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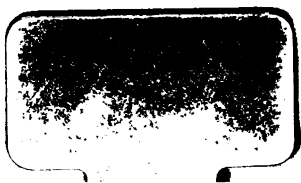
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PRAYERS  
FOR A  
CHRISTIAN FAMILY.

BY  
THOMAS SADLER, PH. D.

---

*As for me and my house we will serve the Lord.*

JOSH. XXIV, 15.

*Where two or three are gathered together in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them.*

MATT. XVIII, 20.



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LONDON:  
E. T. WHITFIELD, 178 STRAND.

1853.

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PEACE be to this habitation!  
Peace to every soul herein!  
Peace, the earnest of salvation,  
Peace, the fruit of pardoned sin:  
Peace that speaks its heavenly Giver;  
Peace to earthly minds unknown;  
Peace divine that lasts for ever,  
Here erect its glorious throne!  
God of peace! if Thou art near us,  
Fix in all our hearts Thy home!  
With Thy gracious presence cheer us,  
Hither let Thy kingdom come!  
Lift to Heaven our expectation;  
Give our raptured souls to prove  
Glorious and complete salvation,  
Holy, everlasting love.

C. Wesley.

## INTRODUCTION.

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BEFORE thou doest any thing else, be careful to consecrate the first-fruits of the day, and the very beginnings of thy holy thoughts to the service of God.

And when the day is ended, and the night cometh on, fall down and worship Him, who made the day and the night to give thee joy and rest.

*St. Basil.*

I have always wondered that any one should join a church without raising a family altar; for, if we do not confine our devotions to the closet, it seems natural that in bending the knee before the throne of grace, the first of our brethren whom we should desire to join, would be those of our own home—those whom we most love. And where if not in our homes have we occasion to seek God in prayer?

Consider what are the ordinary circumstances of a family each morning. Not only do we enjoy numberless gifts in common with all mankind, but God has also again given us to one another, the wife to the husband, the parent to the child, the sister to



the brother, sons and daughters to the father and mother. Think what would be our desolation of heart, if one were taken from us; and have we no gratitude to offer up, that our dear ones are still around us, as they were yesterday, that not one has slept in death during the night?

Further; have we nothing to *ask* for that blessed spot, around which cluster our holiest human affections? In our closets we pray for what concerns us as individuals; in our churches we pray for what concerns us as members of the great family of mankind; and have we, whom God has united in heart, in kindred, in outward condition, generally in opinion, and always by most sacred bonds of duty towards one another, and who share one another's joys and sorrows, and are liable to the same temptations, have we nothing to ask of Him who gathereth the solitary together in families? Surely we must feel it to be a right and most happy thing to pray to Him to be the staff of the aged, the guide of the young, our shelter in the storm, the protector and friend of all; surely we must feel it to be a most *needful* thing to beg Him to forgive us and help us in our infirmities, and render us less unworthy of His favour and benediction.

Again; have we nothing to say as a family, that He has made our sweet home-ties an emblem of the ties by which he would hereafter unite all

mankind, that Jesus Christ has called the lowliest of us brother, that we have an infinite heavenly as well as a frail earthly Father?

One of the teachers of the early church said, "Instruct the members of Thy household in beautiful songs. Those who introduce David and his harp call Christ into their house. And let prayers follow the psalms, that our souls and houses may be sanctified. Make thy house a church! where there are souls that love God and songs and prayers, there is a church; and if there be but a man and his wife, God is among them, and there is a vast congregation, for Christ and his angels are present."

In the following prayers I have endeavoured to unite simplicity and fervor of expression with thoughtfulness as to the substance, that we may pray "with the spirit and with the understanding." I am sure our hearts speak not less, but more earnestly for thoughtfulness as to what we ought to say; and I think any man, who in a right spirit undertakes to lead the devotions of a family must anxiously desire to present at the divine throne as fitting an offering as he can.

Among the names applied to the great object of our worship, I have especially employed those which tend to bring Him near to us, and they will have to us a deeper and more blessed meaning in pro-

portion as we gain the true filial spirit, in which He has encouraged us to approach Him.

It will, I believe, be found a peculiarity of these prayers, that frequent mention is made—not I hope in a manner either unbecoming, or to which any one can object—of departed friends. Regarding Heaven as no less real than Rome or Jerusalem, the early Christians when they had a brother at Rome and a sister in Heaven, or a mother in Heaven and a father at Jerusalem, did not leave one out of their thoughts, when they drew near to Him, whose children are “one family in Heaven and on the earth;” and accordingly I have not been unmindful of those of our family who are in Heaven; I cannot ascend in spirit to the very place where they are, and think and feel as though they were not.

Several prayers in the fourth and fifth weeks are from works already published,\* and two or three

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\*FOURTH WEEK.

Monday Evening. Dr. Hutton. “Devotional Exercises.”

Tuesday Morning. Greenwood’s Liturgy.

Tuesday Evening. Dr. Hutton.

Wednesday Morning. Greenwood’s Liturgy.

Wednesday Evening. “Evening Prayers for a Family.”

Thursday Morning. Family Prayers by Jonathan Farr.

others have in substance previously appeared. As to the rest, though a large number are entirely original, I yet hope many of them will be found to contain "some of the best sayings of the holy Fathers." A part of my preparation for this work has been a study (in which I greatly delight) of the choicest devotional writings of various ages and denominations; and I have never hesitated to make use of passages or phrases, which seemed to me better to express my feelings and wants, than any language of my own.\* Indeed the best devo-

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Saturday Morning. Travers Madge. "Prayers for the use of Families."

Saturday Evening. Travers Madge.

FIFTH WEEK.

Monday Morning. Travers Madge.

Friday Evening. "Prayers for a Month."

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\* The following additional works may be mentioned as having afforded me more or less aid;

A Collection of Offices or Forms of Prayer in cases ordinary and extraordinary; taken out of the Scriptures and the ancient Liturgies of several Churches, especially the Greek.

The Book of Common Prayer.

St. Augustine's Meditations.

St. Anselm's Meditations.

The Imitation of Christ.

Prayers and Meditations appended to the Imitation of

tional language seems to have become common property; even Augustine and Jeremy Taylor, as well as those, who in our own times have most successfully endeavoured to cherish the spirit of prayer, have confessed their great obligation to kindred writers who have gone before them. The sixth week is compiled from the sacred Scriptures (chiefly of course the Psalms) and collects from the Liturgy of the Church of England, and other ancient Liturgies.

I have thus been enabled to complete the third

Christ. London Ed. Printed by Eliz. Redmayne in Jewen Street, 1705.

The works of Jeremy Taylor, Fenelon, Bishop Andrews, Bishop Cosins, Bishop Wilson, and Bishop Patrick.

A New Manual of Devotions. 9th Ed. 1747.

Spinckes's Devotions.

Horæ Sacræ.

Jenks's Prayers and Offices of Devotion.

Private Prayers.

A Book of Family Prayers. } Compiled by Dr. Hook.

Preces Diurnæ.

Devotions for Domestic Use. } Edited by Dr. Hook.

Holy Thoughts and Prayers.

Family Prayer-Book. By Charles Brooks.

The Pocket Prayer-Book. Published by the Philanthropic Society.

The Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, adapted for General Use in other Protestant Churches.

of a series of works, the object of which is to develop, raise and strengthen the inward religious life. The next in order I had proposed to myself is a Manual for the Lord's Supper, and the particular interest that subject is exciting increases my hope that I may be enabled to prepare a valuable aid to those, who delight to keep our blessed Saviour in remembrance in the endearing way, which he himself appointed.

In conclusion I may be allowed to state, that the present volume was begun during a period of absence from home for the sake of my health; many of the prayers were written amidst some of the most beautiful scenes in Europe, and served more happily than anything else could have done, to connect me in thought and in spirit with the homes of my congregation and other friends in England.

T. S.

*Hampstead, June 20th. 1853.*

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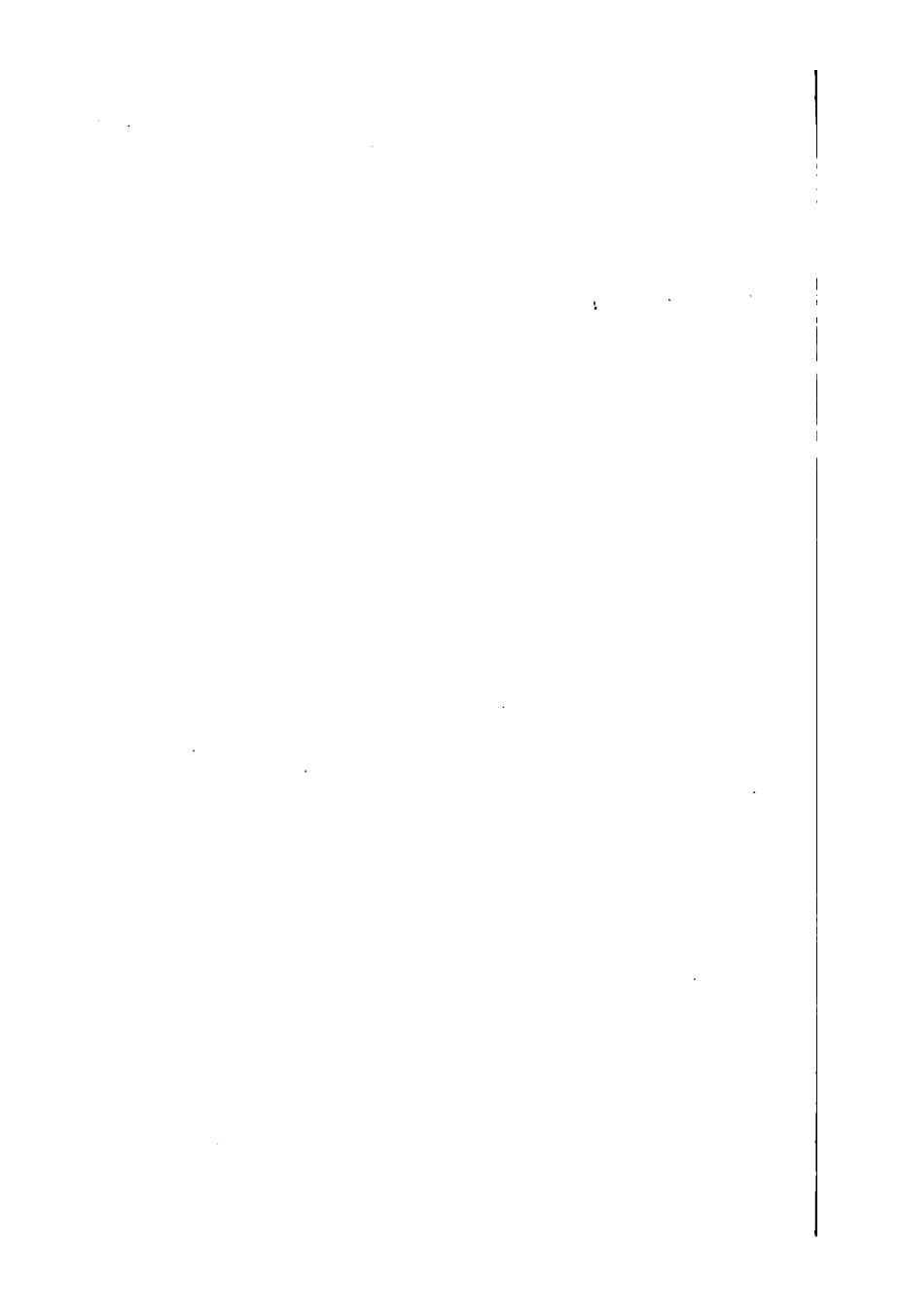
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# FAMILY PRAYERS.

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FIRST WEEK.

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SUNDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY AND ALL-GRACIOUS FATHER!  
Blessed be Thou that Thou hast brought us to the beginning of another day of sacred rest. Truly Thy outward bounties, which afford us pleasure only for a season, are but a small portion of Thy good gifts. By the deep and holy lessons of Thy Providence, and by the precious privileges and promises, which Thou hast vouchsafed to us in Jesus Christ, Thou hast also provided for our spiritual and enduring welfare. We cannot adequately praise Thee for the bread which perisheth; how shall we praise Thee for the bread of life, which Thou hast sent down to us from Heaven? how shall we

attempt to praise Thee but by earnestly and gratefully eating thereof that we may live? The bodily rest, therefore, which Thou hast afforded us, we would hallow by dedicating it to the discipline and refreshment of our spirits, to fervent prayer to Thee, and humble thoughtfulness on what Thou wouldst have us become, to communion with Thy chosen teachers through the volume of everlasting truth, to works of charity and kindness among the poor and the afflicted, and to affectionate and elevating intercourse in our own home. Inspire us with noble purposes, and give us strength to fulfil them; help us to set our affections on things above, and constantly enable us to lay up there richer treasures; hear the sighings of the contrite heart, and pity us in our sorrow over our sins. Especially, O Father, would we enter into the spirit of this day by communion with Jesus Christ, who is the true way to Thee, and in whom Thou hast assured us none shall seek for Thee in vain. Be Thou so present with us by him that we may also become in conduct and character well-pleasing in Thy sight, and evermore rest in Thee as he did, not fearing

what may happen to us, but anxious only that we may still follow after Thee as dear children, and become more conformed to Thy perfect will.

Father of all the families of mankind! when we go up to the congregation of Thy people and lift up our voices with the glad multitude, may a heart-fellowship unite us all, and a holy fervor pervade every soul, so that we may not be afraid to ask Thee to come down and hear us, and Thy blessed Son to be amidst us, as he has promised, wherever two or three are gathered together in his name. May we love our friends and kindred in Thee, and the stranger, and, if such we have, our enemy, for Thee. Prosper Thy church of faithful and devout believers; bring into it the young, the cast-down, the doubter, the sinful, and the prodigal; and may those who already belong to it continually grow in the likeness of their divine Master, until there shall be but one fold with one shepherd, and all shall be perfected in one. Unto Thee, O Father, be ascribed by all the sons of men, as well as by saints and angels, glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

## SUNDAY EVENING.

**G**RACIOUS LORD GOD! We have again enjoyed the sweet refreshments and precious spiritual privileges of Thy holy sabbath, and we would thank and praise Thee for them with our whole hearts. Not only have we heard of Thy loving-kindness and wonderful works of old, but we have ourselves been brought near to Thee by Thy beloved Son, we have worshiped Thee as our Father in Heaven, and we have felt Thy living presence. Let not this day's retirement from the world and communion with things unseen leave within us only a transient impression, but may to-morrow and all our days bear witness to the depth and fervor of our desire for the true christian life. When we consider Thy unfailing and unbounded goodness to us, and our blessed Saviour's love, and the bright prospects, stretching through all ages, which Thou hast unfolded to us, and then look into our own souls and remember our past lives, we are awed and unspeakably sad at the thought of our ingratitude and unworthiness. Thou hast been our Father, but how few of us have

•

been Thy children ! How often hast Thou been near to us when we have not seen Thee, spoken to us in tenderest accents when we have not known Thy voice ! O let it be so no more. Is not our one great want, O our Father, more of Thy likeness within us, that thereby we may know Thee, and knowing love Thee, and loving serve Thee with all our might ? Grant, we earnestly beseech Thee, that our consciousness of former deficiencies and our present aspirations may lead us steadfastly to make the best use of the means of improvement, which Thou hast so richly afforded us. May the volume of everlasting truth become every day more familiar to us, that its counsels and warnings and comforts may be always at hand in the hour of need. Let Thy statutes and Thy promises be as songs in the house of our pilgrimage. May we show whence we are and whither we are going by frequently ascending to Thee in prayer and adoration. May our home on earth be a living testimony that we are looking forward to another and an eternal home in Heaven. In the broad way of the world let Thy angel encamp round about us and deliver us. In all things, O our

God; let our walk be as if our blessed Saviour were constantly by our side, and all our heaven-ward way be lighted and endeared by the example and recollection of the wise and good, who have gone before us. One more petition we would offer up before this sabbath draws to a close, that Thou wilt gather not only us and those whom we love, but also all Thy great human family into the true church of Thy Son, so that every one whom Thou didst create in Thine image, may at length enter into Thy kingdom. Blessed be the Lord God, who only doeth wondrous things. Blessed be His glorious name for ever: and let the whole world be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

**F**ATHER IN HEAVEN! Another day of sacred rest is passed, and we are about to enter on another week of labor. We bless Thee that it likewise may be sacred, that in our daily occupations and in our social intercourse we may embody those high and holy purposes, which we formed yesterday in Thy sanctuary

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and in our closets. Thou didst send to us Thy prophets and apostles and Thy best-beloved Son, and invite us to raise up to Thee an altar, and call Thee Father, not that we may only indulge in beautiful dreams and meditations, but that all our powers may be dedicated to spiritual and everlasting interests, that living as disciples of Jesus Christ and as Thy children, our every day may be a prayer and our whole world become a Heaven. Thou Source of all light and strength, who hast so plainly shown us the way in which we should walk, strengthen us by Thy might that we may walk therein with a single and steadfast heart. We ourselves know, and Thou knowest far better, our many weaknesses and our great temptations; but we fervently thank Thee that, while throwing ourselves on Thy mercy for our past neglect and disobedience, we have the encouraging and animating assurance that Thou, our God, wilt help us in our patient upward strivings, and in Thine own good time and Thine own best way, crown our labors with success. May we carefully watch over our dispositions, and avoid every occasion of evil. Cleanse Thou us from secret faults, and



keep back Thy servants from presumptuous sins. Give us clear conceptions of duty in the occupations of business, and as much prosperity as Thou shalt see to be fit for us. May an elevated and holy atmosphere pervade our dwelling, so that religion may hallow and perpetuate our family love, and, by our thoughtfulness for one another, we may all be rendered better and happier for all ages. May we reverence Thy image in all men, and love all, since Christ died for all. If Thou shouldst shower down upon us in rich abundance the good things of this life, may we delight to distribute liberally among those who are in want. If Thou shouldst visit us with affliction may we so mourn in Thine ear, that our sorrow may be sweetened by Thy grace. And so, O Father, resting under the wings of Thy Providence, and walking in the light of Thy countenance, may we daily become more what Thou wouldst have us to be, and less unfit for the blessedness of our eternal home. We ask all in the name and as disciples of our Mediator and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.



## MONDAY EVENING.

**E**VER BLESSED GOD! who hast drawn around us the shadows of evening as a curtain, and afforded us another opportunity of lifting up our united hearts and voices in prayer! Most gladly and thankfully would we draw nigh to Thee. Instead of the strength and vigour of morning, Thou wilt now give us rest and refreshment; instead of the sun to shine upon our labors, Thou hast awakened the stars to watch over our slumbers. We humbly offer up to Thee our devout gratitude for Thy outward and temporal bounties to us this day, and still more for our most precious spiritual privileges as Thy children. In what words can we thank and praise Thee, that Thou hast not only permitted us in our sorrows to fly to Thee as our refuge, and at all times to rely upon Thee without an anxious care, for the supply of our wants, but hast also stretched forth Thy fatherly hand to lead us upwards to Thyself, that we may imitate Thy perfections, partake of Thy blessedness, and at length dwell for ever in Thy heavenly presence? In thus

connecting us with Thyself, Thou hast indeed given us all things. But, alas! not yet can we realize the unspeakable happiness of so endearing and sanctifying a relation; for by the light of Thy goodness we see more and more how far we have been from manifesting Thy image in our lives and characters. Truly the only way, by which we can come to Thee, is the gate of Thy forgiveness; but this gate Thou hast assured us is ever open to those who truly repent and earnestly turn from their evil ways. O may we show the sincerity of our repentance by a more diligent use of the means of improvement, which Thou hast so graciously vouchsafed to us. Especially may we seek to approve ourselves in Thy sight by a deeper habitual union with Thy best-beloved Son, by whom Thou hast brought us near to Thyself. We are sure that amidst all the temptations of the world, we cannot go astray, if we follow him, whom Thou hast proclaimed to be an emblem of Thine own spirit, and a perfect example of what Thou wouldst have us become. May we, whom Thou hast united in one home, help one another in the true heaven-ward way, and not merely

minister to each other's earthly comfort. Hallow to us the memory of the holy dead. When we ascend to Thee in prayer may we not forget how near we are to their happy abodes, and may we always so think of them as to yearn for a greater fitness to be with them. The blessings which we ask for ourselves, we ask also for our dear friends, and for all Thy vast human family. Unto Thee be ascribed all glory and praise for ever and ever, through Jesus Christ. Amen.



## TUESDAY MORNING.

**G**REATEST AND BEST OF BEINGS! The welcome voice of morning calls us into Thy presence, and we feel that we ought to bless Thee every day, and that we can never sufficiently thank and adore Thee, that Thy presence is to us the presence of a heavenly Father. The love which Thou hast revealed by Jesus Christ, we trace in Thy works and in Thy ways, and, even when our eyes fail us, we see by faith Thine invisible hand, ordering all things well, and doing more and better for

us than we could ask or conceive. What offering of gratitude shall we bring unto Thee? Thou hast assured us that Thou wilt accept the earnest child-heart; accept ours in all their unworthiness, and forgive us, and hear our humble and fervent supplications. Our first and most anxious prayer is, that Thou wilt make us more and more what Thou wouldst have us become, that Thou wilt more and more conform us to the blessed image of Thy Son, who in all things approved himself in Thy sight. O Father, we would love what Thou lovest, we would imitate Thy holiness and participate in Thy happiness; we would be tender and forbearing, and always desirous of benefiting all around us; we would do with all our might the work of life, which Thou hast set before us; we would, as dear children, follow after Thee. As Thou art the Father of the vast human family, may we regard every member of it as our brother, and strive to promote the general welfare; and may we especially delight to sympathize and work together with those who are united to us by the most endearing ties of kindred and friendship. We know that Thou hast given us

to one another, not for mere temporary convenience, but that we may so help one another along our homeward way, as to love each other better in Heaven for ever, for having dwelt in the same home a few years on earth. Father Almighty! Be with us by Thy holy spirit, that, amidst the temptations of the world, we may not be overcome, but may steadfastly carry out the good resolutions which we have formed at Thine altar or in our own hearts. Make us more diligent, thoughtful, and devout. Shouldst Thou send us severe trials, may we remember from whom they proceed, and receive them as not less the dispensations of Thy goodness, than our brightest and most prosperous hours, and still lean confidently on Thine arm, and still look up to Thee with true filial trust. And, finally, when our present pilgrimage is over, and Thou callest us to Thyself, O may we be all numbered with Thy saints in glory everlasting, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## TUESDAY EVENING.

