

## ***God Reveals: An Introduction to the Bible***

### Chapter 4 Prayer Service

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

**Reader 1:** A reading from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens. Therefore, put on the armor of God, that you may be able to resist on the evil day and, having done everything, to hold your ground. So stand fast with your loins girded in truth, clothed with righteousness as a breastplate, and your feet shod in readiness for the gospel of peace. In all circumstances, hold faith as a shield, to quench all [the] flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Reader 2:** A reading from the book of Psalms.

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."

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.

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.

Because you have the LORD for your refuge  
and have made the Most High your stronghold,  
No evil shall befall you,  
no affliction come near your tent.

For he commands his angels with regard to you,  
to guard you wherever you go.

The word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Reader 3:** Our response will be, “Lord, hear our prayer.” For all members of the armed forces, may God protect them and bring them safely home. We pray to the Lord...

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader 3:** For all emergency response workers, may God keep them safe from harm as they serve our communities. We pray to the Lord...

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader 3:** For all priests, religious, and lay people working in ministry, may God remove obstacles to their work and open the hearts of the people they serve. We pray to the Lord...

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader 3:** For all those suffering from physical or mental illness, may God strengthen them and their caregivers in times of pain and distress. We pray to the Lord...

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader 3:** For all those who are traveling, may God guide their journeys in safety until they reach their destinations. We pray to the Lord...

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, you promised to be with us always, even until the end of time. Send your angels to guide and protect all of us gathered here, that we would remain safe from physical and spiritual harm as we draw ever closer to you. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

**All:** SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, DEFEND US IN BATTLE. BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL. MAY GOD REBUKE HIM, WE HUMBLY PRAY, AND DO THOU, O PRINCE OF HEAVENLY HOST, BY THE POWER OF GOD, THRUST INTO HELL SATAN, AND ALL EVIL SPIRITS, WHO PROWL ABOUT THE WORLD SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS. AMEN.

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