

# Staff Prayers

## Opening

*O Lord, open our lips.*

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

## Hymn: Wondrous King, All Glorious

Joachim Neander, 1680; Trans. William J. Schaefer, 1938  
Arnsberg

<https://hymnary.org/media/fetch/110290>

<https://hymnary.org/page/fetch/TH1961/108/low>

1) Wondrous King, all glorious,  
Sovereign Lord victorious,  
O, receive our praise with favor!  
From thee welled God's kindness  
Though we in our blindness  
Strayed from thee, our blessed Saviour.

Strengthen thou,

Help us now;

Let our tongues be singing,

Thee our praises bringing.

2) Heavens, spread the story  
Of our Maker's glory,  
All the pomp of earth obscuring.  
Sun, thy rays be sending,  
Thy bright beams expending,  
Light to all the earth assuring.

Moon and star,

Praise afar

Him who glorious made you;

The vast heavens aid you.

3) O my soul, rejoicing,  
Sing, thy praises voicing,  
Sing, with hymns of faith adore him!  
All who here have being,  
Shout, your voices freeing,  
Bow down in the dust before him.

He is God

Sabaoth;

Praise alone the Saviour,

Here and there for ever.

4) Hallelujahs render  
To the Lord most tender,  
Ye who know and love the Saviour.  
Hallelujahs sing ye,  
Ye redeemed, O, bring ye  
Hearts that yield him glad behavior.  
    Blest are ye  
    Endlessly;  
Sinless there for ever,  
Ye shall laud him ever.

## Psalm 18

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the Lord, who addressed the words of this song to the lord on the day when the Lord rescued him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said:

- 1 *I love you, O LORD, my strength. \**
- 2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,  
*my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, \**  
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- 3 *I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, \**  
and I am saved from my enemies.
- 4 *The cords of death encompassed me; \**  
the torrents of destruction assailed me;
- 5 *the cords of Sheol entangled me; \**  
the snares of death confronted me.
- 6 *In my distress I called upon the LORD; \**  
to my God I cried for help.  
*From his temple he heard my voice, \**  
and my cry to him reached his ears.
- 7 *Then the earth reeled and rocked; \**  
the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked,  
because he was angry.
- 8 *Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; \**  
glowing coals flamed forth from him.
- 9 *He bowed the heavens and came down; \**  
thick darkness was under his feet.
- 10 *He rode on a cherub and flew; \**  
he came swiftly on the wings of the wind.
- 11 *He made darkness his covering, \**  
his canopy around him, thick clouds dark with water.
- 12 *Out of the brightness before him \**  
hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds.
- 13 *The LORD also thundered in the heavens,*  
*and the Most High uttered his voice, \**  
hailstones and coals of fire.
- 14 *And he sent out his arrows and scattered them; \**  
he flashed forth lightnings and routed them.

- 15 *Then the channels of the sea were seen, and the foundations  
of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, O LORD, \**  
at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.
- 16 *He sent from on high, he took me; \**  
he drew me out of many waters.
- 17 *He rescued me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, \**  
for they were too mighty for me.
- 18 *They confronted me in the day of my calamity, \**  
but the LORD was my support.
- 19 *He brought me out into a broad place; \**  
he rescued me, because he delighted in me.
- 27 *For you save a humble people, \**  
but the haughty eyes you bring down.
- 28 *For it is you who light my lamp; \**  
the LORD my God lightens my darkness.
- 29 *For by you I can run against a troop, \**  
and by my God I can leap over a wall.
- 30 *This God — his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; \**  
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.
- 31 *For who is God, but the LORD? \**  
And who is a rock, except our God? —
- 32 *the God who equipped me with strength \**  
and made my way blameless.
- 33 *He made my feet like the feet of a deer \**  
and set me secure on the heights.
- 34 *He trains my hands for war, \**  
so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
- 35 *You have given me the shield of your salvation, \**  
and your right hand supported me,  
and your gentleness made me great.
- 36 *You gave a wide place for my steps under me, \**  
and my feet did not slip.
- 37 *I pursued my enemies and overtook them, \**  
and did not turn back till they were consumed.
- 38 *I thrust them through, so that they were not able to rise; \**  
they fell under my feet.
- 39 *For you equipped me with strength for the battle; \**  
you made those who rise against me sink under me.
- 40 *You made my enemies turn their backs to me, \**  
and those who hated me I destroyed.
- 41 *They cried for help, but there was none to save; \**  
they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.
- 42 *I beat them fine as dust before the wind; \**  
I cast them out like the mire of the streets.
- 46 *The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, \**  
and exalted be the God of my salvation —

- 47 *the God who gave me vengeance \**  
and subdued peoples under me,  
48 *who delivered me from my enemies;*  
*yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me; \**  
you rescued me from the man of violence.  
49 *For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, \**  
and sing to your name.  
50 *Great salvation he brings to his king,*  
*and shows steadfast love to his anointed, \**  
to David and his offspring forever.  
*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** 2 Corinthians 2:14-17 (Daryl)

**Meditation:** God's Victory Procession

### **Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Greeting**

*The Lord be with you.*  
And also with you.  
*Let us pray.*

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## Collect

### Prayers of the People

Any individual

1. Respond to the scripture that was read
2. Praise for God's victory over us
3. Praise for God's victory over our enemies
4. Thanks for making us part of the victory
5. Repentance for doubting your power and presence
6. Pray for yet greater victories!
7. Etc.

### Hymn: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Ein' Feste Burg

<https://hymnary.org/media/fetch/104886>

<https://hymnary.org/flexscore/BH1991/8/Accompaniment.png>

1) A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate;  
On earth is not his equal.

2) Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing.

Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same;  
And He must win the battle.

3) And though this world, with devils filled,  
    should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear for God hath willed His truth to triumph  
    through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.

4) That Word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;  
His Kingdom is forever.

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### Closing Prayer

*Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favor,  
    and further us with your continual help;  
that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you,  
    we may glorify your holy Name,  
    and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Italics:*      *leader*  
Regular:    people  
Arial:      instructions