**L**ORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH! Thou hast gone forth with us in our labors through another day, and we now hear Thy solemn, yet welcome prayer-bell of evening, calling us into Thy presence. But with what language shall we approach Thee? Shall we bring unto Thee our ignorant desires? Thou knowest all things. Shall we pour forth to Thee our poor offering of praise? Thy name is glorious in all worlds. Shall we ask Thee to love us more, when Thou hast given us life and breath and all we possess, and lovest us better than we can love ourselves? No, we would come unto Thee with full child-hearts, and implore Thee to forgive us, and send us what Thou seest to be best for us, and conform us to our all-perfect Father's will. We come to beseech Thee to be to us henceforth what Thou hast always been—in our weakness our strength, in our difficulties our guide, in our weariness our rest, in our sorrows our joy, and in our poverty our unsearchable riches. Thou doest all things for us, Thou givest us all things, Thou art our

all, and we come to ask Thee to accept us and make us entirely Thine. Would that when we look back upon our past lives we could feel that our conduct and characters have been a living offering of thanksgiving to Thee; but with the remembrance of an often reproachful conscience we yet trust in Thy mercy, which is greater than our sins. O Father, help us to walk more steadfastly as in Thy sight. As we are pilgrims to a better, a heavenly country, may we not be anxious about temporary enjoyments and about avoiding earthly sufferings, but centre our chief thoughts and cares on drawing near to Thee in spirit, and becoming less unfit for our eternal home. May we have greater strength of principle, warmer sympathies, purer and gentler dispositions, and deeper and holier religious feeling. We would feel that when we have Thy Providence to rely on, and our blessed Saviour's footsteps to walk in, and Heaven to look forward to, we have Thy choicest blessings, though we should have neither health nor fame, nor any outward abundance. Gracious God! we would especially thank Thee at this time for giving us to one



another; may our home be a centre of affection and piety, from which we shall every day go forth with renewed zeal and thoughtfulness in doing Thy will, and with hearts full of love towards all our brethren of the human race. We would bless Thee also, O Father, for that part of Thy family which Thou hast already taken to Thyself; and may our thoughts of our departed friends help to unite us to Thee, and render Heaven nearer and dearer to us. To Thy fatherly care we would commit ourselves and all whom we love, and all our concerns this night and evermore, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**B**LESSED LORD GOD! who turnest the shadows of death into morning, and renewest the face of the earth. Thou hast again made us to dwell in safety during the hours of darkness, and, by sweet and refreshing sleep, invigorated us for the duties and enjoyments of another day. How happy ought we to be that, through Thy best-beloved Son, Thou hast enabled us to see

that Thou hast done to us nothing but good ever since we have been in existence, and to commit ourselves day by day to the care and guidance of an all-perfect heavenly Father. Gracious Father! we would show our sense of Thy loving-kindness during our past lives by gratefully receiving Thy present dispensations, whether joyous or grievous, as from the same all-wise and all-bountiful source, and as designed and adapted by Thee to promote our highest and enduring welfare. O teach us to take no anxious thought about the events of the future, for they are Thine, but may our great anxiety this day and every day be to make progress in the work of life, which Thou hast set before us. We know that we cannot realize our endearing filial relation to Thee, and possess all Thy fatherly love and blessing, unless we be Thy children in character and obedience as well as in words; and we would make it our one grand object and hope that we may more and more do Thy will on earth, as it is done by Thy heavenly angels. Enlighten our understandings, and quicken our souls by the free communications of Thy Spirit. We are

conscious of our own weakness and sinfulness; but since Thou hast promised us forgiveness upon condition of our sincere repentance, and assured us that Thou wilt draw nigh to those who draw nigh to Thee, we would not doubt that we *may* so live as to obtain Thy approbation. By our communion with Thee through Thy beautiful outward creation, by our aptness to receive the lessons of Thy Providence, by following Thy still small voice of conscience through evil report and through good report, and by our fellowship with those of Thy children, who have already most approved themselves in Thy sight, and above all with Thy holy Jesus, may we show that we have turned our hearts as well as our faces towards our God. And thus O Father, amidst the temptations of the world and in the quiet of our home, may we feel Thy presence at all times, and become conformed at length to our blessed Saviour's image. In his name we offer up all our prayers, and through him ascribe unto Thee all glory and dominion, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**L**ORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH! who crownest us with loving-kindness and tender mercies, and satisfiest us daily with good things. Before we close our eyes in sleep, we would recall Thy great and unceasing benefits to us, and anew dedicate ourselves to Thy service. Thy works and thoughts for us are indeed so many and so wonderful, that they cannot be reckoned up in order unto Thee; but we would come to Thee with the hearts of children, and Thou wilt hear us with more than a father's indulgence. Ever since we have been in existence Thou hast done with us and for us only what is best, and we would fervently thank Thee for all,—not less for those gentle chastenings, whereby from time to time Thou weanest us from our own foolish imaginations, and directest our affections to things above, than for those rich gifts, whereby Thou art continually encouraging us to well-doing. May we never be among those, who say "Who will show us any good?" But, O ever-blessed Father, we would draw nearer to Thee and know Thee better. We

would be more alive to the constant pledge of safety and motive to improvement, which Thou hast afforded us in the knowledge of Thy unchangeable holiness, and the remembrance of Thy past bounties. We would be less anxious about what shall happen to us and about our temporal prosperity, and more anxious to do

- Thy will, and fit ourselves for Thy immediate presence. Enable us to bring forth fruits meet for repentance for our many past sins, and then do Thou forgive us; and in the season of temptation gird our souls with divine strength, that we may fall no more. Purify, we beseech Thee, the fountains of desire within us. Come, O Father, and dwell in us as Thou didst dwell in Thy holy Jesus, and conform us day by day to his heavenly image. Bowing before Thee at this time as a Christian family, we would especially entreat Thee to enable us to manifest our love for one another by walking in our home with a perfect heart. As a part of Thy great family of mankind, may we show that we are not forgetful of our common and endearing relation to Thee, by losing no opportunity of doing good to any of our brethren; and do

Thou so unite us in spirit with the great and good of former ages that our thoughts of them may help to prepare us for joining their happy society. And now, Thou who hast compassed our path, do Thou compass our lying-down; may we remember Thee upon our bed, and meditate upon Thee in the night watches. And whether we wake or sleep may we be Thine in Jesus Christ, this night and evermore. Amen. •

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## THURSDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY AND ALL-GRACIOUS FATHER! who hast caused the light of another morning to shine upon us, and hast renewed and invigorated our powers; we would offer up our heartfelt gratitude to Thee, and implore Thee to consecrate to us Thy good gifts. Though we see Thee not, O Father, yet be Thou to us a light and a shield and a never-failing supporter and friend. May we realize Thy infinite love and forbearance and holiness as manifested by Jesus Christ. May the thought of Thee inspire us with noble purposes and aspirations, the love of Thee lead us to yearn

for a greater measure of Thy spirit and presence, and may we rest in Thee with a child's entire confidingness. In the duties and occupations of this day, may we show that our hearts are fixed on Thee, by loving those things which Thou commandest and by desiring that which Thou dost promise, by a generous and devout disposition and by evenness and gentleness of temper, and by doing with all our might whatsoever our hand findeth to do. Mercifully look upon our infirmities and wants, and in all our necessities and dangers stretch forth Thy hand to help and defend us. May both our joys and our trials strengthen us in holy living and promote in us all heavenly affections. As members of a Christian family we beseech Thee to open our hearts to one another in brotherly kindness and forbearance. May the highest welfare of those with whom we dwell be immeasurably more to us than pleasure or gain or any temporary possession or distinction. Bless all our brethren on earth according to their several wants, and be especially with the poor and the afflicted. We bless Thee for our brethren in Heaven and may a

hallowed feeling of fellowship with them help to prepare us for our happiest of all meetings. Thou Hearer of prayer, hear this our fervent prayer, and may this day with all its thoughts and words and deeds be to Thee a more acceptable prayer, an offering of gratitude and obedience well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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THURSDAY EVENING.

**H**OLY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD! The sacred hour of prayer has returned, and we would again lay our hearts as one upon Thine altar. We know that we are not wise and holy enough to comprehend all Thy goodness to us, but we have faith in Thy wisdom and



we feel Thy love, and Thou hast invited us to come unto Thee in the name of our blessed Saviour to pour forth our humble offering. We thank Thee that Thou hast supplied our wants according to Thine infinite wisdom, and we would make it our most earnest prayer with regard to the future, that Thou wilt do for us—not what we think, but what Thou seeest to be best. We would be sensible that it is really well with us—not when our own ignorant desires are most fully gratified, but when our characters and conduct are most nearly conformed to Thy perfect will. Merciful Father! when we look back upon our past lives and compare them with what they might have been, we are bowed down with heartfelt sorrow, that we have not more fully attained the disposition and character of Thy children; but do Thou blot out our transgressions from the book of Thy remembrance, and in the season of weariness and temptation, be with us by Thy Spirit to refresh and strengthen us. O make us truly alive to our higher relations and our enduring welfare. Since Thou hast created us after Thine own likeness, and made

us sharers of Thine own eternity, may we not waste our chief thoughts and affections on the mere objects of sense and time, but earnestly strive to render ourselves less unworthy of Thy heavenly presence. And if Thou shouldst sometimes withdraw from us Thy outward and temporal bounties, in order to commune more effectually with us on things unseen and eternal, may we not be impatient of, or distrust, the means, whereby Thou art leading us to Thyself. Gracious Father! Thy endearing name should constantly remind us that all mankind are our brethren, and fill our hearts with love towards one another. Especially hallow to us our dear family ties, and may our thoughts of the blessed dead be to us a perpetual source of comfort and spiritual life. We will now lay us down in peace and take our rest; Thou, O Lord, wilt make us to dwell in safety. May we commune with Thee upon our beds and diligently search our spirits. When we awake we shall be still with Thee. All our supplications we humbly offer up in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## FRIDAY MORNING.

FATHER IN HEAVEN! when we awake we are still with Thee. Thou didst graciously watch over us during the hours of darkness and render our sleep sweet unto us, and now hast Thou brought us to the beginning of another day. We are come into Thy presence to beseech Thee to be with us in all the duties and occupations which lie before us, so that this new period of existence, which Thou hast granted to us, may be still Thine, sincerely consecrated to Thy service. We know not indeed what outward lot to ask, but we are sure that, while Thou, who knowest all things, art near at hand, we shall not be wanting in those blessings which are best for us, and we would therefore not so much offer up to Thee our own often foolish desires, as pray to be enabled to rely with childlike faith on the bounties of Thy Providence, using with all diligence those gifts and opportunities, which Thou mayst vouchsafe to us, and patiently and cheerfully waiting for those, which for a season Thou mayst withhold. But, O Father! we would make it our daily

and most earnest supplication, that we may be ever mindful of the sacred purpose of our earthly existence, and show by our holy living, that we are pilgrims seeking Thy heavenly country. Do Thou, who seest our particular weaknesses and temptations, forgive our past sins, and help and sustain us by Thy blessed Spirit. In those necessary sorrows and sufferings, which we are sure Thou wilt apportion with a Father's loving-kindness and infinite wisdom, be Thou our staff and our shelter, and the lifter-up of our heads. O our Father, let the spirit of Thy dear Son, our Saviour, dwell richly in us, and accompany us whithersoever we go, and animate and direct us in all we do. May we not forget, that whatever may be our condition and occupation in the world, we may still be his disciples and Thy children, and still draw nearer to the communion of saints. Fill us this day with pure and noble thoughts and purposes. Bless us in our going out and in our coming in,—our persons, our labors, our friends, and all that belongs to us. Let all tender and generous affections freely unfold within us. May our home become a true church of Thy Son, and

fragrant incense be always ascending from our hearth. Holy Father! receive us and all our concerns into Thy keeping, and do more and better for us than we can ask or conceive, and accept us as humble disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.



## FRIDAY EVENING.

**A**LMIGHTY AND ALL-GRACIOUS GOD! We have left for a season the cares and duties of the world, and we would now enjoy our most sacred privilege of communion with Thee. We would meditate on Thine infinite perfections, and adore Thee with our souls, and voices, and all our powers. We would recall Thy good gifts to us, and pour forth to Thee our warmest gratitude, and draw near to Thee with hearts full of filial love. The world which we inhabit, health, home, friends, all our possessions, every means of improvement, every source of pleasure, every opportunity of usefulness, and even every moment of life itself, are from Thine

all-bountiful hands. And Thou hast promised us immeasurably greater things still; Thou hast assured us that Thou wilt always be to us a Father,—that Thou wilt not leave us alone in the grave, and by Thy all-wise fatherly lessons, Thou art daily fitting us to be partakers of Thine own home. If we were only wise and holy, we might ourselves trace in every joy and every sorrow, which Thou sendest us, seeds for eternity and Heaven. O may the remembrance of Thy goodness accompany us at all times to confirm our faith and remind us of our duty. We most earnestly desire to rise to a true realization of Thy Divine Providence. Make us pure in heart that we may clearly see Thee. Conform our wills entirely to Thine; we would in all things be Thy humble fellow-workers. May we especially seek to come unto Thee by Thy holy Jesus, who was himself so intimately united to Thee. We would cherish a spiritual fellowship with the blessed company of the faithful of all ages, and so think of those who are already dwelling with Thee above, that we may not feel towards them as strangers

when we also are with them where they are. Make us deeply sensible of our sins that we may forsake them, constantly alive to our infirmities, that we may watch against them. May our experience of our frailty this day leave in us a healthful feeling of unrest, which shall bear godly fruits to-morrow and all the future, and so rise to Thee a living prayer for Thy forgiveness. O Thou who never slumberest nor sleepest, we would again commit ourselves, and all whom we love to Thy gracious keeping. Grant us either what we desire or what Thou knowest to be better for us, and make us Thine for ever, through our great Mediator and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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SATURDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU who settest the solitary in families! We would come to Thee with one voice and one heart, and offer up our humble and fervent prayer. Thou hast given to us another day, and we would bow down before Thee, and beseech Thee to hallow to us all its events and occupations, its joys and its sorrows, so that at its close both it and we may be Thine. We

are sure that the wonderful outward world, the work which Thou hast allotted to us, the friends by whom Thou hast surrounded us, the vicissitudes of time, all the circumstances in which we live, are graciously adapted by Thee to promote our spiritual and eternal good. Open our souls, we beseech Thee, to all Thy blessed influences. Make us wise, and touch our hearts with Thy spirit, that we may devoutly and lovingly walk in the path of Thy commandments. Thou art not an arbitrary Ruler, but our all-holy Father, and may we always feel that whatever Thou requirest of us and whatever Thou appointest for us are right and best. O God! Thou only knowest how many and how great have been our sins; yet how many things are there to which we ourselves look back with shame and sorrow, and which fill us with fear lest in the future likewise we should fail in our steadfastness; but Thou despisest not the sighing of a contrite heart, and if we earnestly strive and patiently wait, Thou wilt both forgive us and crown our efforts with success. Thou who knowest our particular temptations, wilt not fail to help us, if we ourselves steadily resist



them. And, since Thou hast placed us together in one home, and bound us together by the endearing ties of kindred and friendship, may we not be unmindful of how much we may do for one another, and may we bear with each other, and in every way in our power help one another to become better. God of all goodness! with our prayers to Thee for the future, let the incense of our gratitude rise to Thee for Thy never-failing loving-kindness during the past; yet how shall we find words in which to thank Thee, who hast not only given us our daily bread and nightly rest, but hast also adopted us as Thy children, and promised us that if we are faithful we shall not die, but shall ascend into Thy own more immediate presence, and who hast showered down upon us blessings unnumbered, spiritual and temporal, and unseen as well as seen! Would that we could less unworthily adore and praise Thee both by our lips and our lives. We call upon our souls and all that is within us to bless Thy holy name. Accept our poor offering, and make us day by day more faithful servants and children to Thee, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

## SATURDAY EVENING.

**H**OLY FATHER! who humblest Thyself to behold the things that are in the heavens and on the earth! Look down graciously upon Thy worshipping children now before Thee. Another day and another week hast Thou given us to each other, and continued to us the powers of our bodies and our minds, the beauty of Thy works, the society of the wise and good, and mingled to us sources of joy with opportunities of usefulness and improvement. No mother has watched so tenderly over her child as Thou hast watched over us. Thine infinite power and wisdom have served Thy fatherly love to provide for our highest and enduring welfare. But while Thou hast done so much for us, how little have we done for one another and ourselves! How many testimonies does the recollection of the past week call up against us! We will not plead as an excuse our feeble powers, for Thou knowest them, and askest of us only those things which Thou seest to be within the capacity of those who earnestly and steadfastly strive to do Thy will; but we throw

ourselves upon Thy mercy, and fervently desire to employ our time and talents as those who have indeed been touched with a deep sense of spiritual interests. Our days are like a shadow that declineth, and solemnly warn us against delay; but, O Father, we would be Thy servants now out of the fulness of our love, and not only from terror of the day of judgment. Thou hast opened the gates of righteousness, and we would go in at them. Purify and ennoble our dispositions, that we may feel the beauty and power of goodness in all its forms. Give us strength and stability of principle, that we may stand firmly amidst the temptations of the world. Enable us to obtain a control over our tempers, that we may have an evenness of spirit, and be gentle and forbearing in our intercourse with others. Set a watch over our lips, that we offend not with our tongues. O may Thy blessed Jesus so dwell within us in all things here below, that we may rejoice and not be afraid at his second coming. As a christian family, may we live as those who are soon to be separated, and who through Thy mercy, may, by patient continuance in well-doing, be

reunited beyond the grave. Thou, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, under Thy protecting wings may we now lay us down in peace. Make us to rest in safety during the night-watches, and awaken us in the morning to a heartfelt participation in the blessings of Thy holy day. Hear, answer, and accept us, in the name of Thy best-beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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### Second Week.

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#### SUNDAY MORNING.

**O** GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, who, after our six days of labor, givest us a day of rest and devout meditation and communion with Thee! We would joyously and most gratefully commemorate Thy good gifts to us, and Thy wonderful works, and, above all, the sacred ministry and glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ. Help us, we beseech Thee, to enter into the spirit of this day, that we may worship Thee

acceptably, and learn to do Thy will as it is done by Thy blessed angels. Would that we could lift up to Thee holier hands, would that our hearts were pure, that there might be no veil between Thee and us; but we know, O God, that Thou art a God with whom is forgiveness. Cast out from us every unclean thing, and quicken and guide us by Thy Spirit. Both now and when we assemble with our brethren in Thy sanctuary, teach us how to pray and fill our souls with heavenly thoughts and earnest resolves. O Thou light of the blind and strength of the weak, yea, light of those that see and strength of the strong, give us this day to feed on Thy truth in the fulness of love and devout fervor, and so impress us with Thy divine teachings, that the rest of our lives may be passed in the way of Thy commandments, and in the light of Thy countenance.

Father of all mankind! May the spirit of Thy dear Son unite and animate those who keep holy-day in all parts of Thy dominions, that our visible churches here below may form one true church of the Saviour, and the incense of our prayers may ascend to Thee as from one vast family

altar. Grant to the ministers of Thy holy Gospel great gifts and great holiness, that they may faithfully serve Thee in establishing and perfecting sincere believers, and in bearing Thy comforts to the weary and heavy-laden, and Thy messages of mercy to the out-cast and the fallen.

God of all love and goodness! For ourselves, for all who are dear to us, and for all our brethren of the human race, we pray that Thou wilt bless us according to Thine infinite wisdom, and preserve us blameless and sanctify us wholly, through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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SUNDAY EVENING.

**E**VER BLESSED FATHER! In communion with Thee we would now close our day of rest

and of prayer. We thank and praise Thee for the life which Thou hast given us, for the earth in which Thou hast prepared our dwelling, for the pleasant light of the sun, for the friends whom Thou hast raised up to aid and sympathize with us; but how shall we speak of Thy mercy and loving-kindness in welcoming us to Thyself as Thy children, and sending to us Thine own best-beloved Son as our teacher and example? When we think of Thine infinite perfections and our Saviour's holiness and love to us and sufferings for us, and the glory and blessedness to which Thou callest us, our souls are bowed down with a sense of our unworthiness. O Lord, we can only humble ourselves before Thee, and confess our many sins, and cast ourselves wholly upon Thy forgiveness with heartfelt contrition and filial hope. Look down upon us with Thy fatherly pity, and cleanse us, and teach us, and guide us, and make us truly Thine. May Thy word, to which we have listened this day, come to us as a word of power, and bring forth richly the fruits of well-doing and all pure and devout affections. We would be at all times thoughtful as to what Thou wouldst have us become, but

we would place our chief reliance on the help of Thy holy Spirit. May we feel that in all our heavenward endeavours and aspirations, Thy blessed Jesus will be near us to lead and strengthen us. Suffer not our worldly pleasures and occupations to render us forgetful of Thee, as they so often have done in time past. Every morning may we awake with Thee—not only in our minds as our Preserver through the dangers of the night, but also in our hearts as our heavenly Father, who ever waitest to be gracious, and whose will should be our highest delight. May this day shed its hallowed influence over the whole week, and may every day be a preparation for coming into Thy presence in the evening, and every week a preparation for our sabbath, and our whole lives a preparation for dwelling for ever in Heaven with Thee and Jesus Christ and Thy saints.

