocalyptic Literature.*

**Leader:** Today we will pray for a greater understanding and love of God's laws.

**Reader 1:** A Reading from the Book of Psalms (Ps 19:8-12),

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.  
The decree of the Lord is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple.  
The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eye.  
The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.  
The statutes of the Lord are true, all of them just;  
More desirable than gold, than a hoard of purest gold,  
Sweeter also than honey or drippings from the comb.  
By them your servant is warned; obeying them brings much reward.  
The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Leader:** This passage describes the goodness of God's laws for us by using words like refreshing, enduring, and enlightening. But what are some of God's laws? Let us reflect on some of the laws of God, seeking to more greatly desire to following the Lord.

**Reader 2:** Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength. (Dt 6:5)

**Reader 3:** You shall not have other gods beside me. You shall not invoke the name of the Lord your God, in vain. Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy. (Ex 20:3, 7-8)

**Reader 4:** Honor your father and your mother. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. (Ex 20:12-17)

**All:** Lord, help us to love you with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength. Help us to have such an honest love for you that it also overflows into love for others. Help us to cultivate devotion to your law. In you we place our trust. Amen.