Almighty God! bless with ourselves our friends and all our brethren of mankind. Extend the church of Thy Son till all Thy lost children shall be redeemed. May we do all we can to make his name known and his spirit felt among the ignorant, the young, the sorrowing,



and the fallen. O Thou, who knowest the wants we cannot feel, and who doest more and better for us than we can ask or conceive, into Thy hands we commit our souls and bodies and all whom we love and all our interests, this night and evermore, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

**A**LL-GRACIOUS AND ETERNAL GOD! Who hast watched over us during the hours of darkness, and awakened us to the beginning of another week of active duty. We heartily thank Thee for Thine unwearied goodness to us, and it is our earnest desire to consecrate ourselves to Thy service. May the prayers and holy lessons and meditations, which sweetened our rest yesterday, live in us now in all our relations and occupations at home and in the world. Thou who hast bidden us call Thee Father, and hearest all our supplications, wilt look favorably on us also when we strive to do Thy will in the humblest earthly labors. We would remember that wherever Thou appointest our habitation

we live in a holy place, and that whatever we do is a holy work if allotted to us by Thee. O heavenly Father! in all places and at all times, and not in Thy sanctuary and in our seasons of worship alone, would we prove ourselves Thy children and true disciples of Thy dear Son. Make us thoughtful how we can best do what Thou desirest, and attain to the well-being and happiness which Thou hast designed for us. When we go forth amidst the temptations of the world, let us not wander into the ways of sin; but let Thy blessed Spirit sustain, strengthen and guide us. Watch for us, and quicken our consciences that we may watch against the first approaches of evil in unhallowed thoughts and dispositions. Be with us when we sit in the house, and when we walk by the way, and in all the intercourse of friendship and business. When Thou sendest us trials, may we think how much we need to be purified and raised, and not murmur at the methods, whereby Thou wouldst prepare us for dwelling with Thee in Heaven. We know that if we only felt what is for our good, we should thank Thee most fervently, not for our temporary successes and pleasures

and outward possessions, but for Thy spiritual teachings, Thy fatherly discipline, and the progress we may make towards our everlasting home. O Lord, pardon our sins, sanctify our bodies and souls, create in us a deep love of holy things, and grant us Thy peace.

Our God and Father! We would at this time especially beseech Thee to bless us as a Christian family. May we love one another sincerely, and bear each other's burdens, and forgive one another's weaknesses and faults, and do all we can to help one another to follow in our Saviour's footsteps.

Father of all mankind! Hasten the time when all Thy people shall be one great Christian family, and our only anxious desire and prayer shall be, that Thy will may be wholly fulfilled in us. Unto Thy most sacred name be ascribed all glory and praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

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## MONDAY EVENING.

**L**ORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH! Thou sendest forth Thy light, and we awake with powers refreshed and invigorated; we labor and become weary, and Thou drawest the curtains of night, and we lie down and take our rest. The outgoings of the morning and of the evening alike praise Thee. At the close of another day, we would now lift up our hearts to Thee in gratitude and thanksgiving, and commit our bodies and souls to Thy keeping. Thou hast granted to us this day blessings which we have asked, and blessings which for our ignorance and blindness we could not ask. We cannot know all that Thou hast done for us; but we know that Thy infinite power and wisdom unite with Thy fatherly loving-kindness to make all things work together for the highest and enduring well-being of Thy children. Forgive us, merciful Father, that we have not always with a single heart striven to learn and do Thy will. We have been slow to carry out Thy all-wise designs, though they have been entirely for our own good. O God! Thou doest all for us; we have done nothing for ourselves. While Thou hast been leading

our thoughts to things spiritual and eternal, our affections have been set on the things that perish, the lust of the flesh and the pride of the eye, and we have been moved by trifles to anger and ill-will and anxious care. Shall we plead our natural frailty? Thou hast provided us with divine means of strength, and Thou wouldst not call us to be Thy children, if we could not, by Thy grace, become holy and enter into Thy rest. O Lord God, make us less unworthy of Thy love. Let us daily pray to Thee, and trust and hope in Thee, and live to Thee, and delight in Thee. Let our duty be our employment, Thy Providence our portion, Thy blessed Jesus our example, and Thy Holy Spirit our guide. In all the changes of our outward lot, give us an evenness and tranquillity of spirit, such as must always arise from the remembrance that we have a Father in Heaven, who careth for us. Thou, who alone knowest all our wants, dispose of us and ours as Thou seest to be best, and above all dispose us to love and obey Thee with true filial hearts.

Bless us in our family relation, in which we now appear in Thy presence. Let us feel that there is no better way of preparing for our home

in Heaven, than a heavenly life in our home on earth. May we cherish a holy spiritual fellowship with those of our dear friends, who have already left the world, and are gone to Thee. We pray for all who desire our prayers, and all who need them. Guide us by Thy counsel here, and afterwards unite us in glory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## TUESDAY MORNING.

**H**OLY AND MOST GRACIOUS GOD! who hast again turned the shadows of death into morning, and renewed our powers by sweet rest, who hast given us to one another, and to each one of us the day's duties and occupations, and who dost bless us now and at all times with our most sacred and endearing Christian privileges and hopes! We would be mindful of what it is to be thus raised up by Thee to a new day, and pour out our hearts to Thee in gratitude and thanksgiving. O let not the multitude and the constancy of Thy good gifts render us forgetful of the Giver of them, who is infinitely greater than all His works, but daily lead us to

know Thee better and to love Thee more. When each friend greets us after our separation for the night, may we remember that it is of Thy loving-kindness that we are again together, and our house is not a house of mourning. Our opportunities of usefulness, our means of improvement, and our sources of joy are all fresh from the living fountain of Thy goodness. O God, how abundant are the tokens Thou vouchsafest to us every morning, that when we awake we are still with Thee! And when we close our eyes in our last sleep, if we have indeed committed our spirits to Thee in well-doing, we shall be as safe and as sure of Thy favour and protection, as when last night we laid ourselves down on our beds, yea, and our awaking will be in Thy heavenly presence. Blessed be the Lord God, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation, blessed be His glorious name for ever and ever! But who can speak of His mighty acts? who can show forth all His praise?

O Thou, to whom we owe our lives, all our possessions here, and all our bright prospects hereafter, perfect Thy good gifts, we earnestly

beseech Thee, by making us Thine in spirit as we are Thine in all other respects. May we always bear in mind, that what as our Father Thou hast given us, Thou desirest us to use as Thy children. Make us thoughtful how we can best serve Thee, and give us spiritual understanding that we may perceive clearly what things we ought to do. Bind us together as a Christian family in the bands of an ever holier love. Unite us to Thee in heart and in will, that Thy ways may be our daily meditation and delight. In the events of this day, grant us the quiet of Thy children, the peace of those whose trust is in Thee.

O Lord, our God, who alone knowest what is best for us, preserve us from all evil and lead us into all good. Pardon, sanctify, and save us, that neither life nor death, health nor sickness, prosperity nor adversity, weakness within nor temptations from without, may ever separate us from the love of Thee, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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## TUESDAY EVENING.

**O** THOU, who hast watched over us during the day, to whom shall we commit ourselves during the coming night but unto Thee, our almighty Protector and Father, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, and to whom the darkness and the light are both alike, and the night shineth as the day? Under the shadow of Thy wings we will lay us down and take our rest, for it is Thou only who makest us to dwell in safety.

But, O most holy and merciful God, before Thou takest us into Thy keeping for this night, cleanse us, we beseech Thee, from our sins by Thy most gracious forgiveness. How much does our conduct this day fall short of what it might have been, if we had truly the spirit as well as the name of Thy children. Even in the things, wherein our consciences do not accuse us, we feel that we have occasion every hour to cast ourselves upon Thy fatherly loving-kindness and tender mercy.

And, O ever-blessed Father, do Thou still further make ready our souls to be committed to Thy guardian care, by filling them with

holy meditations and earnest resolves, and quickening them by Thy spirit, and revealing to them Thy truth, and shedding abroad in them greater measures of Thy love. Let us close our eyes this night with no known sin unrepented of, with no hesitation about doing any known duty, with no ill-will towards any of our brethren, but with a pure conscience and our hearts full of all heavenly affections—O let us go to sleep this night with our minds so conformed to the image of Christ, that, if this should be our last night on earth, we may awake in the eternal world with a well-grounded hope of Thine acceptance.

Father of the whole family of mankind! we would include in our prayers all our brethren, and make especial mention of our dear relations and friends. Thou knowest the wants, the joys, the sorrows, the infirmities, the struggles, the sins, the fears and the hopes of every one of Thy children; grant, to us all, pardon and peace, the sanctification of our spirits, and finally a place in Thine everlasting kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**G**OD most HOLY! In the night and in the day, the heavens declare Thy glory, and the earth is full of Thy loving-kindness. We would mingle our voices in prayer and adoration with those of Thy servants on earth and in Heaven. Help us to come into Thy presence and worship Thee acceptably with heavenly joy, as those who have indeed found their Father and desire heartily to walk with Him, and to make themselves ready to dwell with Him for ever. Thou hast not only spread around us all the wonders of the outward creation, but also bestowed upon us all we possess, our present happiness and all our hopes; and the blessings we have already received are pledges of things better yet to come. Even when Thou chastenest us, it is out of the fulness of Thy love. Thou art all-holy, and Thou wouldst make us holy that we may partake of Thine own blessedness. How shall we speak of Thy goodness and infinite perfection? What shall we render unto Thee for all Thy benefits to us? O Father Almighty, truly dost Thou care for every one of us, as if Thou caredst for him only, and so

for all as if they were but one. Forgive us that our past days have not been more in harmony with Thy will, and let this day be truly consecrated to Him, who hath given it to us. If it be well in Thy sight, may the voice of health and gladness be heard in our dwelling; but, above all, grant us the spirit of Thy children, whose trust is in Thee, and whose supreme desire and delight are to do Thy will. Sanctify to us any trial Thou mayst send us, and all the ordinations of Thy Providence. May no corrupt communication proceed out of our mouths. May we work with our hands the thing that is good. Teach us what we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do it faithfully. In the season of temptation be not far from us, but make Thy way straight before us. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin. Be with us by Thy Holy Spirit at home and abroad, in the duties of our calling and in the exercises of religion. Thou knowest all our wants, bless us in body and soul through the few days of our earthly pilgrimage, and afterwards receive us into Thine eternal glory, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**H**OLY AND EVER-BLESSED FATHER! who art always more ready to hear than we are to pray! Before we close our eyes in sleep we would gratefully remember Thy goodness to us this day and all our past lives, and renew the dedication of ourselves to Thy service. Help us to think of Thy good gifts as becometh true disciples of Thy dear Son, who taught us to pray to Thee as our Father who art in Heaven. May we show that we feel Thy fatherly care and bounty by entire trust in Thee in all the circumstances and events of life, and by our thoughtful devotedness in the work which Thou hast given us to do. O God, pour down upon us Thy spirit, and conform us more and more to Thy perfect will. Purify our dispositions and subdue our evil passions and inclinations. Make our souls the home of all holy affections. Forgive both our presumptuous and our secret sins; and let not sin have dominion over us. When we are in danger of straying from Thy ways, let the thought of Thy holiness and Thy love to us in Jesus Christ touch our hearts

and cause us to arise and go at once to our Father, and earnestly supplicate forgiveness and strength. In seasons of suffering and sorrow, let, we pray Thee, Thy merciful kindness be our support. Hallow our love for one another, and for our absent friends, and unite us in the spirit of Christian fellowship with all Thy great human family.

We would now, O God, commend ourselves to Thy care this night. Teach us to feel as we ought, what it is to be one day nearer to our last day on earth. As Thou addest to us days and mercies, O add also to our contrition and devout obedience, so that we may never draw nearer to the grave without drawing likewise nearer to Thy heavenly kingdom.

Almighty God! we have taken upon ourselves to speak to Thee. Hear our words, but answer us according to our needs. Let our prayer be set forth in Thy sight as incense, and the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice; and accept us as humble disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## THURSDAY MORNING.

**E**VER BLESSED GOD AND FATHER! The welcome voice of morning again calls us together around the altar, which we have raised to Thee in our home. In the refreshing rest of the past night we have received a new proof of Thy loving-kindness, and now art Thou opening to us the glories of another day. Never for an hour dost Thou leave us without a witness of Thyself; and may we never for an hour doubt that Thou lovest us and wilt take care of us. We desire to offer to Thee this day, not a slavish, but a loving obedience, the obedience of Thy children, who know and feel that all which Thou requirest of us is for our good. May our communion with Thee, and the contemplation of Thine infinite and most endearing attributes, so unite us inwardly with Thee, that we may love what Thou lovest, and desire what Thou dost promise. Whatever work Thou mayst set before us, may we do it with all our might, and feel that it is sacred because Thou hast allotted it to us. Thou hast taught us especially to look to

Jesus Christ for guidance and example. May nothing be so dear to us in this world as to be partakers of his holiness, his humility, his goodness and charity, his patience and resignation, his entire trust in Thee and delight in doing the will of his heavenly Father. Make us deeply mindful of our many past sins, and may we turn from them in our hearts, and offer to Thee fruits meet for repentance. Make us sensible of our infirmities, that we may watch against them and overcome them. May our souls be full of devout meditations and affectionate and fervent dispositions, and godly purposes; and may anger and malice and selfishness and falsehood have no place in us.

O Father Almighty! let the light of Thy countenance always shine upon us, that we may never go astray, and that having done our duty and borne our trials as Thy true children during our earthly pilgrimage, we may at length be perfected in Thy love in Heaven. All our prayers we humbly offer up in the name of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Saviour. Amen.





## THURSDAY EVENING.

**O** THOU, who art nigh to all that call upon Thee, to all that call upon Thee in truth! We would bow down before Thee as a Christian family, and speak of Thy wonderful works, and pour forth our souls to Thee in adoration and prayer. Every day how great is Thy loving-kindness to us. We bless Thee for the earth and the heavens, for our occupations, our friends, the powers of our bodies, the faculties of our minds, and above all for those holy affections, whereby Thou hast united us to Thyself. With all Thy other fatherly gifts, O God, give us hearts to love and obey Thee, that we may be Thy children not in name only, but also in deed and in truth. May we feel that Thou hast placed us here to grow in Thy likeness as well as to partake of Thy bounty, and let it be our chief aim and happiness to do Thy perfect will. We would not too earnestly desire that Thou shouldst preserve us from difficulties and sufferings, or that Thou shouldst multiply our years on the earth; but we would most fervently ask of Thee that life of

the spirit to which Thou wilt add length of days for ever and ever. Forgive our many past sins, whether against Thee or against one another, our selfishness, our thoughtlessness, our infirmities of temper, our slowness to perceive, and our coldness of heart towards the things of God. We deeply feel our own weakness and sinfulness, but Thou hast encouraged us to look to Thee for aid in all our earnest and steadfast endeavours. Let Thy blessed Son be with us; let Thy Holy Spirit attend us according to Thy gracious promise.

Thou who lovest all the members of the great human family! We would make mention to Thee of all our dear friends and all who need our prayers. Thou knowest their wants and their sorrows, the number of their transgressions and the measure of their repentance; sanctify them with us, we beseech Thee, in all things; let Thy grace be our portion, Thy service our employment; may we lie down and rise up before Thee, and have Thee in all our thoughts; and when the few short days of our pilgrimage are ended, do Thou of Thine infinite mercy bring us all to the regions of holiness and heavenly peace, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## FRIDAY MORNING.

**E**VERY DAY will we bless Thee, O Lord God; we will praise Thy name for ever and ever. We have had refreshing rest beneath the shadow of Thy wings; and now on the morning of another day, do Thou cause us to hear Thy loving-kindness, for in Thee do we trust; cause us to know the way in which we should walk, for we lift up our souls unto Thee. Let the memory of Thy goodness, which has been ever of old, and Thy gracious assurances by Thy beloved Son, draw us near to Thee in faith and love, that we may not receive with a doubtful mind anything Thou mayst send us, but may give ourselves up humbly and devoutly to be led and taught by Thee. May Thy will be our will, Thy purpose our purpose, Thy work our work; O Father, may Thy spirit dwell in us, and make us entirely Thine. After our many daily sins and weaknesses, we cannot rely upon our own strength, but Thou wilt both forgive and strengthen Thy children, who turn unto Thee with their hearts. We would be thoughtful how we may walk as in Thy sight, watchful against

our temptations and mindful of things unseen; we would prepare our souls for a closer communion with Thee and Thy holy Jesus. May no earthly business or affection divert us from our true homeward way; but as at Thy altar we serve Thee with our lips, so in the world may we serve Thee in our lives. Bless and hallow our relation to one another as members of a Christian family. Make us one in faith, in hope and in love, sharers of one another's sorrows, and helpers of one another's joys, and let no unkindness have place in us. O God! to Thy gracious care and protection we would in all things commit ourselves. Be with us and preserve us in our going out and in our coming in; lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us, and give us peace now and for evermore. Amen.

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 FRIDAY EVENING.

**G**OD OF GRACE AND OF MERCY! We would draw near to Thee with thankful, loving and obedient hearts, to present unto Thee our evening offering of prayer and praise. Another

day hast Thou continued to us Thy fatherly bounties. Thy gifts and the events of Thy Providence, and all the circumstances in which Thou hast placed us, are, we are sure, wisely adapted to promote our highest and eternal well-being;—O forgive us wherein we have neglected to employ them as from Thee, forgive us wherein we have failed in singleness of purpose, in industry, in perseverance and watchfulness, and help us to know and love and serve Thee as true followers of Thy dear Son. Make us pure in heart, that we may see Thee, and, by having Thee in all our thoughts become more like Thee, and feel that to do Thy will is our greatest blessedness, and that no real harm can approach us while we rest under Thy sheltering wings. Put away from us selfishness and malice and anger and all sinful desires and affections, and may we be kind to each other, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as Thou, through Christ, hast forgiven us, and ever follow that which is good, both among ourselves and towards all men.

Father Almighty! As the day is Thine, so also the night is Thine. May our meditations

of Thee be sweet, and after sleeping in peace may we rise on the morning of another day with hands and hearts consecrated to Thy service.

The prayers which we offer up for ourselves, we would offer up for all mankind, and particularly for our own dear friends, fervently beseeching Thee of Thine infinite goodness to unite us all with Thy family in Heaven, now in spirit and affection, and hereafter in actual presence, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## SATURDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU who hast watched over us during the hours of darkness, and caused the light of another morning to shine upon us, and continued to us our daily occupation, and our friends and all our powers, affections and hopes! As disciples of Thy holy Jesus, we would come to Thee with heartfelt gratitude, to acknowledge in Thy good gifts, not only an all-wise and almighty hand, but also the hand of a God of infinite love, and to entreat Thy further blessing on us this day that it may be so employed as to fulfil in us Thy gracious purposes. Be Thou with us when we sit in the house and when we walk by the way, and amid all the intercourse and business of life. May we undertake nothing which we cannot beg of Thee to prosper. May we go to no place where we could not hope for the presence of our divine Master and Saviour. In all that shall happen, give us the calmness and evenness of spirit which become those whose trust is in Thine unfailing care. May we never be impatient while our Father in Heaven is leading and teaching us, and may we never have

any doubt of the issue of what Thou ordainest for us—if we ourselves strive to do Thy will. Make us gentle, forbearing and affectionate towards one another, that we may never be betrayed into any act or word of unkindness, but may do all we can to promote each other's highest well-being. Fix our thoughts and desires and aspirations on things above, and let us every day make some progress in our heavenward pilgrimage.

Merciful Father! Thou knowest all our past sins,—how many and how great they are; may they render us more humble, watchful and diligent for the time to come, and do Thou forgive us and send down Thy spirit to strengthen and guide us.

O God! Thou alone canst supply our wants, whether temporal or spiritual. Thou wilt never leave us or forsake us—Thou wilt not let us want anything that is for our good. We would pray, if it be in accordance with the plans of Thy loving-kindness, that this day may be healthful to us, and bring with it success in our earthly pursuits; but, above all, let our portion be in the blessed things of Thy kingdom, in



holiness and piety, in peace of conscience and the joys of Thy Spirit, in the love of all our brethren, and in communion with Thee, and with our Saviour, and with Thy saints, for ever and ever. Amen.

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SATURDAY EVENING.

**A**LMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED GOD! pour upon us the spirit of grace and supplication, that we may ascend in mind and heart to Thy dwelling-place, and worship Thee truly in the spirit of Thy dear Son. As we look back on the week which is now just drawing to a close, how many reasons do we see for thankfulness to Thee, and how many encouragements to commit ourselves to Thee in well-doing without an anxious care! Thou hast continued to provide for all our wants; Thou hast taught us with Thy fatherly wisdom, and led us with Thy fatherly hand; Thou hast kept us from evils which we have deserved, and done more and better for us than we could ask or conceive. Our own hearts condemn us, that we have not offered to Thee in our daily lives a less unworthy tribute of

gratitude and praise. We have often forgotten Thee in the multitude of Thy bounties; we have hastily followed our own wayward inclinations, when a little thoughtfulness would have shown us the way in which Thou wouldst have us to go. But, O merciful Father, do Thou hear the sighings of our contrition, and take not from us Thy favor and presence. As days and weeks roll on, make us deeply mindful of the measure of our days, and the account which we shall soon have to render up at the awful throne of judgment, and grant us to grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and in fellowship with him, and bring forth, in ever greater measures, all the fruits of the spirit—love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.

We would implore Thy blessing, O God, on all our absent friends. Remember those whom we do not remember, and be their ever-present Protector and Helper. Unite us to Thy family in Heaven in the bonds of the same faith, and a holy hope, and an unfailing charity. Thou who sleepest not and art never weary, receive us now under the shadow of Thy wings for this

night. May we awake with thoughts and feelings suited to the sacred duties of Thy house. We will wash our hands in innocency, so will we compass Thine altar; and, O do Thou so kindle the fire of devotion on the altar of our hearts, that on the morning of Thy holy day, our worship may mingle with that of Thy blessed angels, and we ourselves be accepted of Thee as humble disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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### Third Week.

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#### SUNDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY GOD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER! who didst as on this day create the light and command it to shine upon the face of the deep, and who didst as on this day bring again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, and who didst as on this day send down on Thy apostles Thy most holy Spirit! We humbly and heartily thank Thee for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and especially for the unspeakable blessing

of the Christian Religion whereby Thou hast united us to Thyself by the most endearing ties, and given us an inheritance reaching through all ages. The Heaven of Heavens is not able to contain Thee, and yet art Thou pleased to manifest Thy presence amongst the sons of men by Thy signal favors. Make, we earnestly beseech Thee, our bodies and souls temples pure and holy, ready for devout meditations, for communion with Thee and Thy holy Jesus, and for the habitation of Thy sacred Spirit. Cast out from us everything that is impure, all worldly affections, all covetous desires, that not one thought or feeling may be entertained by us, but such as may be like perfume, breathing from the altar of incense, and not a word pass our lips but may have the accent of Heaven upon it, and rise acceptably to Thy throne. O Lord, our God! fill every faculty of our nature with dispositions for religion, and enlarge our capacities that we may draw nearer to Thee, loving Thee above all things, and worshipping Thee with all lowliness and fervor, until we be admitted to Thy heavenly and everlasting temple. We would further entreat Thee, gracious Ruler,

to receive into the fellowship of our prayers our fathers and brethren, our friends and relations, all that have desired our petitions and all that need them. Grant an especial portion of Thy Spirit to the ministers of Thy Gospel, that, by a holy life and a faithful ministry, they may work mightily in leading souls to Thee. Give to Thy people the spirit of wisdom and obedience and zeal and devotion and charity. Make Thyself known to those, who have never known Thee, and bring home those who have gone astray from Thy ways. Pitifully behold the sorrows of our brethren; and mercifully forgive all our sins. 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## SUNDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD OUR GOD! once more before this holy sabbath draws to a close, would we ascend in spirit to Thy dwelling-place, and with all lowliness and fervor pour out our souls to Thee in adoration and prayer. Thou givest us temporal blessings, that we may thirst after spiritual; Thou fillest us with spiritual blessings in Jesus Christ, that we may long for the accomplishment of them in eternal life. Thou pitiest us, when we have no compassion for ourselves, and art still careful for us when we neglect Thy mercies. Thou art always doing more and better for us than we can ask or conceive. Above all, by creating us in Thine image, after Thy likeness, Thou hast given us a capacity of such excellent glory, that we may become Thy children. Great and marvellous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty; let Thine own doings magnify Thee, according to the greatness and multitude of Thy bounties. As for us, we can only praise Thee by acknowledging ourselves unable to praise Thee as we desire. Shed abroad Thy love in our hearts, and teach us how to

show our love for Thee, and how to live and labor so as to please Thee. Enlighten our eyes that we may walk in the light of Thy countenance. Thou who as on this day didst raise Thy beloved Son from the dead, and make him the first fruits of them that slept, grant that we through him may rise from the death of sin to a life of righteousness, and as we believe him to have ascended into the Heavens, so may we also in mind and heart thither ascend, and dwell with him continually at Thy right hand. We would now consecrate to Thy service and commit to Thy keeping our bodies and souls, beseeching Thee to take charge of them this night and protect them from all evil. Look graciously, heavenly Father, upon every member of this family. Bless us in all our possessions, and in our going out and our coming in, and in all that we put our hands unto. But, above all, bless us with the choicest spiritual blessings, with a pure heart and a sound mind; with a sure trust in Thee and a superiority to mere worldly desires; with a grateful sense of Thy kindness and a soul full of love; with the forgiveness of our sins; with a knowledge of Thy

will and a care to perform it; with the assistance of Thy Spirit, and life everlasting. We would commend unto Thee also, all whom we love, and, O Father, Thy whole human family; do Thou convert the unconverted, and bring us all into Thy kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY God! the fountain of all goodness and happiness, who by Thy word and by Thy Spirit dost conduct Thy servants in the ways of holiness and heavenly peace, winning them by Thy invitations, and encouraging them by Thy promises, and endearing them by the perpetual testimonies of Thy loving-kindness! Wherewithal, O Thou most High, shall we come before Thee, and how shall we render unto Thee the honor that is due unto Thy name? How shall we take upon ourselves to speak to Thee? Thou art infinitely blessed in Thyself, as well as the source of all blessings to us. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty;



all that is in the Heavens and in the earth is Thine. By raising us up to behold the light of another morning, Thou hast given us a fresh proof of Thy gracious presence. Thou hast renewed to us Thy bounties; and now we beseech Thee help us to renew our desires and endeavours to serve Thee with true filial hearts. We are entering upon the active duties of the week; be with us and protect us and guide us in all our undertakings. Enable us to be diligent, upright, and faithful in our several employments and stations. And do Thou who alone art wonderful in counsel and excellent in working, give us wisdom to direct our affairs, and crown all with Thy blessing. What the events of this day may be we know not, but we know that they are under Thy direction and subject to Thy control, and that during our earthly pilgrimage Thou wilt send us all things that are needful for us. May we not envy the prosperity of evil doers, but commit our way unto the Lord in well-doing, and wait patiently for Him. Sanctify to us our enjoyments and our trials. Bless us in our present circumstances, and fit us for any changes Thou mayst see fit to ordain.

As every day brings us nearer to our last day, so may it render us wiser and holier, and be richer in the fruits meet for repentance, so that our last days may be our best days, and we may be found watching and ready at our great Master's second coming!

Accept these our prayers, most gracious and merciful Lord God,—accept, pardon, and bless us; and for all the good gifts we have received or now enjoy, or hope for from Thy bountiful hands, enable us to show our grateful thanks by our lives as well as express them by our lips; and let it be our frequent employment now, as we trust it may be hereafter, to utter the memory of Thy great goodness, and to sing of Thy praise, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## MONDAY EVENING.

**O** GOD, who hast made all things by Thy power, and art wonderful in all Thy doings, but who art most wonderful and glorious of all in Thy works of pity and love! we would come unto Thee to offer up our evening tribute of

gratitude and adoration. Whatever we are or have or can do is from Thee; Thou art our refuge and our strength, and the lifter-up of our heads, and Thou hast encouraged us to look forward to another and a better world hereafter. We thank Thee, O God, for all Thy goodness to us, but especially for permitting and inviting us to draw near to Thyself through Thy Son, our blessed Saviour and Mediator. Teach us how to love Thee as we ought, and may the sweet memory of Thy past loving-kindness cause us always to feel that nothing will be wanting to us in the future that is necessary to fit us for serving Thee with that sincerity, readiness, and gladness, which Thou desirest from Thy people. Only let our own hearts be right with Thee, then will all be well with us. Give us, we beseech Thee, such a true sorrow for our sins, as shall enable us to embrace all the requisite means, how bitter soever, for rooting sin out of our souls, and do Thou forgive us and send down Thy Holy Spirit to aid and strengthen us. Give us a wise and sober understanding, and increase in us the graces of faith, hope and charity, of humility, meek-

ness, patience, and all christian virtues and affections. Suffer us not to be among those faithless christians who for a time believe, but in the season of temptation fall away. And now, Almighty God, take us and all who are dear to us into Thy most gracious protection; give Thy holy angels charge concerning us, defend us from the dangers of the night, and keep us in perpetual peace and safety, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## TUESDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER! who dwellest in the light, which no man can approach, in whose presence there is no night, in the light of whose countenance there is perpetual day! We, Thy servants, whom Thou hast preserved during the past night, and who live by Thy power this day, bless and glorify Thee, and earnestly desire to walk in Thy paths, and fervently pray to be defended by Thine Almighty hand, and blessed by Thy fatherly Providence. May this day be holy and peaceable, all its events and occupations healthful to our bodies

and profitable to our souls. With Thy Spirit as our guardian and our guide, may we fear nothing that may happen to us, and steadfastly fulfil all our duties as disciples of Thy dear Son. Make us so deeply to repent of our sins, so carefully to reform our conduct, so diligently to watch over our actions, and so industriously to do all our duty, that we may never any more, either by sudden or secret temptations, be deluded into a forgetfulness of Thy gracious wishes and designs for us. O may it be the work of our lives to obey Thee, the joy of our souls to please Thee, the end of all our hopes, the perfection of our desires to live and die as in Thy sight, and dwell with Thee in the holiness and blessedness of Thy kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name and in whose words, in behalf of ourselves, and all our friends, and all Thy servants, we humbly and heartily pray; 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver

us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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TUESDAY EVENING.

**G**OD AND FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST! Thy name is great, Thy goodness infinite, Thy power hath no bounds, Thou art the God and Lord of all, blessed for evermore. Look down in mercy from Thy dwelling in the Heavens, and hear our supplications and prayers. We give Thee humble and heartfelt thanks for all the benefits, both temporal and spiritual, which we have so richly received from Thy hands. Grant that we may have a due sense of Thy endearing gifts, and through them rise to an ever greater knowledge and love of Thee, and more earnest desire to do Thy will. Let Thy Holy Spirit govern our words and deeds, our thoughts and intentions, our intercourse with one another, and our communion with Thee. May we confess our sins with a real sorrow, and beg for pardon with a steadfast determination to amend our lives, and ask for Thy help because we will use

it. Give us, we beseech Thee, all that we need for the performance of our duty, and work in us everything by which we may please Thee, and do Thou so sanctify us, and direct all the events of Thy Providence, that we may ever draw nearer to Thee while we live, and after death be admitted into Thy heavenly and everlasting presence.

Almighty God, who ordainest the sun to be a light by day and the moon and the stars to be a light by night, vouchsafe to receive us and all who are dear to us into Thy fatherly keeping this night and for ever, through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**O** God, who art the Fountain of life and health, of truth and peace, of holiness and of love, who givest to them that want, who pardonest them that repent, who comfortest them that suffer, and who hearest the prayers of all them that humbly and fervently call upon Thee! We thank Thee for Thy protection and blessing during the past night, and praise Thee for all Thy loving-kindness, and adore Thee for Thy perfections, and rejoice in Thy salvation; and to Thy gracious care we commend our souls and bodies, and all our interests this day. Take from us all blindness of heart, and carelessness of spirit, all impiety and wilful ignorance; create in us a love of holy things, and grant us true repentance and the forgiveness of our sins. May we never any more willingly transgress Thy holy laws. Withdraw not from us Thy help in our need, or Thy comfort in the day of affliction. Try us not beyond our strength, and never smite us but with a Father's rod. Rescue us from the evils we have done, and preserve us from the evils we have deserved. Sustain us in the



trials of this world, but above all deliver us from the calamities of that world which is to come. Though in the things wherein our consciences do not accuse us, we are not justified but by Thy loving-kindness in Christ Jesus, yet do we hope in Thy mercy and beg of Thee that Thou wilt pardon and keep us this day and evermore; sanctify and save us, bless us at home and abroad, in the works of our calling and the exercises of religion, in our persons and all our relations; make us to do what pleaseth Thee, and to be what Thou hast designed us to be, and to receive what Thou hast promised, through our dearest Lord and Saviour. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER! We rejoice that notwithstanding our many sins and our great unworthiness, Thou invitest us to come boldly to Thy throne of grace, that we may find mercy and help in time of need. Every one of us hast Thou watched over and blessed throughout this day, else we should have been bowed down in grief and desolation,

instead of assembling in Thy presence with the voice of joy and praise. Thou hast continued to us the uses and beauties of the world, our several callings in it, and the sweet ties of friendship; and by memory and faith Thou permittest us to hold fellowship with the loved and the great who have left the world and ascended to Thee. Every day will we bless Thee, O Lord God, for Thy goodness and loving-kindness to the children of men. But most of all would we at all times magnify Thy holy name for our most precious Christian privileges, for bringing us near to Thyself by Thy dear Son, and encouraging us to look forward to an eternal blessedness above all that the eye hath seen or the heart of man conceived. Merciful Father! Thou knowest far better than we do how imperfectly we have lived as the heirs of so great a salvation. Forgive our infirmities of thought and temper, our corrupt words and unholy deeds, and our coldness of heart, — forgive all our sins, not only those of which we are conscious, but also those to which we are as yet blind, or else awaken us to a consciousness of them that we may repent; and let

us no more have part with the workers of iniquity. Let us be joyful in nothing but that which pleaseth Thee, and sorrowful for that only which doth displease Thee. Strengthen us each day more and more by Thy Holy Spirit that we may grow in grace and holiness during the whole of what remains of our lives. Remember, O God, our dear relations and friends, and make them sharers of the blessings which we ask for ourselves. Because Thou art our Protector, therefore in the shadow of Thy wings will we rejoice and take our rest. We will not be afraid of the terror by night nor of the pestilence that walketh in darkness. Teach us, by sleeping beneath Thy care night after night, to close our eyes peacefully in our last sleep, and having lived in Thy favor may we die with Thy blessing, and at the day of Judgment have our portion in the resurrection of the just, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## THURSDAY MORNING.

**O** LORD our God! look down from Thy habitation in Heaven, and from the throne of Thy glory hear the prayer of Thy servants, who would now bow down before Thee. We humbly and heartily thank Thee for all the blessings and favors Thou hast bestowed upon us; for creating us in Thine own image; for preserving us daily by Thy good Providence; for causing us to be born in a Christian land; for redeeming us by Thy dear Son; for the assistance of Thy Holy Spirit to guide, comfort and sanctify us; and for the glorious inheritance which Thou hast prepared for them that love Thee and keep Thy commandments. We also thank Thee for the many temporal bounties which we have received from Thy hands, for the refreshing rest and sleep of the past night, and our protection from dangers and accidents; and for all the pleasures and conveniences, as well as the necessaries, of life. O may we always delight to praise Thy holy name, and, above all Thy gracious gifts, love Thee our great Benefactor.

We would commit to Thy keeping, O Lord, and desire to dedicate to Thee for this day, our bodies and souls and all our possessions; and since, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without Thee, we earnestly beseech Thee to help us with Thy grace, that all we do or suffer may tend to Thy glory and our own enduring well-being. Enlighten our minds with a true and thorough knowledge of our duty and strengthen us to perform it steadfastly. Give to us a meek, humble, and quiet spirit, a charitable and a friendly, a holy and a useful conversation; may we deny ourselves and make it our chief study to benefit others and to please Thee. O heavenly Father, enable us to fulfil Thy commands, and then command what Thou wilt; prepare us for any change that may await us, and then ordain whatsoever Thou seest to be best; do with us in all things as is good in Thine eyes, only grant us patient and penitent spirits; make our service acceptable to Thee while we live, and our souls ready for Thee when we die, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## THURSDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD GOD! who hearest prayer and art nigh to all that call upon Thee in truth; we are moved by our own necessities, and encouraged by Thy daily mercies to renew our supplications at the throne of Thy grace. And we beg of Thee who fashionest the hearts of the sons of men, to prepare our hearts that we may now come into Thy holy presence, and call upon Thy blessed name in an acceptable manner.

For all the known and for all the unobserved favors, deliverances, visitations, opportunities of doing good, and fatherly discipline, which Thou hast vouchsafed to us, we heartily thank Thee; and we fervently beseech Thee to let Thy love so abound in our hearts that we may perform with a holy gladness whatever is well-pleasing in Thy sight. Pardon, O Lord, our many past sins and negligences; pardon our relapses into the sins, of which we have repented. Let us not commit ourselves to rest this night with either a guilty conscience or a careless heart.

Give us a wise, a sober, a patient understand-

ing, a devout, a religious, a courageous spirit, chaste and temperate thoughts, a firm trust in Thy Providence and strength against all temptations. May Thy will, revealed to us by Thy beloved Son, be the guide of our conduct and regulate all our desires. And, daily receiving, as we do, wonderful manifestations of Thy unwearied and tender love, may our love to one another be likewise unwearied and tender, and show itself abundantly by sympathy with the sorrowing, help to those who are in distress, and a constant readiness to do good unto all.

We would now, O God, commend ourselves to Thy care for the hours of darkness. Thou who art the friend of all who put their trust in Thee, take us and all who are dear to us under Thy most gracious protection; O may we feel Thy presence this night and always, and increase in Thy Holy Spirit more and more, till we come to Thine everlasting kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## FRIDAY MORNING.

**G**LORY BE TO THEE, O THOU SUPREME  
RULER, who hast given us sleep to refresh  
our weakness, and hast renewed our strength for  
the duties of another day! Thou directest  
worlds in their courses, and watchest over the  
humblest child in its slumbers. Never for one  
hour dost Thou forget to be gracious to any  
of Thy children throughout Thy boundless  
universe. Accept our unfeigned thanks for all  
the mercies from day to day bestowed upon us;  
and we beseech Thee, who workest in us both  
to will and to do, to add this to Thy other  
favours, that we may always make it our first  
care to present our souls and bodies to Thee  
a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in Thy  
sight. Possess our hearts with such a deep  
sense, not only of our obligations to and  
dependance upon Thee, but also of Thy holiness  
and love and infinite perfections, that to do  
Thy will may be our delight as well as our  
duty.

Give us grace, O Lord, to desire only what  
is necessary for us, and to be content with



what Thou seest to be so;—not to be anxiously troubled at the loss or want of anything but Thy favor, but to take in good part whatsoever may befall us, acknowledging it to be appointed by Thy all-wise Providence, and not to come to us by chance.

Forgive us, O Lord, our past sins and negligences, and grant that this day we may omit no part of our duty, and teach us to observe and value Thy kindnesses as becomes those who have received so much more than they deserve.

Give us, O Lord, a mild, a peaceable, and a humble spirit, that remembering our own infirmities, we may bear with those of others; that we may think lowly of ourselves and not be angry when others think lowly of us; that we may be patient towards all men and easy to be entreated.

Give us, O Lord, a heart full of Christian zeal and charity that we may be united to one another by holy ties of friendship and brotherhood, and may always desire to do one another good. Give us a true understanding of and love for Thy word, the bread which nourisheth unto eternal life.

Finally, O Lord, be our guide unto death, in death our comfort, and after death our everlasting portion, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**FRIDAY EVENING.**

**H**OW excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O God, and what encouragements hast Thou held out to us to put our trust under the shadow of Thy wings. Thou art the bountiful giver of the good that our souls desire, and the gracious withholders of the punishment which our sins deserve. From Thee cometh all our help! O suffer us not to be insensible and unthankful to Thee, and enable us to live in a manner less unworthy of Thy manifold and unspeakable mercies. Possess our hearts with a holy fear of Thy displeasure, and a sincere hatred of sin, and an earnest reverence, and an unfeigned faith, and a clean conscience, and a tender regard for the good of our brethren. Let us never dissemble, or attempt to excuse or palliate our own evil-doings, nor ever take pleasure in discovering or be severe in judging the faults or failings of

others. Our iniquities, we confess, are many and grievous, yet do they admit both of number and measure, but Thy goodness and power know no bounds. Do Thou, therefore, forgive us, and O grant us such conquests over our sins, and fortify us so effectually against temptations, and cause us to advance so prosperously in the ways of holiness, that all the time we continue in this mortal body—we may be perpetually doing Thee some acceptable service, such as Thy Providence may call us to. We entreat Thee for all who have done us good, or are in any way endeared to us, that Thou wilt hear them for us, and us for them, and according to Thy great bounty preserve and govern them, and return all their kindness sevenfold into their bosoms. And now, O Lord, look down we pray Thee upon this dwelling, and drive far from it all evil! Let Thy holy angels dwell in it, and preserve us in peace, and let Thy blessing ever be upon us, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## SATURDAY MORNING.

**B**LESSED ART THOU, O LORD OUR GOD, who hast refreshed us in our weariness, and hast shed down upon us the light of another morning, and hast permitted us again to meet together to present to Thee our supplications and devout offerings. Grant us Thy grace, we beseech Thee, that of Thy own good gifts we may give back to Thee, and be enabled to serve Thee in faithfulness and truth, and to render Thee daily praise for all Thy works. We would draw nigh to Thee, O Father Almighty, with a consciousness of Thy power,—O Father of mercy, depending on Thy goodness,—O Lord incomprehensible, adoring Thine infinite excellences. Make us diligent in our business, and give such success to our honest endeavours as Thou seest to be expedient for us; and teach us contentedly to submit to anything that may happen to us by the allotment of Thy wise Providence. In all our passage through this world and our manifold concerns in it, suffer not our hearts to be too much set upon it; but always fix our eyes upon the blessed hope

of everlasting life, that we may make all things seen and temporal minister to those things which are unseen and eternal, and which Thou hast prepared for Thy faithful children in Heaven. Merciful Father, we heartily repent of our past sins; may we increase our watchfulness where we have shown our weakness. Into Thy hands we commend ourselves and all who are dear to us, and all our interests, beseeching Thee to be ever with us to direct, sanctify and govern us in the ways of Thy laws and in the works of Thy commandments, that through Thy most mighty protection here and ever we may be preserved in body and soul, to serve Thee the only true God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## SATURDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER! who hast brought us to the close of another week; we thank and praise Thee for Thy great goodness to us in giving us the necessaries of life, and so many sources of enjoyment, and so many inducements to well-doing, and above all in

enabling us to become the disciples of Thy dear Son, and in setting before us the unspeakable happiness of the life to come. Pardon, O Lord, our offences, and amend what is amiss in us, that as we grow in years, we may grow in grace, and the nearer we come to our earthly end the better we may be prepared for the heavenly society. Take from us ignorance, hardness of heart, and too much carefulness for worldly things. Make us a household fearing Thee, and submitting ourselves to Thy good pleasure, putting our whole trust in Thy mercy, and delighting above all things to do Thy will. Bless all our relations and friends and benefactors; those that are good, preserve in goodness, and convert the wicked. And hear us, gracious Father, when we commend to Thy tender compassion all that are in error and sincerely seek the truth; all such as are destitute of the necessary means of instruction; all that are engaged in sinful courses, that they may have strength to break their bonds; all that labor under trials and afflictions; all sick and dying persons, that they may omit nothing that is necessary for their souls' peace; and also such

as never pray to Thee or have Thee in their thoughts, that they may see the danger and wretchedness of living without Thee in the world. O blessed God! who neither slumberest nor sleepest, be pleased to watch over us this night; make us mindful of the time when we must lie down in the dust; and since we know neither the day nor the hour of our Master's coming, grant that we may always live in such a state that we may never be afraid to die, but that whether we live, we may live unto the Lord, or whether we die, we may die unto the Lord, so that living or dying, we may be Thine, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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### Fourth Week.

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#### SUNDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY God! We bless Thy name that it hath pleased Thee to add to our lives another day of sacred rest! We are not worthy of Thy great mercies to us, nor can we render due praise for them; yet do Thou

accept our humble offering of thanksgiving and adoration. When we consider Thy glorious perfections, especially as they shine forth in the character of Jesus Christ, we are emboldened to call Thee Father, and would approach Thee with filial love and confidence. Grant that we and all our fellow-christians may ever strive to live so as to be less unworthy of our endearing relation to the infinite Lord of Heaven and Earth! May our progress in holiness and our fruitfulness in good works show that we are indeed alive unto God and quickened by His Spirit. May our best thoughts become fixed principles within us, and our heavenly desires a new nature, and our spiritual purposes and aspirations grow into a constant practice of holy living. When we go up to the house of prayer with our brethen, O Lord, pardon us that we are not prepared according to the preparation of Thy sanctuary, and make us feel that the place where we commune with Thee is truly sacred ground. Vouchsafe to us, we beseech Thee, the guidance and aid of Thy Holy Spirit, in our communion with Thee and with Jesus Christ, and in all our meditations. Give us a sincere love for



the truths of the Gospel, a teachable heart and an obedient will. O that a heavenly frame of temper and spirit may be begun in us here by means of our pious intercourses with Heaven amidst the services of this day. Bless all who are called to any office or ministry in the church of Thy dear Son, replenish them with truth of doctrine and holiness of life, and hear the prayers of all Thy people so far as They are not contrary to Thy divine will. O Father, we cannot be sure of the fitness of what we desire for ourselves, but what Thou doest we are sure is best for us; hearken, therefore, not so much to our petitions as to the voice of Thine own mercy. We would now humbly and fervently offer up the prayer which our blessed Saviour gave to his disciples: 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 trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## SUNDAY EVENING.

**O** HOLY FATHER! how great was Thy love, how tender Thy concern for mankind in their sins, that Thou didst not spare even Thy own best beloved Son, but didst allow him to die upon the cross for the sake of Thy great human family! Blessed be Thy sacred name for all Thy goodness and mercy through him; may we reverence and love him with full and grateful hearts. Blessed be Thou for his resurrection, and ascension, and that Thou hast given him a seat at Thy own right hand, whence he shall come in the glory of the Father to judge the world, and to gather his faithful disciples together into his kingdom. We would say with the angels, as poor mortals are able, Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. O Father, make us of the kingdom of Thy dear Son. Grant Thy own children those best of all gifts, a right and firm faith, a steadfast and well-grounded hope and a never-failing charity. Give us such a lively view of Heaven by the eye of faith, and so raise our minds thither, that we may have our thoughts,

our desires, and our conversation there, even while we dwell on earth. When we go forth amidst the active scenes and dangers of the world, let us never doubt, that by Thy assistance through our Lord Jesus, we may get the mastery over our temptations, and that Thou wilt place us in no circumstances, in which we may not be redeemed from iniquity. May we never murmur or be impatient under any trials Thou mayst send us, but always find rest and comfort in the knowledge that they are ours by our heavenly Father's will. Sanctify to us the dispensations of Thy providence, and bless us in every condition and relation of life. Remember especially all whom Thou hast endeared to us by kindness or acquaintance, all who pray for us or desire our prayers; and send down Thy abundant grace and benediction upon all Thy people in all places of Thy dominion. May Thy faithful children enjoy Thy presence and increase in Thy spirit more and more, until at length they come to dwell with Thee and with our blessed Saviour, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU, who hast kept us alive to this day, and hast refreshed us during the night season, renew Thy mercy to us together with this morning light. Thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to rejoice, lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us, and make us glad with the tokens of Thy love, and throughout the day may we be sensible of Thy living presence. Graciously look upon Thy servants now going forth to their duties in the station of life to which Thou hast called them. May Thy blessing be upon our persons, our labors, and all that belongs to us. Enable us to resist the temptations of the flesh and the world, and to follow steadfastly whithersoever Thy good Spirit leads,—to be serious and holy in our lives, true and just in our dealings, watchful over our thoughts, words and actions, diligent in business and temperate in all our enjoyments. Give us grace that we may earnestly improve the talents Thou hast committed to our trust, and that no worldly pleasure or occupation may ever divert us from the

thoughts of the life to come, and from the work which Thou hast set before us. And that we may serve Thee with a quiet mind, forgive us the things whereof our consciences are afraid; and turn from us those evils, which we most justly have deserved. Grant that our past sins may never rise against us in judgment. Give us that christian spirit of charity, which is not easily provoked, that we may follow peace with all men, bearing with the infirmities of others, and forgiving their offences, as we desire to be forgiven of Thee. Since Thou alone knowest what is best for us, may we never murmur at Thine appointments, nor doubt their wisdom, but rejoice to be able to resign ourselves to Thy fatherly care. O. Lord God! cause us to know the joyful sound of Thy Gospel, not only by the hearing of the ear, but also by blessed experience, that our Christian love may work all the miracles of grace, till from grace it pass to glory, from earth to Heaven, from duty to reward, from the weakness of a commencing and growing affection to the consummation of eternal charity, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

**E**VER-PRESENT AND ALL-SEEING God, we have nothing to disclose unto Thee; for that which we know only in part Thou knowest perfectly. Our inmost nature stands revealed before Thee. All the circumstances in which we are placed, and all the influences which act upon us, Thou seest, because Thou ordainest. Thou compassest our daily path and our nightly bed, and art acquainted with all our ways. Wherefore, then, should we speak unto Thee of that which Thou knowest? Gracious Father, Thou condescendest to the weakness of Thy children. For our sakes Thou invitest us to hold private and social communion with Thee; and Thou acknowledgest as true worshipers those who worship Thee in spirit and in truth. Make us of that number we beseech Thee.

Assist us in our endeavours to realize Thy presence by reflection, to see Thee always with the mental eye, though with the bodily we cannot see Thee. When we walk in the midst of our fellow-men, even while those whom we best love surround us, may we inwardly discern

the purifying and strengthening, cheering and consoling presence of an infinitely greater, wiser and better being than they; and when they are scattered every man to his own home, and we are left alone, may such solitude seem not to us solitude, but may we be able, each one of us, to say with our Master, "and yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me."

Thou *art* with us, O Father, every where and always; in the busy world, round the domestic hearth, and in the private closet,—when the light shines upon us, and when the darkness covers us. Thine eye of love is never closed. Thine arm of power is never withdrawn.

Through the past day, though we have not kept Thee always before us, we have been always before Thee; and all Thy dealings towards us, and in our behalf, have been in mercy. During the coming night, when we cannot watch for ourselves, Thine eye which never slumbereth will be upon us.

Give us, if it please Thee, sweet and refreshing repose. May our waking thoughts be holy and peaceful. Vouchsafe to impart to us of Thy

good Spirit, when we commune with our own hearts upon our beds, and are still. And may our silent meditations, and our healthful and moderate slumbers, alike contribute to prepare us for the active duties of the following day. Hear and answer our prayers, O God, we beseech Thee, for Thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## TUESDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU INFINITE AND ETERNAL SPIRIT, by whose power the world in which we live, and the countless worlds by which we are surrounded, were created from nothing; by whose wisdom they and all that they contain are constantly directed; by whose goodness they are preserved in order and filled with happiness and beauty; and without whose support they would all return to the nothing from which they came; we Thy dependent offspring come to Thee this morning with the grateful acknowledgment of our dependence on Thy bounty and protection. By Thee our daily returning wants are supplied; by Thee our dwellings are





defended; our blessings are preserved; our feet are kept from falling, our eyes from tears, and our souls from death.

Weak and ignorant though we are, we rejoice to know and to feel that we are under Thine all-wise control, and that we are surrounded by the presence of the omniscient and eternal God. And especially do we thank and bless Thee, O Father, for Thy love in the gospel of Thy Son Jesus Christ; for the heavenly radiance which it sheds on the path of our duty, through the gloom of affliction, and on the bed of death. We thank Thee that it enables us to look beyond the bounds of mortality and time, and defy the power of change and death; and that it promises to the faithful servants of God, and true disciples of Christ, those glorious rewards of a future life, which eye hath never seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived.

All is from Thee; all joy, all support, all improvement, all hope. O may we become worthy of Thy mercies, by receiving them as from Thee, and using them according to Thy will; by renouncing and avoiding all that is evil, and following after and cleaving to all

that is good; by living and dying in Thy fear and love.

Hear us, O Father, in Heaven where Thou dwellest, and accept us in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; as whose disciples we address Thee, and through whom we ascribe unto Thee everlasting honors. Amen.

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TUESDAY EVENING.

**G**RACIOUS GOD! the day is Thine, and the night also is Thine. At Thy command the sun ariseth, and man goeth forth to his work and to his labor, until the evening; and it is Thou who makest the darkness and it is night. We thank Thee, O Father, for these grateful alternations of action and repose. We thank Thee for the refreshment which sleep brings to our wearied powers; for the rest which it permits us to enjoy from fatiguing labor, and from painful thought; for the renewed strength which it gives both to our bodies and our minds.

May we use this good gift of Thine as not abusing it. Ceasing for a short season, by Thy

kind permission, from works of love and duty, may we only do so to begin them again at Thy bidding with enlarged experience and increased vigor. May we awake from peaceful slumbers to enter with cheerful diligence on our daily task; and may we resolve and endeavour by Thine assistance to make each future day an improvement upon those which have preceded it. When we look back, O heavenly Father, as we would now do, upon the days and hours that are gone to return no more, we see abundant grounds of sorrow and self-condemnation,—more than sufficient reason to beat upon our breasts and say, “Lord, be merciful to us sinners.” How great, O God, from hour to hour, and from day to day, has been Thy tender mercy, and how imperfect our obedience! What numberless blessings hast Thou showered down upon us, and how small is the return that we have made of active service, or even of grateful feeling! Truly we have been unprofitable servants. Pardon us, O Father, we beseech Thee. Thou knowest our frame, Thou rememberest that we are dust. Grant us Thine aid that we may grow in grace. Enlighten our minds with

knowledge. Purify our hearts from sin. Strengthen and establish our good resolutions. May the close of our lives be better than the beginning. May our last days be our best days.

With prayer for ourselves we would not forget to unite intercession for those whom we love. Bless, we beseech Thee, with the blessings which Thou seest that they most need, all our dear absent friends, those who are united to us by the close ties of kindred, and those who have been made one with us by acts of kindness and feelings of social sympathy. May all our brethren of the human race find favor in Thy sight.

Searcher of hearts! Thou knowest the wants of every creature. Adapt Thy mercies to our several necessities. Bestow upon us what is good, though we ask it not. Withhold from us what is evil, though we earnestly desire it. As disciples of Jesus Christ we pray for every blessing, and through him ascribe unto Thee never-ending praises. Amen.

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## WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**O** GOD, OUR CREATOR AND HEAVENLY FATHER, the giver of all good, upon whom we depend now and forever! we, Thy children, thank Thee for the watchful care of Thy Providence, by which we have been preserved during the defenceless hours of the night, and brought in safety to the light of another day.

Thy mercies, O God, are renewed to us every morning. Let our gratitude and dutiful obedience to Thee bear some proportion to Thy favors, that we may be a family fearing Thee and glorifying Thy name among men. We desire to set Thee, our God, before us in all our ways, that Thy blessing may constantly go along with us, and that we may never undertake anything which we dare not beg of Thee to prosper.

Assist us, gracious God, in the discharge of all social and relative duties. May it be our prevailing aim to bear a nearer resemblance unto Thee, the original of all perfection, and to proceed, after the example of Jesus Christ Thy Son, in the practice of all goodness. By the expectation of a happy immortality, may our

virtue be supported and our peace secured, that we may live in a state of continual improvement, and preparation for that heavenly kingdom into which nothing impure or unholy shall ever enter.

O God, to the direction of Thy wise and unerring Providence we do entirely commit ourselves. Safe under Thy protection, and happy in Thy favor, we would cheerfully follow where Thou pleasest to conduct us. Be with us this day and all our days. Be also with our friends, to keep and preserve them both in body and in soul. In health and in sickness, in life and in death, may we lift up our hearts unto Thee, and make Thy goodness alone our confidence and joy; and may we so pass through the changing scenes of the present world, that we may be prepared for the pure and unmixed happiness of Thy glorious presence for evermore. Mercifully hear and accept us, O God, through Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**O** THOU in whom we live and move and have our being! may we reverence Thy glorious Majesty and adore Thine infinite mercy. Assist us by Thy grace when we would approach Thee. May we not draw near Thee with our lips when our hearts are far from Thee, but serve Thee acceptably, with reverence and fear and love. While we ask for pardon for the past and renewal of heart, while we pray to Thee for purity and holiness, may we deeply feel our need of them, and earnestly desire to receive them. We bless Thee, O Lord, for Thy renewed daily mercies; may we have a renewed sense of Thy love to us, and may our grateful hearts constantly rest on Thee, and be disposed to trust Thee for all that is to come.

May we know, to our peace and joy, the glorious truths of the gospel, applying them diligently to our own hearts and lives. May they deepen our sorrow for sin; may they strengthen our desires for amendment, and finally lead us to life eternal.

May we never doubt Thy power and will to

save and bless Thy creatures. And in all the changes of our days may we look up to Thee as our Father and our Friend.

When we go to rest, be pleased to give us peaceful and composed spirits, that we may begin and end every day with Thee, and in the morning may we still rejoice in Thy love and care.

Bless us in our various intercourses with our fellow-creatures: keep us free from sin, and grant that in all things we may find occasion of good. Have pity upon those who may be in error or danger, deliver them in Thine own good time, and strengthen them in their difficulties. Relieve the sick, the poor and the afflicted. Bless our friends and relations, and unite our hearts in love and in obedience to Thee. May we be conscientious and faithful, single-hearted and sincere.

As children of Thy family may we look forward to Heaven as the home of our rest, and do Thou prosper us on our way, so that we may escape the manifold dangers of earth, and find everlasting rest and peace with Thee, through Jesus Christ. Amen.



## THURSDAY MORNING.

**O** LORD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we beseech Thee, through Christ our Mediator and Saviour, to give us Thy Holy Spirit, to awaken and guide our devotions, so that they may be acceptable to Thee. Thou hast been our Preserver during the defenceless hours of sleep, and now Thou art granting us the comforts of another morning. We would begin the day with a deep sense of our dependence upon Thee. Strengthen us for its duties, support us under its trials, and prepare us for its events. Dispose us to employ our time and influence in such a manner as to benefit mankind and glorify Thee. Make us wise to that which is good, and give us the understanding to depart from evil. In our care for our temporal, let us not overlook our spiritual welfare. In making provision for the life that now is, let us not forget that which is to come. Keep us in the knowledge and fear of Thee all the day long. Make us diligent and faithful in our respective callings and stations. May we walk uprightly before both God and man. If we are tempted, suffer

us not to yield; but enable us to resist the temptation. If we are troubled, may a sense of Thy presence give us tranquillity of soul.

Bring us to the close of the day in health of body, peace of conscience, and grateful for Thy continued goodness. May we spend the day as we shall wish we had spent it, when we come to die.

To our prayers for ourselves we join our intercessions for all our fellow-beings. Supply their wants; and guide them into a saving knowledge of Thy truth as it is in Jesus; by whom we render to Thee worship and praise for ever. 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



## THURSDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD our God! There is none like Thee in Heaven or on earth. Thou alone art good; Thy works are very great; and by Thy Providence the universe is governed. Praise and glory be unto Thee, O Father; let our mouths and souls and all Thy creatures unite in blessing Thy holy name.

When we were not, Thou madest us; when we went astray from Thee, Thou broughtest us back again. What can Thy servants say before Thee? We can only acknowledge our unworthiness, and greatly humble ourselves in Thy sight. Accept, O Lord, our desire to give Thee infinite praise.

Let Thy grace, through Thy Son Jesus Christ, always accompany us, and make us to be continually given to good works. Preserve us from the cares of this life, that we may not be entangled therein, and from every obstacle to our growth in righteousness.

Grant us to know that which is truly worth knowing, to love that which is worth loving, to esteem that highly which to Thee is precious,

and to shun all that is in Thy sight evil or unclean. Incline our hearts to Thy precepts, and give us a fulness of wisdom and spiritual understanding.

Teach us, O Lord, in all things to do Thy will, teach us to live holily and devoutly before Thee.

We pray for those who are in trouble, that Thou wilt deliver them, for those who have wronged us or wished us ill, that Thou wilt turn their hearts, and for all whom we have grieved or injured, knowingly or in ignorance, that it may please Thee to recompense them sevenfold with Thy favors.

We earnestly confess and lament our sins, and entreat Thy forgiveness. Take away from us the spirit of suspicion and strife and anger and whatsoever may lessen charity and brotherly love.

We offer up whatever there may be in us that is good, that Thou mayst amend and perfect it and make it acceptable to Thee.

Bless and sanctify us, O Lord, that we may become Thy holy habitation, and that nothing may be found in us, which shall offend Thy pure

eyes, and may we all, day by day, go forward unto eternal life, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## FRIDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU who sendest out the light and preparest the morning! we draw nigh to Thee with our humble offering of thanksgiving and praise, beseeching Thee to bestow upon us the greatest of all blessings, the spirit of Thy children, that we may worship Thee acceptably, and trustfully commit ourselves to Thy keeping and guidance, and in all our several duties and relations at home and abroad make it our first care to do those things which please Thee. May we feel how delightful it is to carry out the purposes of infinite wisdom and infinite love. Help us to guard against our infirmities of temper, our selfishness, our carelessness, and especially against all our easily besetting sins. We would strive to avoid the snares of temptation and even the appearance of evil; but if from our forgetfulness or neglect we should wander from Thy ways, as we have so frequently

done in the days that are past, O pity us as a father pitieth his children, and bring us back with chastened and more steadfast hearts. We would offer up to Thee our bodies and souls, our words and actions,—do Thou sustain and lead us, move us to everything which Thou desirest of us, and deliver us from all evil; and since through our infirmities we cannot perfectly serve Thee in this life, grant that we may follow on to know and love and rejoice in Thee, until, through Thy mercy, we dwell with Thee in Heaven, and our joy in Thee shall be full! We would supplicate Thy fatherly loving-kindness, O God, for all whom we ought to remember in our prayers. Vouchsafe to them and to us those gifts which Thou seest to be good for us, both for this life and that which is to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us; the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen.

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## FRIDAY EVENING.

**A**LMIGHTY God! who, though Thou art the Lord of all worlds, art yet not far from any one of us! Thou art the strength of our souls and the light of our minds. Thou hast given us every thing we possess, health, friends, all the means of promoting our own and others' well-being and happiness. In all the good we do Thou workest in us, and without Thee we can do nothing. Everything that happens comes from Thee. We are impatient because our whole life is as a moment; but, in the light of eternity, we shall see that often what we desired would have been unsuited to us, and what we earnestly strove to avoid was, by Thy all-wise Providence, wonderfully adapted to our true wants. Ever-blessed Father! Thou lovedst us when we could neither know nor love Thee; and Thou hast not only made us all we are and given us all we possess, but hast also promised us infinitely more. Thou didst visit us in our sins not to condemn us, but with the voice of Thy forgiveness. Send down, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit; let it enlighten us, and

teach us how we may do Thy will and become less undeserving of Thy mercies. Give us the faith, the hope, and the love we need. Enable us ever to raise our eyes to Thee, and to feel that Thou wilt give to Thy children only what is best for them. Lift up our hearts that we may become like Thy Son Jesus Christ, who did always those things which please Thee. May we serve Thee, not only faithfully, but with delight. May we fear only Thy displeasure and eternal sorrow. We would leave ourselves in Thy hands, and make it our only anxious care, that we may fulfil and in nothing act contrary to Thy gracious designs. O Lord, while we sleep, do Thou watch over us, and keep guard around our beds and in our hearts.

In Thy dear Son's own words, we would now conclude our 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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;



for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



## SATURDAY MORNING.

**O** HOLY FATHER! we would bow before Thee with gratitude for that love by which Thou hast preserved us during another night, and permitted us once more to join in this our morning prayer. We thank Thee for this day to which Thou hast awakened us, and we pray that, as it passes, we may continually remember that it is given us by Thee. Grant that we may waste none of it in idle thoughts and pleasures, but that our conversation may be in Heaven, and our delight in serving Thee. O purify our intentions, and make clean our hearts within us. Take from us all pleasure in sin, all evil passions and inclinations, all selfish desires, all unclean and unhallowed thoughts, and make us pure and holy, full of love and gentleness, meekness and humility, earnestness and devotion. Grant that our hearts may be fixed on Thee, and that all our daily labors and lowliest actions may be done in Thy service and to Thy glory. If we

should this day fall into sin, O God, we pray Thee to chasten and correct us, and bend our wills to Thine. May our repentance be earnest and true, and may Thy forgiving love blot out all our transgressions. In the midst of our sorrows, temptations and sins, may we listen to our Saviour's voice and come to him; and may our joys be so raised and blessed, as to prepare us for the joys of Heaven. And unto Thee, O God, in joy and in sorrow, on earth and in Heaven, be all blessing and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## SATURDAY EVENING.

**A**LMIGHTY God, who hast brought us in peace and safety to the close of another week, we bow before Thee with humble and thankful hearts. Thy mercies are renewed to us every day. Thy love has preserved and blessed us during the whole of our past lives. But when we think how little good there is in our thoughts and ways, how little happiness we have caused to others, how idly we have employed the talents Thou hast given us, and how forgetful we have

been of Thee, we can only come unto Thee with broken and contrite hearts, praying for Thy mercy. O Father, forgive us, we beseech Thee, and help us to lead more faithful and devoted lives. May gratitude for Thy mercies, and love for him who lived and died to save us from our sins, fill our hearts. May the quiet thoughts of the night, and the holy duties of the morrow lead us, with repentant spirits, to seek more earnestly after Thee. If Thou shouldst permit us to live another week, may we receive more cheerfully and thankfully whatever Thou mayest send; and may we be more kind and considerate one to another, more faithful and diligent in doing what is right, more watchful in guarding our tempers and passions, and more earnest in seeking after the good and happiness of all around us. Be with us, O God, in our joys and in our sorrows; comfort all who are in affliction and distress; help us all to love and serve Thee better; and grant that at last we may all be gathered around Thee, and live in Thy presence for evermore. These, and all our prayers, we would offer unto Thee, in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

**Fifth Week.**

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## SUNDAY MORNING.

**G**OD AND FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!  
How happy ought we to be that as disciples  
of Thy Son we can know and worship Thee!  
How thankful ought we to be that we are in-  
vited to bow down before Thee in our home,  
and ask Thy blessing on us as a family, and  
to meet in Thine earthly courts with our  
brethren who keep holy-day, to adore Thee,  
and dwell on the memory of Thy goodness and  
seek Thy mercy and forgiveness! How can we  
ever sufficiently praise and bless Thy name, that  
Thou, who in times past didst speak to our  
Fathers by the prophets, hast in these days  
spoken to us by Thy Son, Jesus Christ? By  
reading, by meditation, by prayer and by joining  
our fellow-christians in public worship, may we  
become this day more wise, more holy and more  
devout. Thou from whom is the preparation of  
the spirit, unite us to our fellow-worshippers  
in the bonds of Christian friendship; and may  
our minds be open to receive Thy truth, and our

hearts ready to feel it, and may we bless the hand which is reached forth to save us. O that our hearts may be so touched with our great Master's spirit, that we may become disciples well-pleasing both to him and to Thee.

Shed the dews of Thy heavenly grace on all worshipping assemblies. May they so hear that their souls shall live. Give to Thy ministers and all who aid them in their sacred work a large measure of Thy Spirit, that with industry and wisdom, fortitude and charity, they may labor to extend Thy kingdom on earth. May pure and undefiled religion go forth in its power to the healing of all nations, and may the world be filled with Thy glory.

Holy Father! when this sabbath shall have drawn to a close, may we feel that it has been to us one of the days of Heaven. We ask all in the name of our blessed Mediator and Saviour, in whose words we would conclude our 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against

us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## SUNDAY EVENING.

**M**OST GRACIOUS GOD! we give Thee our humble and heartfelt thanks for permitting us this day to draw near to Thee with our Christian brethren, in the public services of Thy sanctuary, to offer up to Thee our fervent praises and prayers, and to hear and meditate on Thy holy word. Pardon, we beseech Thee, all our wanderings of mind and the poverty of our best affections, and whatever Thou mayst have seen amiss in us during the day, in any of our thoughts, desires, expressions or actions; forgive the iniquities of our holy things, and of Thy great goodness accept our sincere though weak endeavours to serve Thee. And as Thou hast graciously taught us the way in which we should walk, so do Thou, we beseech Thee, help us throughout the week to testify our fervor and steadfastness by a blameless conversation, by humility, meekness, temperance, righteousness,

peacefulness and charity. By the use of the means of grace, which Thou hast vouchsafed to us, may we daily grow in the knowledge of and likeness to our Lord Jesus Christ; and do Thou grant that when we shall cease to praise and serve Thee on earth, we may join the spirits of the blessed at Thy right hand and dwell in Thy heavenly presence for evermore.

Remember, O Lord, for good, those who are united to us by the ties of kindred or affection; and remember according to their several necessities all our brethren of the great human family. Be a Friend to our friends, and a God of consolation to the sorrowful and distressed. Be Thou a shield to the young, and a staff to the aged. Be Thou the strength of the needy, a refuge from the storm, and a shadow from the heat. Make Thyself known to those who do not know Thee, until all the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

O Lord, hear us from Thy dwelling-place; forgive all our sins; and do more for us than we are worthy to ask, for Thy mercy's sake through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Saviour. Amen.

## MONDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY God, the Giver of every good and perfect gift, we thank Thee for Thy loving care and tender mercy, and for all the blessings which Thou dost bestow upon us. We thank Thee, that wherever two or three are gathered together in the name of Jesus, there is he in the midst of them. Grant, we beseech Thee, that we may feel His presence now and at all times. O may holy thoughts of Thee, and a living desire to serve Thee, fill our hearts this day. May the truths and promises of Thy word help to guide us through the dangers and difficulties of life, and to comfort us in its sorrows. In all the blessings of friendship, and of communion with those who are dear to us, may we feel Thy Spirit dwelling amongst us, and hallowing our intercourse. And if all earthly friends are taken from us, and we are left here alone, still may we remember, that Thou art the Father of the fatherless, and nigh unto all who draw nigh unto Thee. Thus may we always raise our hearts to Thee in thankfulness and prayer.



And if we go from Thee, into the ways of sin, O Father, lead us back in sorrow and humility, and help us to love Thee more, and serve Thee better. Bless us, we beseech Thee, throughout this day. May Thy peace be with us. Make this our home the abode of love, and self-denial, and devotion to Thy service. If it is Thy will to visit us with affliction, may it work out good to our souls. If one of us suffer, may we all suffer; and if one of us rejoice, may we all rejoice. Make us of one mind and heart, and grant that this spirit of our Saviour may become the spirit of all mankind; that we may all learn to love one another as brethren, and to live in cheerful and active obedience to Thee our heavenly Father. Thus may we be fitted by faith and prayer, by true repentance and a more holy life, to go where Jesus has gone to prepare a place for those who love him, and to dwell with Thee for ever. Amen.



## MONDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, almighty and ever-living God, by whose Providence both the day and the night are governed! Vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, as Thou hast this day preserved us by Thy goodness, so still this night to shadow us under the blessed wing of Thy most mighty protection, and to cover us with Thy heavenly mercy, that we may be preserved from everything which might injure us either in body or in soul; and may we remember that as this day is now drawing to a close, so our lives will soon draw to a close, and may we earnestly strive to finish our work of life, before the night cometh in which no man can work.

Give us, O Lord, sorrow for our past sins, steadfastness in the hour of temptation, thankfulness for Thy benefits, fear of Thy judgments, love of Thy mercies, and mindfulness of Thy continual presence. Give us a waking and diligent spirit, that we may seek to know Thy will, and so far as we know it may perform it faithfully.

Give us a wise, a sober and a thoughtful

mind, that we may have such an understanding of divine truth, and such clear conceptions of duty, as never from want of knowledge to stray from Thy ways.

Give unto us, O Lord, a faith that shall never be reprov'd, a hope that shall never make us ashamed, a charity that shall never fail, a confidence in Thee that shall never be discompos'd, a patience that shall never faint, and a noble Christian courage that shall enable us through evil report and through good report to proclaim Thy laws and glorify Thy name.

Give us grace, O Lord, that as we call ourselves disciples of Thy dear Son, so the light of his doctrine and life may shine into our hearts, and dispel our darkness and direct our steps, and lead us at last to the unspeakable blessedness of Thy heavenly kingdom.

Give, O Lord, to our land, fair seasons, good government, unity, peace, and above all, heartfelt devotedness to Thee, and rich measures of Thy Spirit.

Finally, O Lord, bless our relations and friends; unite us all ever more closely to one another by ministrations of love, and to Thyself by

frequent communion and by deeds of holiness and piety, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## TUESDAY MORNING.

**O** LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, whose eyes are upon all the ways of the sons of men, from their very entrance into the world; with our souls we have desired Thee, and with our spirits will we seek Thee early in the morning, that at the day-spring we may praise Thee, and give Thee thanks at the rising of the sun! We offer ourselves to Thee, O Lord, to do in us and with us as seems to Thee most meet. Let this day, we beseech Thee, add somewhat in knowledge and in practice to yesterday. Grant that we may daily grow and for ever continue steadfast in Thy love, that we may pay Thee all the affection we wish we could, all our poor measure of what we owe! We humbly ask of Thee a healthful body, a clear understanding, & grateful contentment with the condition which Thou mayst assign to us, and diligence in whatsoever our hands find to do;

we pray for a sanctified, a charitable, and truly religious spirit, resolute and constant in all holy purposes. Thou, O God, wilt reveal Thyself to such as seek Thee, in measures large as their capacities admit, or at least as their necessities require; may we seek Thee, obey Thee and love Thee as dear children. Take from us all evil imaginations, all impurity of thought, all pride, envy and falsehood, all covetousness, anger and hatred, all remembrance of injuries, everything that is contrary to Thy will, O most holy God! Preserve us from evil counsels and rash enterprises, and make Thy way straight before us. Behold, O Lord, our desires are before Thee, but Thou seest how feeble and ineffectual are our best endeavours without Thy Spirit to help and guide us. Pardon our many past sins, and do for us that which we are not able to do for ourselves. May all holy affections be established within us and manifested in our lives, and so while we live may we enjoy the testimony of a good conscience and the hope of Thy favor, and after death may we enter into the blessedness of Thy heavenly kingdom, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## TUESDAY EVENING.

**O** GOD, Creator and Ruler of all things, who hast given us the cheerful light of day for our labors, and the sweet stillness of night for our rest; we thank Thee for Thy patience with us notwithstanding our many and great provocations, for all the directions, assistances and comforts of Thy Holy Spirit, for Thy continual care and watchful Providence over us through the whole course of our past lives, and particularly for the mercies and benefits of the past day, humbly beseeching Thee to give us grace to show our sense of Thy blessings to us by a sincere and earnest obedience to Thee. We acknowledge our manifold transgressions of Thy righteous laws in thought, word and deed; O merciful Father, make the remembrance of our past sins so grievous to us, that we may steadfastly watch against all sin in the future, and then do Thou forgive us. May we desire nothing so much as to be of the number of Thy faithful servants. Work in our hearts a true faith, a purifying hope and an unfeigned love of Thee; give us that meekness, humility and contentedness, whereby we

may always possess our souls in patience; make us diligent in our duties, strong to resist temptations, and so moderate in our enjoyments that they may never prove to us a snare. May we be just and upright in our dealings, quiet and peaceable among our neighbors, full of compassion towards the afflicted, and always ready to do good according to our ability and opportunity.

O Thou, who art love and dwellest in love, we would remember before Thee our friends and those of our fellow-men of whom we know only that they are Thy children. Especially would we entreat Thee of Thy goodness to comfort and succour all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity. And we also bless Thy name for all Thy servants departed this life in Thy holy fear, beseeching Thee to enable us so to follow their good example that with them we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom.

We would now commit ourselves to Thy fatherly care. Keep us in health and safety, and grant to us peace and rest, but above all, O holy Father, let Thy will be done in us and

by us this night and evermore, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING.

GRACIOUS LORD GOD! who didst bid the light to shine out of darkness, who hast refreshed us with sleep during the night, and hast raised us up on another morning, we beseech Thee of Thy great mercy to receive our humble praise and supplications. We come before Thee trusting not in our own righteousness, but in Thy promises declared unto mankind by our Lord Jesus Christ. Make us children of the light and of the day, and give to us everything that Thou seest to be good for us. Thou hast caused the Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may receive them with a teachable disposition, and may embrace Thy word with pure affection and bring forth the fruits of the Spirit. Thou didst also send to us Thy best-beloved Son to deliver us from all iniquity, and make us the sons of God; grant that we may daily endeavour to walk in the blessed steps of his most holy life.



We confess, O Lord, our manifold sins, and are heartily sorry for them, and beseech Thee to pardon them. Give us a right understanding of ourselves, and enable us hereafter to serve Thee in newness of life; and since we are placed in the midst of so many and so great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright, grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us safely through all our temptations. In all troubles and adversities, whencesoever they oppress us, give us comfort and sure confidence in Thee. Increase our faith, inspire us with a lively hope, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of perfectness, without which, whosoever liveth is counted dead before Thee.

That we may truly please Thee, shed down upon us the *continual* dew of Thy blessing. O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed, give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that both our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that by Thee we being defended from the fear of our

enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness, for Thy mercy's sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**E**VER-BLESSED LORD OUR GOD! at the close of another day, in which we have experienced Thy care and goodness, we assemble together to adore and praise Thee, and to commit ourselves to Thy gracious keeping for the coming night. Thou art indeed too great to need our offerings, but Thou art also too good to disregard them, and we would bless Thee especially for assuring us that Thou art our Father, and that Thine ear is always open to the prayers of Thy children. O grant that we may never be unmindful of the hand that formed us, or refuse to listen to the voice that calls us to holiness and glory. It is our first care that our daily life may prove us to be a family of sincere Christians. May the religion of Jesus so possess our wills and pervade our affections, as to become a never-failing bond of union amongst us, to

animate us continually to well-doing, and to sustain us under all our trials. We humbly confess before Thee that Thy mercies have not always led us to devout obedience, but it is our earnest desire that we may wholly forsake our sins, and obtain Thy forgiveness. Thou, O God, knowest the wants we cannot feel and the thoughts we cannot utter, aid us, we beseech Thee, by Thy Spirit, and make us such as Thou wouldst have us to be. What in us is dark, do Thou illumine; what is weak, do Thou strengthen; what is erroneous, do Thou correct; and what is low, do Thou raise and support. Give us a tender sympathy with those who are in sorrow or pain, and in our conduct towards those who have done us evil, may we remember Thy compassion to us. To Thee would we commit ourselves, our friends, all our possessions and all our hopes. Dispose of us as Thou shalt see to be best. Shield us from danger during the hours of darkness, and when our days and nights on earth are ended, grant that we may behold each other in the light of eternal day, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THURSDAY MORNING.

**O** GOD, our Creator and Heavenly Father, the Giver of all good, upon whom we depend now and for ever, and by whose kind Providence we have been preserved during the past night, and have enjoyed quiet and refreshing sleep; we would joyfully come into Thy presence to offer up our morning tribute of thanksgiving and praise; and for the new day which Thou hast added to our lives we would here dedicate both our souls and bodies to Thee and Thy service.

Make us sincere in heart and uncorrupt before Thee, and just and upright in all our dealings with our fellow-men; and dispose us to acts of kindness towards them, to share in their distresses, and to rejoice in and embrace all opportunities of doing them good, and especially of promoting their eternal welfare.

Assist us also in the subjection of our passions and appetites to the laws of reason and true religion. It hath pleased Thee, the all-wise Disposer of all things, to appoint the different orders and ranks of men; enable us to be useful

in our several stations and capacities, and to discharge our duties towards each other with fidelity and diligence.

If it be consistent with Thy wise and gracious designs, we pray that we may be preserved from all dangers and sad accidents, and continued in health. But as we know not what is best for us, we would refer our outward estate wholly to Thee, and be solicitous only to be kept from the ways of sin, and to be carried forward in the paths of virtue and holiness, which lead to Thee and Thy heavenly favor.

These our humble requests we offer unto Thee, O Father, as the disciples of Thy Son Jesus Christ, whose holy example we ardently desire to follow, and in whose words we conclude our prayer for ourselves and others: 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## THURSDAY EVENING.

**O** ETERNAL GOD AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER! who this day and all our lives, hast graciously preserved, nourished and defended our souls and bodies, and made such fatherly provision for us, that of Thy loving-kindness, we have rich portions, not only in the creatures of earth, but also in that plentiful redemption, which we have by Thy most dear Son Jesus Christ; grant unto us, O merciful Father, Thy Holy Spirit, that, as our bodies now take their natural rest, even so our souls and minds, at the beholding of Thy goodness towards us, may quiet themselves in Thee, and have such inward pleasure and heavenly sweetness in Thy love, that whatsoever we may henceforth think, speak or do, it may be all in harmony with Thy most gracious designs for us, and to the honor of Thy hallowed name through Jesus Christ.

Teach us, O God, how we ought to love Thee, how thankfully we ought to praise Thee and how carefully we ought to labor to please Thee. Root out of our hearts all pride, envy and covetousness, all bitterness, anger and malice, and

whatever else is contrary to the precepts of the blessed Gospel, and sow in our minds the seeds of true religion and goodness, that we may be fruitful in every good word and work, and that our whole lives henceforth may be one continued act of filial love and piety.

And, O heavenly Father, may we love all our fellowmen as Thy children and therefore our brethren, and as those for whom, with ourselves, Thou hast prepared a holy and happy dwelling-place at Thy own right hand.

May Thy mighty hand and outstretched arm, O Lord, be our support; Thy mercy and loving-kindness in Jesus Christ our forgiveness and salvation; Thy truth and sacred word our instruction; and Thy grace and Holy Spirit our comfort and consolation unto the end.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## FRIDAY MORNING.

**A**LMIGHTY God, Father of mercies, we, Thine unworthy servants, do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless Thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; but, above all, for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech Thee, give us that due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we may show forth Thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Thy service and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days according to the Gospel of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Most merciful God! we are conscious that we have offended against Thy holy laws; and that though we have so often confessed our sins before Thee, we have yet continued to do many things which we ought not to have done, and to leave undone many things which we ought



to have done. Grant unto us, we earnestly beseech Thee, true repentance and Thy Holy Spirit that those things may please Thee which we do at this present time, and that the rest of our lives hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to Thine eternal joy.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that Thou wouldst be pleased to make Thy way known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for the good estate of the whole Christian church in all parts of the world, that it may be so guided and governed by Thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life.

Finally we commend to Thy fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed in mind, body or estate; that it may please Thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them

patience under their sufferings and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## FRIDAY EVENING.

**O** ALL-GRACIOUS GOD, the Father of spirits, and sovereign Ruler of the world! unto Thee we humbly come, the creatures of Thy power and children of Thy care. May it ever be our delight, as it is our highest honor and privilege, to draw near to Thee in communion of spirit. May all that is within us bless and hallow Thy holy name. May a deep gratitude for Thine unspeakable mercies, mingled with an awful sense of Thy divine perfections, ever abide in our souls.

O God, Thou art exalted far above all blessing and praise. Eternal in Thy glory, and without the shadow of a change, Thou dwellest in light, the King of Ages, incorruptible and invisible. Thy will is the law, as Thy favor is the light of the universe. Thou art the fountain of life and the giver of all good. On Thee we depend for life and breath and all things. O visit our souls with Thy mercy, and grant us Thy peace.

Happy is the man whom Thou choosest, and whom Thou bringest near unto Thyself. Happy are they whom Thou teachest Thy statutes, and guidest in Thy holy ways.

Unto us, though unworthy, be this grace given. We bring before Thee, O Lord, our foolish, weak and sinful hearts. We confess and desire to lament our manifold failings and transgressions, which justly provoke Thy displeasure, and bring the stain of guilt upon ourselves. Give us grace, O Father, to repent and to turn from all our evil ways with an earnest purpose of amendment. In mercy enable us to cleanse ourselves from every defilement both of flesh and spirit, and to strive to perfect

holiness in Thy fear. That which we have not known, teach Thou us: and whereinsoever we have known Thy will, but neglected to do it, make us sensible of our sin, and deliver our souls from condemnation.

Help us, O God, to be faithful and devoted followers of Thy holy and beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

May we partake of his spirit, and walk in his steps; and as he was not of this world, so may we not be of this world, but be partakers of a better hope. Especially may we walk in love, as he hath commanded us; seeking thus to fulfil his heavenly law, and truly to be members of his spiritual body. And as he came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many, so may we be ready in all things to deny ourselves and to serve our brethren, doing good to all men as we have opportunity.

So, in following Jesus, may God be with us evermore. Amen.



## SATURDAY MORNING.

**E**VER-BLESSED LORD GOD! in whom we live and move and have our being, and from whom cometh every good and perfect gift! Daily hast Thou spread our table and filled our cup, and Thou hast now renewed the cheering light of morning; O grant us such a sense of Thy goodness as may excite in our hearts a fervent love to Thee, and a holy desire to please and obey Thee in all things. We would consecrate to Thy service and commit to Thy keeping for this day and our whole lives, our bodies and souls, beseeching Thee to take charge of them, and make them less unworthy of Thy fatherly grace and benediction. Deliver us from an inordinate care for the things of the world, and give us such an entire acquiescence in Thy divine will and pleasure, such a perfect reliance on Thine infinite wisdom and goodness, that no envious nor discontented, no murmuring nor repining thoughts may have place in our hearts; and may we possess such a devout and thankful spirit, that whatever share of temporal good things Thou shalt be pleased to bestow

upon us, we may employ it to Thy glory, the good of others, and the eternal well-being of our own souls. Keep us temperate in our enjoyments and subdue in us all corrupt appetites and unholy dispositions. Forgive us, O merciful Father, that we have so often abused our advantages and misapplied our talents; and help us to perfect that good work of reformation, which we trust is already begun within us. May Christ's spirit be with us in all our duties and joys and trials throughout the day. Gracious Father, may it please Thee to bless and keep all Thy people; to give them increase of grace to hear meekly Thy word, to receive it with pure affection and to bring forth heavenly fruits. Strengthen such as do stand; comfort and help the weak-hearted; raise up them that fall; and finally give us the victory over temptation.

Almighty God! the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; we beseech Thee to have compassion on our infirmities, and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us as disciples of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SATURDAY EVENING.

**O** THOU, who in Thy great goodness and mercy hast brought us to the close of another day and another week; we would praise and magnify Thy holy name for Thy great loving-kindness to us, for our continued existence, for our opportunities of usefulness and improvement, for the friends by whom Thou hast surrounded us to aid and cheer us, for all who have done us good by their writings or their words or their example or in any other way; for sending to us Thy best-beloved Son to lead us home to our Father, for our instruction in Thy word, and the visitations of Thy Spirit, and the hope of a happy resurrection;—O holy Father, we thank and bless Thee for all Thy patience with us, and for all Thy known, and unknown bounties. Teach us, we beseech Thee, to use Thy gracious gifts in the spirit of Thy children. As days and weeks roll on, make us especially mindful that this world, with all its glory, passeth away, and may we serve Thee in an earnest Christian life, as those who are indeed looking forward to

dwelling with Thee hereafter in Heaven. May we feel how little it signifies that our outward man decays, if only our inward man grows and increases in piety and virtue until our death. May we be in this world as pilgrims whose chief affections are set on those things which are above. Forgive us the ill we have done to our fellow-men, and our ingratitude to Thee, and all our many transgressions; and do Thou abundantly help us according to what Thou seest to be necessary for us. Thou knowest all things, and canst do all things, and wilt consider our needs and infirmities, and extend mercy and relief in Thine own time and Thine own way, which are always best for us. Behold, O God, we commit ourselves and all who are dear to us to Thy sheltering care; guard us while we sleep, and when we go to Thy sanctuary with our brethren on the morning of another sabbath, may we lift up holy hands to Thee in prayer, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**Sixth Week.**

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**SUNDAY MORNING.**

**O**NE thing have we desired of the Lord, and that will we seek after, that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all our days, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to enquire in His temple.

We will offer in His sanctuary sacrifices of joy; we will sing and speak praises unto the Lord.

When Thou saidst, Seek ye my face, our hearts said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will we seek.

Thou hast given us that which is good, and our land yieldeth her increase; and above all, blessed Lord God, Thou hast visited and redeemed Thy people, and raised up a mighty salvation for us in the house of Thy servant David, as Thou spakest by Thy holy prophets, who have been since the world began.

But who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath

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not lifted up his soul to vanity, nor sworn deceitfully; he shall receive blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

We will wash our hands in innocency, O Lord; so will we compass Thine altar, that we may publish Thy name with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Thy wonderful works.

O send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead us; let them bring us to Thy holy hill and to Thy tabernacles; thus may we go to the altar of God, to God our exceeding joy.

Guide our feet, O Lord, in the path of Thy commandments, for therein do we delight.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Moreover by them are Thy servants warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.


Who can understand his errors? cleanse Thou us from secret faults.

Keep back Thy servants also from presumptuous sins: let them not have dominion over us: then shall we be upright, and we shall be innocent from the great transgression.

Let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer.

O Lord, we beseech Thee to keep Thy church and household continually in Thy true religion; that they, who do lean only upon the hope of Thy heavenly grace, may evermore be defended by Thy mighty power, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



## SUNDAY EVENING.

**O** GOD, we have heard with our own ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that Thou didst in their days and in the old time before them.

Who in the Heavens can be compared unto the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto our God? The Heavens are Thine; the earth also is Thine; as for the world and the fulness thereof, Thou hast founded them. Justice and judgment are the habitation of Thy throne; mercy and truth go before Thy face.

Through the tender mercy of our God, the day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound; they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance.

What shall we render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards us? we will take the cup of salvation and call upon His holy name.

O Lord, truly we are Thy servants, and the sons of Thy handmaidens.

Open to us the gates of righteousness, and we will go in at them. Then shall we not be ashamed, when we have respect unto Thy commandments. Thy word will we hide in our hearts, that we may not sin against Thee. Thy statutes shall be as songs in the house of our pilgrimage.

With our whole hearts have we sought Thee, O Lord; let us not wander from Thy ways. Wilt not Thou deliver our feet from falling, that we may walk before Thee in the land of the living?

Cast us not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

Make Thy way known upon earth, Thy saving health among all nations.

Defend the poor and fatherless, and deliver the needy.

Speak peace unto Thy people, and unto Thy saints, and let them not turn again to folly.

Let the sighing of the prisoner come before Thee; and according to the greatness of Thy power, preserve Thou those that are appointed to die.

As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord will be about His people henceforth and for ever.

O great King of Heaven and earth, Lord of all ages and Fountain of all goodness, accept the prayers which Thy servants have this day humbly offered up at Thy throne of grace, give unto every one of us what is best for us, cast out from us all evil, and work in us a fulness of holiness, of wisdom and spiritual understanding, that we increasing in the knowledge of God may be fruitful in every good work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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MONDAY MORNING.

**O** GOD, THOU art our God, early will we seek Thee; Thy loving-kindness is better than life; our lips shall praise Thee; we will bless Thee, while we live; we will lift up our hands in Thy name.

We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

We thought of Thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of Thy temple; honor and majesty

are before Thee, strength and beauty are in Thy sanctuary.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God.

The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear? The Lord is the strength of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?

We laid us down and slept, and we woke for the Lord sustained us.

On Thee will we wait all the day; remember, O Lord, Thy great goodness and Thy tender mercies, for they have been ever of old.

Search us, O God, and know our hearts, try us and know our thoughts, and turn us from every wicked way; but enter not into judgment with Thy servants, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

We will lift up our eyes to the hills, whence cometh our help; our help cometh from the Lord, who made Heaven and earth.

He will preserve our going out and our coming in; He will not suffer our feet to be moved.

Strengthen, O God, that which Thou hast

wrought for us; make Thy face to shine upon us and we shall be saved.

In the hour of temptation let Thy angel encamp round about us and deliver us.

Set a watch before our mouths; let not our hearts incline to any evil thing.

Whatsoever our hands find to do may we do it with all our might.

O Lord, show us the path of life; lead us to the fulness of joy in Thy presence, to Thy right hand, where there are pleasures for evermore.

O Thou most holy and perfect God, teach us to love one another with pure hearts fervently; to exercise forbearance and forgiveness towards our enemies; to recompense no man evil for evil, and to be merciful, as Thou, Father in Heaven, art merciful. Grant these our prayers, we beseech Thee, which we humbly offer up in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## MONDAY EVENING.

**T**HE LORD is nigh to them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in truth.

The eyes of all wait upon Thee, O God, and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest Thine hand and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and holy in all His works.

We will remember the works of the Lord; surely we will remember Thy wonders, O Lord, we will meditate on Thy doings.

Every day will we bless Thee, and praise Thy name for ever and ever.

Let our prayer be set forth in Thy sight as incense, and the lifting-up of our hands as an evening sacrifice.

Have mercy upon us, O God, after Thy great goodness, and according to the greatness of Thy mercies blot out our transgressions; and put Thy law into our hearts, that henceforth our feet may not slide.

We will meditate on Thy precepts, and delight ourselves in Thy statutes.

O visit us with Thy salvation, that we may see the good of Thy chosen, that we may rejoice in the gladness of Thy kingdom.

The day is Thine, the night also is Thine. Thou hast prepared the light and the sun, and Thou hast set all the borders of the earth.

In the shadow of Thy wings will we make our refuge; Thou who keepest us wilt not slumber.

We will commune with our hearts on our beds and be still; we would offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put our trust in the Lord.

Lord of all power and might, who art the Author and Giver of all good things; graft in our hearts the love of Thy name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of Thy great mercy keep us in the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the

kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## TUESDAY MORNING.

**C**OME, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker, for He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

O Lord our God, Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with honor and majesty; Thou coverest Thyself with light as with a garment; Thou spreadest out the Heavens like a curtain; Thou visitest the earth and waterest it; Thou settest the furrows thereof; Thou makest it soft with showers; Thou blessest the springing thereof. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys are covered over with corn. Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness.

Who is like the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high, and yet humbleth himself to behold the things that are in Heaven and on the earth? Who can utter His mighty acts? Who can show forth all His praise?

We will bless Thee, O Lord, at all times;

Thy praise shall be continually in our mouths.

We laid us down and slept, and rose again, for Thou, Lord, didst make us to dwell in safety; we awoke, and beheld, and our sleep was sweet unto us.

Cause us to hear Thy loving-kindness in the morning, for in Thee do we trust; show Thou us the way we should walk in, for unto Thee do we lift up our souls.

Thou, O Lord, desirest not sacrifice, else we would give it; Thou delightest not in burnt-offering; lo, Thou requirest truth in the inward parts, and in the inward parts Thou wilt make us to know wisdom.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities; for we acknowledge our transgressions.

Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us.

We will keep our tongues from evil, and our lips from speaking guile; we will depart from evil, and do good. Enlarge our steps under us that our feet slip not.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: defend us in the

same by Thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in Thy sight, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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TUESDAY EVENING.

**O**UR God, we cried unto Thee in the day-time, and Thou didst hear us; in the night-season we will not be silent.

Thy mercy, O Lord, is in the Heavens; Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds; Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; Thy judgments are a great deep.

How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O Lord! shall not the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings?

We will not be afraid of the terror by night nor for the arrow that flieth by day, nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor for the destruction that wasteth at noon-day; there shall no evil befall us.

When we are poor and in heaviness, Thy help will lift us up.

When the sorrows of death compass us, and the overflowings of ungodliness make us afraid, then in our trouble we will call upon Thee, and Thou wilt hear us.

And when at length we go hence and are seen no more, Thou wilt not leave our souls in the grave.

Thou, O Lord, hast been our dwelling-place in all generations; we will remember the days of old; we will meditate on all Thy works; we will muse on the work of Thy hands; we will stretch forth our hands unto Thee; our souls thirst after Thee as a thirsty land.

Blessed is he whose God is the Lord, who made Heaven and earth, the sea and all that is therein, who keepeth His promise for ever, who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong, who feedeth the hungry, who defendeth the fatherless and widow, who lifteth up the fallen, and who loveth the righteous as His own.

O Lord, remember not the sins of our youth, nor our transgressions, but according to Thy mercy remember Thou us for Thy goodness' sake.

Lead us, O Lord, in Thy righteousness; make Thy way straight before us.

As for us we will behold Thy face in righteousness; we shall be satisfied when we awake with Thy likeness.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and by Thy great mercy defend us from the perils and dangers of this night.

O Almighty Lord and everlasting God, vouchsafe, we entreat Thee, to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of Thy laws, and in the works of Thy commandments; that through Thy most mighty protection both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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### WEDNESDAY MORNING.

**O**UR voices shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will we direct our prayer unto Thee and will look up. Thou makest darkness, and it is night, and we lay us down to rest; the sun ariseth, and man goeth forth to his work and to his labor until evening. Thou appointest the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou waterest the

hills from Thy chambers, and the earth is filled with fruits. Thou causest the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works, in wisdom hast Thou made them all; the earth is full of Thy riches; and so is the great and wide sea.

All Thy numberless creatures wait upon Thee, that Thou mayst give them their meat in due season. That which Thou givest them they gather; Thou openest Thine hand, they are filled with good. Thou hidest Thy face, they are troubled; Thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. Thou sendest forth Thy Spirit, they are created, and Thou renewest the face of the earth.

Our tongues shall speak of Thy righteousness, and Thy praise all the day long.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of Him. Sacrifice and offering Thou dost not require; Lo, O God, we come to do Thy will.

Shew us Thy ways, O Lord, teach us Thy paths, lead us in Thy truth, and teach us, for Thou art the God of our salvation.

Hold up our goings in Thy paths, that our



footsteps slip not. Hide Thy face from our sins and blot out our iniquities.

We will set the Lord always before us; if He is at our right hand we shall not be moved.

Into Thy hands we commit our spirits, Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord God of truth.

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; pour down upon us the abundance of Thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the mediation of Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD OUR GOD, when we consider Thy Heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars which Thou hast ordained, what is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that Thou visitest him! Thou hast made him little lower than the angels and hast crowned him with glory and honor.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands, Thou hast put all things under his feet. All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field; the fowl of the air and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the sea.

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth!

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering and very pitiful, forgiving sins and saving in time of trouble.

Return unto your rest, O our souls, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with us.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives.

Among the generations of old, never, O Lord, hast Thou forsaken those who put their trust in Thee, or despised those that called upon Thee.

We will show forth Thy loving-kindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness every night.

O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.

We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity; but Thou, O Lord, art a

God with whom is forgiveness; and Thou art both able and willing to save all who truly repent and turn unto Thee.

Remember us with the favor which Thou bearest unto Thy people, and visit us with Thy salvation.

Thy word is a lamp unto our feet and a light in our path.

Let the wickedness of the ungodly come to an end, and establish the just in Thy ways.

Blessed be our Lord God from everlasting to everlasting, and let all the people say Amen and Amen.

O God, the protector of all who trust in Thee, with whom there is no shadow of darkness; defend us, we beseech Thee, from all the dangers and evil accidents of the approaching night, and keep us by Thy watchful Providence in peace and safety now and for ever.

O Lord, we beseech Thee mercifully to receive the prayers of Thy people who call upon Thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## THURSDAY MORNING.

**B**LESSED art THOU, O Lord our God, and the God of our fathers, who turnest the shadows of death into the morning, and renewest the face of the earth; who scatterest the darkness by this return of light, and hast commanded night to give place to day; who hast delivered us from the terror by night, and from the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and hast caused the voice of joy and health to be heard in our dwelling.

We will tell of Thy loving-kindness early in the morning, and of Thy faithfulness in the night-season.

By Thy word, O Lord, were the Heavens made, and all the hosts of them by the breath of Thy mouth. Thou didst lay the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed for ever.

The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear Him to deliver them.

How great is Thy goodness, which Thou hast laid up for them that love Thee, and which Thou hast prepared for them that put their trust in Thee.

Thou deliverest our souls from death, and our feet from falling, that we may walk before Thee in the land of the living.

Blot out, we pray Thee, as a cloud our transgressions, and as the thickness of the morning cloud our sins.

We have gone astray like a sheep that is lost, O seek Thy servants, and let us no more forget Thy commands.

Our souls cleave to the dust; quicken Thou us according to Thy word.

Make us to delight in that which is good; yea, let Thy law be our meditation and our delight.

In the season of temptation, be not Thou far from us, but make haste to help us.

Thou hast set the solitary in families; may we walk in our home with a perfect heart.

Let our mouths be filled with Thy praise and with Thy honor all the day.

Be gracious unto us, O Lord; we will wait upon Thee; be Thou our arm every morning, and our salvation in every time of trouble.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose blessed Son was manifested that he

might destroy the workings of evil, and make us also sons of God and heirs of eternal life; grant us, we beseech Thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves even as he is pure, that when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him, and be admitted to dwell with him and with Thee in Thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.



## THURSDAY EVENING.

**O** THOU that dwellest in the Heavens, unto Thee do we lift up our eyes. Of old didst Thou lay the foundation of the earth, and the Heavens are the work of Thy hands. They shall perish, but Thou shalt endure; yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt Thou change them, and they shall be changed; but Thou art the same, and Thy years shall have no end. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.

Blessed be the Lord God, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

He truly is our rock and our glory, our health and our defence.

O God, Thou art worthy to be praised with all pure and holy praise; let Thy saints and angels and all Thy creatures praise Thee; let all those that love Thy name be joyful in Thee.

Thou wilt hear the desire of the humble, and wilt prepare their hearts.

Remember not our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers, neither take Thou vengeance on our sins; but turn unto us according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies; and in the time of our temptation deliver us in Thy righteousness.

Be Thou our strong habitation, whereunto we may continually resort.

Like as a Father pitieth his children, so dost Thou, O Lord, pity them that fear Thee.

We will rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; we will depart from evil, and do good.

Hide us under the shadow of Thy wings; our meditation of Thee shall be sweet.

We have called upon Thee, and Thou wilt save us; evening and morning and at noon

will we cry aloud, and Thou wilt hear our voice.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities, which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts, which may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## FRIDAY MORNING.

**B**LESS the LORD, O our souls, and all that is within us, bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O our souls, and forget not all His benefits: who forgiveth all our iniquities; who healeth all our diseases; who redeemeth our lives from destruction; who crowneth us with loving-kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth our mouths with good things, so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

O Lord, how precious are Thy thoughts unto us; how great is the sum of them! if we would count them, they are more in number than the sand of the sea.



We will extol Thee, O God our King, and we will bless Thy name for ever and ever.

Teach us the way that Thou choosest; let integrity and uprightness preserve us.

Let us do nothing that will be a grief or an offence of heart unto us; but may our doings be such that Thou mayst remember us for good concerning them, and spare us according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

If Thou art strict to mark iniquity, O Lord, who shall stand? But Thou art gracious, and ready to forgive, slow to anger, and of great kindness.

Fill our souls with that spirit of pure and undefiled religion, which will lead us to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world.

May we so fix our hearts in Thee as never to be afraid of evil tidings.

In the season of distress, let, we pray Thee, Thy merciful kindness be our support.

Thy words will we lay up in our hearts, and speak of them when we sit in the house, and when we walk by the way, when we lie down, and when we rise up.

Rejoice the souls of Thy servants, for unto Thee do we lift up our souls.

Thou wilt show forth wonderful things in Thy righteousness; Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth.

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of Thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by Thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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FRIDAY EVENING.

**O** LORD, Thou hast searched us and known us; Thou knowest our downsittings and our uprisings; Thou understandest our thoughts afar off; Thou compassest our path and our lying down, and art acquainted with all our ways.

Whither shall we go from Thy spirit, or whither shall we flee from Thy presence? If we ascend up into Heaven, Thou art there; if we make our bed in the grave, behold Thou

art there. If we take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there shall Thy hand lead us, and Thy right hand shall hold us. If we say, Surely the darkness shall cover us, even the night shall be light about us. Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee, but the night shineth as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee.

How wonderful are the works, which Thou hast done, O Lord, and Thy thoughts, which are to us-ward! If we would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.

To the Lord our God belong mercy and loving-kindness, but we have rebelled against Him, and have not obeyed His voice. O Lord, hide not Thy face from us, put not Thy servants away in Thy displeasure; Thou hast been our help; leave us not, neither forsake us, for Thou art the God of our salvation.

We will treasure up Thy word in our hearts, that we may no more sin against Thee.

Give us understanding, that we may know Thy testimonies.

Save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance; feed them also and lift them up for ever.

We will remember Thee upon our beds; and when we, awake, we shall be still with Thee.

O Thou God of grace and mercy, if it be accordant with Thy all-wise designs, grant unto Thy servants now before Thee health of body and a prosperous outward lot; but, whatever Thou mayst see fit to withhold from us, grant us, we beseech Thee, the pardon of our sins, sanctification of our spirits, peace from Heaven, and the salvation of our souls in the day of the Lord Jesus.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## SATURDAY MORNING.

**O** THOU, who hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come. Thine is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the Heavens and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, and Thou art exalted above all.

Thou art our mighty protection and strong stay, a shelter from the heat, a refuge from the storm, and a help against falling.

Thou givest us life and health and every blessing; and above all, Thou hast blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Jesus Christ.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; His eyes are ever upon the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.

With all Thy other gifts, O God, give us wisdom, that we may be among Thy children; let Thy loving-kindness and Thy truth continually preserve us.

Teach us the way that Thou choosest, for therein is our delight.

Search us and know our hearts; try us and know our thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.

O Lord, though our iniquities testify against us, deliver us for Thy name's sake; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against Thee.

The sacrifices of God are a broken heart; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Suffer us not to be conformed to this world, but let us be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

May we love Thee, our heavenly Father, with all our hearts, and with all our souls, and with all our minds, and with all our strength, and our neighbour as ourselves.

O God, the Strength of them that put their trust in Thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without Thee, grant us the help of Thy grace, that in keeping of Thy commandments we may please Thee both in will and deed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## SATURDAY EVENING.

**T**HE LORD hath commanded His loving-kindness in the day-time, and in the night-season also our song shall be of Him, and our prayer unto the God of our lives.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth His handy-work; day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

Thou, O Lord, endurest for ever, but as for us, we are as a sleep; we spend our years as a tale that is told.

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

And when our last day comes, let us die the death of the righteous, and let our end be like his.

Mercifully forgive the sins of Thy people, and favorably with mercy hear our prayers.

O satisfy us early with Thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children; and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

O Lord, we will daily call upon Thee; unto Thee will we stretch forth our hands.

As Thou didst protect our fathers, who trusted in Thee, so Thou wilt bless their children who now kneel at Thy footstool.

When Thou givest quiet, who then can raise up trouble?

We will remember Thee upon our beds, and meditate on Thee in the night-watches.

Because Thou hast been our helper, therefore in the shadow of Thy wings will we rejoice.



Blessed is the man whom Thou causest to approach Thee, that he may dwell in Thy courts; we shall be satisfied with the goodness of Thy house, even of Thy holy temple.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole church is governed and sanctified; receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before Thee for all estates of men in Thy holy church, that every member of it in his vocation and ministry may truly and holily serve Thee, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.



**Occasional Prayers.**

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MORNING OR EVENING IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF  
ESPECIAL GLADNESS.

**O** THOU, by whom all things were created, that are in Heaven and upon earth, and who upholdest all things by the word of Thy power, and who never leavest Thyself without a witness, in that Thou doest good, and givest us rain and fruitful seasons, filling us with food and gladness; we come before Thee at this time under a sense of Thine especial goodness to us, and would pour out our hearts to Thee in praise and thanksgiving. In addition to the blessings of all mankind, the blessings of nature and the blessings of grace, the support of every minute and the comforts of every day, Thou hast made us the objects of signal manifestations of Thy loving-kindness. What are we, O Lord, and what is our father's house, that Thou shouldst thus multiply to us Thy bounties, that the great God of men and angels should send out to us an angel of love and mercy instead of con-

demning and chastening us for our sins. Holy and gracious Father! suffer us not to be corrupted by so great a prosperity; but may Thy love to us call forth our love to Thee and to one another, and fill us with the desire to prove ourselves Thy faithful children. Teach us to read our duty in the lines of Thy mercy, that we may do good and distribute according to our means and opportunity. As we would never weep alone, so may we make many partakers of our joy. Amidst our present gladness, O God, we would bear in mind that the time may come when we shall need those lessons of sorrow, which Thou hast seen fit to send even to the best-beloved of Thy children; O then may memory unite with faith and hope to enable us to commit ourselves wholly to Thee in well-doing!

In the name of Thy Son Jesus Christ we would always draw nigh to Thee; and now in his most holy words in behalf of ourselves and all mankind we would conclude our 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

day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## MORNING OR EVENING IN A SEASON OF TROUBLE.

**O** GOD, our refuge and our strength, our very present help in time of trouble! We would at all times thank Thee that we may come to Thee; but we feel now especially the greatness of Thy loving-kindness, for we have especial need to realize Thy presence and to cast ourselves upon Thy mercy. It is Thy will that Thy servants should be tried. Let us humbly and trustfully receive the cup, which our Father giveth us. Fill our souls with the remembrance of Thy past wisdom and tenderness, for they have been ever of old, and with expectations and hopes such as become Thy children. O let us not for one moment believe that any real harm can touch us, while we are in Thy fatherly keeping. Thou permittest us

to ask of Thee that Thou wilt restore to our dwelling the voice of [health and] gladness, but enable us also fervently to pray that Thy will and not ours may be done. We know not what sufferings may be necessary to wean us from our sins, and to prepare us for spiritual blessedness, but Thou knowest,—and Thou wilt not afflict us beyond what, with Thy help, we may bear, and Thou wilt delight to turn our night of woe into morning. We would humble ourselves in Thy sight, O God, and patiently wait all Thine appointed time. May our great concern be, how we may forsake our sins, and live truly as Thy children. Send down upon us, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit. Make us ever thoughtful of him who was perfected through suffering, that we may be more closely united to him, and draw nearer to his perfection. May we be more mindful, than we have been hitherto, of those who are of the fellowship of sorrow, that we may minister to them freely and heartily. And, O gracious God, let not our thought of what Thou art for a season withholding from us be so engrossing, as to render us forgetful of the many gifts which

yet remain to us, but may we be more grateful to Thee for them, and use them in harmony with Thy blessed will.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



MORNING OR EVENING ON OCCASION OF A  
DEATH IN THE FAMILY.

**F**ATHER IN HEAVEN! to Thee would we cry out of the depths of our affliction. We would feel that Thou art our Father now,—that Thou lovest us not less in our afflictions than in our joys, and that if we cast ourselves upon Thee with humble and fervent hearts, Thou wilt be with us by Thy Spirit and sustain us. Thou hast seen fit to send Thine angel of death amongst us, and cut off one who was dear to us. It is well—for Thou didst it.

Let us never be guilty of the impiety of supposing that any real harm can approach us, while infinite power and infinite love are always waiting to be gracious to us. We know not what trials may be necessary for our correction or our perfection, but may it be enough for us that Thou knowest. May no misgiving have place in our souls when we drink the cup which our Father hath given us.

God of goodness! enable us to realize all Thy blessed consolations. May we regard our friend whom Thou hast taken from us, as with Thee in Thy own home. Thou wouldst not have removed *him* from us had there not been more congenial regions for *him* elsewhere. May *he* often lead our thoughts and our affections to Heaven and heavenly things. Suffering in the fellowship of Christ, may we suffer in the spirit of Christ. Forgive our sins, O God, and raise us from our weakness, and render us calm, confiding and self-denying as he was. O Father, make us Thy children, and then shall we have one supreme desire, that Thy will may be fulfilled in us. We cannot ask for exemption from those trials, which

the holiest and best of our brethren of all ages have passed through, but we pray that Thou wilt strengthen us by Thy might and increase our faith, so that we may rest in Thee with childlike trustfulness and love, and feel that Thy will is our highest good,—whether it be that we should remain on earth or that we should ascend and be with Thee above.

O Lord our God! we feel that we have occasion for unspeakable gratitude to Thee. When Thou takest away, we see how much Thou hast given. We thank Thee for sweet memories of blessings, which are for a season withdrawn from us, and for the many blessings which yet remain to us. We thank Thee for our opportunities of well-doing, our comforts and possessions here, and for our bright prospects of a future and everlasting inheritance, and of a happy re-union with those of our family who are in Heaven. Holy Father! we pray not only for Thy consolation, but also that Thou wilt hallow this sorrow to us. May it so touch our hearts that we may in all things have a new sense of our relation to Thee and manifest increased earnestness in devoting ourselves to Thy service.



And now in the words of our Saviour and Divine Master we would conclude our 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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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MORNING OR EVENING OF CHRISTMAS DAY.

**G**LORY be to Thee, O God, in the highest! On earth peace and goodwill to men. With angels and archangels and all the company of the faithful on earth and in Heaven, we would this day joyously commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. How shall we speak of Thy great goodness and mercy, that when our world was lost in sin, Thou didst send to us Thine own best-beloved Son to win us back by the endearments of Thy love, and to guide our feet into the way of peace! We

guide our feet into the way of peace! We deserved to be forsaken by Thee for our ingratitude and disobedience, and Thou didst speak to us not in anger, but with a Father's pity, and call unto us yet again and most graciously of all, that we might still turn unto Thee and live! We know that our most acceptable offering of thanksgiving would be to come into Thy presence with the hearts of true disciples of our blessed Mediator and Saviour, and we are heartily sorry that we are so unworthy to bear his sacred name. O Father! extend to us, we beseech Thee, Thy pardoning mercy, and make us day by day more like him, and more alive to the infinite blessedness which he came to reveal. May we delight to hold communion with him, and readily do his bidding, though it be to labor in season and out of season, to sell all that we have, or even to bear the cross. May Thy love for us and his love for us in all our sinfulness touch our hearts and cause us to hunger and thirst after the things of Thy kingdom. May we not rest in any mere emotions of fervor that may be ours in the

season of prayer and meditation, but may we strive to learn of him ever more diligently, and may his spirit within us be stronger than the temptations of the world and our own unruly passions, and bring forth in us the fruits of righteousness. We would recall especially at this time what he has done and is doing for mankind, and, still more, dwell on what he would do, if those who bear his name would earnestly and steadfastly walk in his footsteps. O heavenly Father! if Thou shouldst continue our earthly life to another Christmas day, may we and our dear friends have so grown in all Christian graces and virtues as to be enabled less unworthily to join in the holy angel-song which rises up to Thee to-day from so many thousands of Thy people. Bless and prosper all Christian churches, and unite them in peace and charity under their common Head, and gather into them all Thy wandering children, so that in the perfecting of Thy kingdom not one may fail. May Thy will be done by us on earth as it is by Thy angels in Heaven. And do Thou, O Father, who knowest all our wants and weaknesses, whether bodily or spiritual,

give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## MORNING OR EVENING OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.

**E**TERNAL AND EVER-PRESENT GOD! who hast brought us to the close of another year; we would come to Thee with our especial thanks for Thy great goodness to us, and with our most earnest prayers for Thy forgiveness, help and blessing. How shall we speak of what Thou hast done for us, as the creatures of Thy hand, and as a family, and, still more, what Thou hast done for us as Thy children through Jesus Christ? Thy works of love and mercy are more than can be remembered or numbered; and we would be mindful that Thou doest us good in ways which we think not of, and which we could not understand. O Father! we feel that we ought to have been more trustful and happy in Thy favor, and that our happiness

ought to have led us to Thee and made us more like Thee. O Father! we feel that we ought to have been more sorrowful over our sins, and to have been more willing to labor and deny ourselves, that we might become less unworthy to be called Thy sons. We would humble ourselves before Thee, and implore Thee to accept our heartfelt repentance. In the hour of temptation and trial, send down Thy Spirit to help us in our infirmities; and at all times may we learn diligently of Thy holy Jesus, as our divine Teacher and Example, and make the best use of all Thy gracious aids to the Christian life.

The passing away of one of the few years of our lives, solemnly reminds us that we are only strangers and pilgrims here, as our fathers were; but everlasting thanks be unto Thee, O Lord God, for the assurance that Thou wilt not leave our souls in the grave. Take not our lives, we beseech Thee, while our souls are unpardoned or unprepared, but do Thou hasten the time, when by Thy grace we shall be clothed with holiness; and then may we not be afraid to hear the summons of our departure at whatsoever

hour it may come, but be always ready to commit our spirits and those of our friends into our Father's hands.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.



MORNING OR EVENING OF GOOD FRIDAY.

**G**OD and FATHER of our Lord Jesus Christ! we thank and adore Thee for that merciful loving-kindness to us, which this day commemorates. Thou didst not spare even Thy best-beloved Son, in Thy desire that Thy whole human family might be brought back from their sinful wanderings, and be made holy, and dwell with Thee in Heaven. Who but a Father could have so loved us? And how great was our Saviour's love that he was willing to suffer and

die for our sake, the just for the unjust, in obedience to Thy will. He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so opened he not his mouth. Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto Thee, O God, who sittest upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. O may we show our grateful love to Thee and to him not in words only, but in our whole lives. May we this day in mind and heart draw near to the cross, and learn all its sacred lessons. May we at all times delight to assemble round the Lord's table to show forth his death till he come, and to keep him in remembrance in the way which he himself appointed, and may his spirit be indeed with us and dwell in us. We pray to be made so like him in will and affections that we may delight to follow in the steps of his most holy life, and that when our earthly pilgrimage is over, we may ascend to him and be with him, where he is. When Thou callest upon us to suffer for our fellow-men, even for those who have done us evil, may we also say, "Father, Thy will, not ours, be done;" and while we always affectionately remember all

who are united to us by the ties of kindred and friendship, as he remembered his mother and the disciple whom he loved, may we, like him, think compassionately of those who know not what they do; and when Thou sendest to us Thine angel of death, may we likewise with filial trust commit our spirits into Thy hands. Now and ever, O God, Thou wilt shelter us and provide for us. We cannot doubt that Thou, who hast given us Jesus Christ, wilt give us all things that are good for us.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## MORNING OR EVENING OF EASTER DAY.

**B**LESSED BE THOU, O Lord God, for all Thy goodness and loving-kindness; but we would especially praise and adore Thee this day as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to Thine abundant mercy hast begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved for us in Heaven. May that day of the week, which celebrates our Saviour's victory over the grave, always be to us a day of refreshing by means of his sacred presence in our thoughts and hearts; but still more on this day, the day of the year on which his glorious rising is commemorated, may we delight to meditate on his exaltation at Thy right hand, and the transcendent prospects which he has disclosed to his faithful disciples. Gracious Father, we rejoice with trembling, when we think of the blessedness which Thou hast prepared for us; for what are Thy servants, and what can they become during their short earthly pilgrimage, that they should dwell hereafter in Thy immediate presence with Thy

beloved Son, and Thy saints and angels, and be clothed with immortality and be called Thy children? Forgive our manifold sins and utter unworthiness, and do Thou, as Thou alone canst, prepare us for Thyself by breathing into us holy thoughts and affections. Shed down upon us, we beseech Thee, in ever larger measures the spirit of Jesus Christ. May *we* not be among those who live chiefly for the things that perish, but even now may the eternal life of the spirit begin within us. And, since Thou art the God, not of the dead but of the living, may we not unduly fear death either for ourselves or our dear friends, but having made it our first care to do Thy will on earth, and humbly casting ourselves on Thy fatherly mercy, may we look peacefully forward to passing through the grave and gate of death to our joyful resurrection, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against

us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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**Two Forms of Prayer for Service on  
the Lord's Day.**

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INTRODUCTORY PRAYER.

**O** LORD OUR GOD! who hast by gracious invitations and by all the endearments of a Father's love encouraged us to come into Thy presence; we would draw nigh to Thee to thank Thee for the holy thoughts and memories, which this day brings with it. How can we ever sufficiently thank Thee for sending to us Thy beloved Son to lead us to Thee, and to show us how we may become well-pleasing in Thy sight! O may his spirit be amidst us at this time! Help us now and at all times to prove ourselves his true disciples. Suffer no earthly interests to allure our hearts from Thee, no unhallowed passions to have dominion over us. O Father! hear and accept the prayers which shall ascend to Thee from hundreds of

thousands of altars this day, and when the humble services of our earthly temples are at an end, may we be permitted to take part in the services of that temple not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. We ask all in our blessed Saviour's name. Amen.

## GENERAL PRAYER.

**E**VER-BLESSED GOD! who by reason of Thine infinite wisdom and greatness art farthest of all from us, but who by reason of Thine infinite goodness and love art nearest of all to us! We offer up to Thee our fervent adoration; we thank Thee for Thy gracious gifts to us, which in number and excellence are far beyond our comprehension, and we pray that Thou wilt continue to supply both our bodily and our spiritual wants out of the stores of Thy bounty. We know not how to speak to Thee as we could wish; Thou art in Heaven, we are on Earth. Thou the Eternal, the All-perfect hast permitted us who are only of yesterday to bow before Thee with our imperfections, and call Thee Father. We would ever draw

nearer to Thee as Thy children, and learn more of Thy perfections. We would recognise Thy hand in all things, and for all things we would bless and praise Thee with our whole souls. Thou didst lay the foundation of the universe of old; Thou ordainest all events; Thou hast endued us with conscience and reason; the wisdom of the wise is a ray from Thine intelligence; the love of the friend and the mother is but a faint image of Thy love. And Thou hast still more clearly revealed to us Thy loving-kindness and Thy will by Thy holy Prophets, and above all by Thy best-beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour. O may we not only express our gratitude to Thee with our lips, but may we have Thee in all our thoughts, and strive always to live more as in Thy sight.

Almighty Father! We feel that we know not what to ask of Thee. Thou alone knowest what is best for us, Thou the All-giver, who ever waitest to be gracious! But the lowliest words we pour forth out of the fulness of our hearts are clothed with divine wisdom when they return answered to us by Thee. We would

therefore pray, in devout submission to Thy will, for prosperity in the works of our hands, in our homes and our country, for health, peace and happiness. We still more earnestly pray that Thou wilt be with us by Thy Holy Spirit, and help us to overcome our infirmities and temptations, and enable us to do Thy will here below as it is done by Thy blessed angels above. May we be willing to make any and every temporary sacrifice rather than disobey Thee and fall short in the work which Thou hast given us to do. May we keep watch over our tempers and our words, and check every unhallowed disposition within us. We would delight to hold frequent communion with Jesus Christ, as our great source of spiritual life, and desire above all things to make his heavenly character our own. Increase our sensibility to the evil of sin,—may we never forget that to do wrong is infinitely worse than any suffering or misfortune, or even death itself; increase our sensibility to the beauty and loveliness and blessedness of goodness. Since Thou art the Creator of all things, may we feel that all things are holy, and may have a holy use; that all our

occupations and all our social and domestic relations may be to us the means of growing better and stronger, and of doing good to our fellow-men. May all our troubles and sorrows be received as from Thee, and may they accomplish within us Thy fatherly purposes.

Thou who carest for all Thy vast human family, we would remember before Thee our Queen, our rulers, the ministers of religion, the poor and the afflicted, and all our brethren of all nations and conditions, and beseech Thee to bless them according to their several necessities; and we would remember those of Thy children who have left the world and ascended to Thee, and look hopefully forward to joining them hereafter in Thy heavenly presence.

One more prayer, O God, we would offer up most fervently,—it is that Thou wilt forgive us the many sins of our past lives, whether known to ourselves, or forgotten or disregarded by our careless hearts. Great as are our transgressions Thy mercy is greater to all who bring unto Thee fruits meet for repentance.

And now, our Father, we would commend ourselves to Thee. May we be Thy children

alike in steadfast service and unwavering trust, never feeling so happy as when we are carrying out Thine all-wise plans, and never allowing ourselves to suppose that any real harm can come to us, while we have as our protection infinite power and infinite love. All our prayers we would present unto Thee in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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CONCLUDING PRAYER.

**F**ATHER IN HEAVEN! we would now implore Thy blessing on the meditations in which we have been engaged, and Thine acceptance of the poor incense of our praise and prayers. Though we cannot be holy in Thy sight, do Thou look down graciously upon us as disciples of Jesus Christ, and receive us according to what we have, and fill us with Thy good Spirit to make us what we should be. May we ever more and more feel that spiritual things are the great realities, and that our home is not here, but above at Thy right hand. Assist us during the coming week to live according to the instructions and exhortations which we have



received out of Thy holy word. O keep us from all evil and lead us to do those things, which Thou approvest; and give us not only all that we have asked as we should, but also all which we should have asked, and which we would now ask in the comprehensive words of Thy dear Son; 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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### Second Form.

#### INTRODUCTORY PRAYER.

**A**LMIGHTY AND ALL-GRACIOUS God! not trusting in our own merit, but in Thy mercy, and with humble and contrite hearts, we come unto Thee with the voice of adoration and prayer. Thou hast invited us by Thy beloved

SON to draw near to Thee as Thy children, and as children with their Father, we would in the spirit of Jesus, commune with Thee, our Father in Heaven. Teach us how to think of Thee and how to pray to Thee; for how can we think of Thee as we ought unless Thou givest us understanding? how can we speak to Thee unless our words first come down from Thee? O Father! be present with us at this time in the sanctuary of each soul. What we know not, do Thou teach us; what is amiss in us, dispose us heartily to reform; and whatever there is in us that is good, assist us to carry forward to perfection, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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GENERAL PRAYER.

**A**Lmighty God, our heavenly Father! we come to Thee as Thy children to commune with Thee, to adore Thy perfections, and to dwell on the sweet memory of Thy goodness. Thou who art so gracious and so holy, as well as so wise and so mighty, we feel that to worship and serve and love Thee are our greatest privilege and happiness. When our souls are full of Thee,

we are assured that no real harm can approach us, and that as here so hereafter and for ever Thou wilt watch over us with Thy fatherly care, and in Thine own best seasons pour out upon us increasing measures of Thy rich bounty.

We cannot understand all Thy ways, we cannot comprehend all the beauty and grandeur of Thy works, but we see Thee in them all, and we offer up our whole hearts to Thee in humble gratitude and thanksgiving. We would especially make mention of Thy loving-kindness to us in Jesus Christ, by whom Thou hast brought us near to Thyself. Thou who hadst already sent to us chosen messengers to bring us from the ways of sin into the paths of righteousness, didst not spare even Thy best-beloved Son, that Thou mightest at length gather all Thy vast human family together around Thy throne. O our Father! help us to be more obedient to Thee,—to become less unworthy of Thy favor and blessing,—teach us to love Thee as we ought,—conform us entirely to Thy perfect will. We pray not for fame or wealth or exemption from labor and difficulties; but we pray that Thou wilt endue us with that wisdom

and piety; which will lead us to fill well whatever station of life Thou mayst allot to us. Wherever we are may we feel that we are in Thy presence. May we regard whatever Thou mayst give us to do as a sacred work, and do it with all our might. As citizens of the world may we be industrious, upright and honorable. As members of families may we be gentle, forbearing and affectionate, cultivating the beauty of holiness and not forgetting the least act of kindness, whereby we may promote the welfare and happiness of those around us. As a Christian church, may we be of one mind and one heart, not exalting ourselves among our brethren, but fervently desiring to please Thee by the spotlessness of our lives, by our zeal to do good, by the warmth of our devotion, and by our sympathy with the afflicted and the oppressed. And as heirs of immortality may we set our affections on things above. In all things, O God, may we show how much we value the gift of Thy Son, our Saviour, by becoming his earnest and faithful disciples. May his spirit within us enable us to withstand all the temptations of the world and the flesh, and sustain us in faith

and hope through all our trials and sufferings. Merciful Father! pardon, we beseech Thee, our sins, whether in word, or deed, or thought, whether we are conscious of them or they are known only to Thee; and let them not rise against us on the great day of judgment. May Thy goodness to us notwithstanding our past sinfulness, touch our hearts, and win us to Thee in loving obedience. May we feel the evil of sin,—that it is the only evil; may we feel the blessedness of goodness, and that to become more like Thee will be the main happiness of Heaven.

O Thou, who hast created all the sons of men in Thy image! we would pray for our brethren as well as ourselves. May those whom we love, love Thee and Jesus Christ. May all Thy children love one another. Give a wise understanding and a kind heart to those who rule over us. Strengthen those who are weak in virtue or faith. Convert those who have strayed from Thee. Take under the shadow of Thy wings those who sorrow or are in pain and imagine themselves to be in danger and helpless. Be with us all, at all times, for we

have need of Thee above all other possessions. Gracious Father! our imperfect prayer is before Thee, but Thou hast assured us that if we pray with our lives as well as our lips, Thou wilt answer us according to what we *should* have prayed for. As Thou didst protect our Fathers who trusted in Thee, so Thou wilt bless their children who now kneel at Thy footstool. Unto Thee be ascribed all glory and dominion for ever and ever, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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CONCLUDING PRAYER.

**O** LORD our God! We have thought of Thy loving-kindness and Thy holy will, and now we pray Thee to accept our unworthy services, and to let Thy Spirit rest upon us. Enlighten our eyes and direct our steps, that throughout the week and throughout our lives we may walk in the way of Thy commandments. Shed abroad Thy love in our hearts, and number us among Thy faithful children. We leave Thine altar, but Thou art ever near at hand; day and night, in health and in sickness,

at all times and in all places, we shall be under Thy fatherly care; and, while we are steadfastly endeavouring to do those things which please Thee in our several stations and occupations in the world, O may it be our frequent delight to dwell on the memory of Thy great goodness, and to glorify Thy name, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

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**Additional Prayers for particular occasions.**

SHORT PRAYER FOR MORNING OR EVENING.

**B**LESSED be Thy name, O Lord, for our continued health, and food, and raiment, and friends, and all other good things, whereby

Thou maintainest the comfort of this present life. Above all we thank Thee for Thy love in Christ Jesus, and the hope Thou hast given us by him of still better things in another world; unto which we beseech Thee to bring us by hearty obedience to Thee all our days. Our Father, &c.

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## ANOTHER.

WE thank Thee, O Lord, that we are alive, and that we live in health, and peace, and the enjoyment of all good things that are needful for the support of this present life and for the attainment of life eternal. Continue them, we pray Thee, unto us: and continue in us such a thankful sense of Thy love, that we may live unto Thee, by whom we live, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Father, &c.

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**SUNDAY MORNING, WHEN SOME MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY ARE ENGAGED IN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING OR LIKE CHRISTIAN WORKS.**

**H**EAVENLY FATHER! who hast permitted us all to do something towards extending Thy kingdom on earth, hallow and bless all earnest efforts, that may be made this day, to educate young children in Thy ways, to carry Thy comforts to the weary and heavy-laden, and to awaken those who are sleeping and dying in their sins. O make each one of us more diligent, thoughtful and holy, that we may become less unworthy of Thy favor and presence, and may be enabled to offer to Thee some acceptable though humble service in the church of Thy dear Son. Amen.

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BEFORE A TIME OF SEPARATION.

**O** GOD, who art everywhere present, and by Thy fatherly love and universal Providence unitest those who are far apart; be with each of us in our coming separation; may our prayers rise up to Thee in one spirit, if not from one place; keep us from all evil, and lead us into

all good ; and grant us a happy meeting in this life, if it be in accordance with Thy all-wise designs; but, above all, vouchsafe to us a part in the resurrection of the just, and a joyful and everlasting re-union in Thy heavenly kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



ON MEETING AFTER A SEASON OF SEPARATION.

**O** HEAVENLY FATHER! who hast commanded us to love one another as Thy children, and hast ordained the highest friendship in the bond of Thy spirit; we bless Thee for Thy great goodness in preserving us through all dangers, and again bringing us together, and we earnestly beseech Thee so to unite us in that love which is from above, that we may have joy in each other which passeth not away, and having lived together in love and holiness here, may hereafter live for ever together in the glory of Thy kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



## FOR A FRIEND ON A JOURNEY.

**O** LORD our God! who art present at all times in all places of Thy dominion; we beseech Thee to bless and protect our friend on *his* journey, keep *him* day and night under the shadow of Thy wings, and prosper the work of *his* hands. How far soever *he* may be from us, may *he* be always near to Thee in serious thoughts of Thee, in a hearty love to Thee, in a perfect trust in Thee, and a constant disposition to do Thy holy will. And, O God, grant that we may all so live, that when our journey of life is over, we may have our home in that blessed country where there is no more weariness, or danger, or parting. This we humbly beg in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## ON COMMUNION DAY.

**G**OD AND FATHER of our LORD JESUS CHRIST! who hast afforded us this day another opportunity of gathering round the table of Thy dear Son, to partake of bread and wine in remembrance of him in conformity with his own endearing words; grant, we beseech Thee,

that we may so commune with him in very heart and soul, as to continue with him in holy spiritual fellowship, and to be permitted at length to come and dwell with him and with Thee and with all Thy faithful children for ever and ever. Amen.

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## IN TIME OF SCARCITY.

**O** GOD, our merciful Father, in whom we live and move and have our being; whose gift it is that the rain doth fall, and the earth is fruitful, and Thy creatures that dwell on the earth do multiply; behold, we beseech Thee, the afflictions of Thy people; and grant that the scarcity which we now suffer, may through Thy goodness be turned into plenty; increase the fruits of the earth by Thy heavenly benediction; and grant that we, receiving Thy bountiful liberality, may use the same to Thy glory, the relief of those that are needy, and our own enduring well-being, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## WHEN PLENTY IS RESTORED.

**T**HOU, O LORD, hast visited the earth and blessed it; Thou hast made it very plenteous. Thou hast blessed our provision abundantly and satisfied the poor again with bread. Thou hast caused the former and the latter rain to come down for us in their season, and hast crowned the year with Thy goodness. O may we live in a sober, temperate and charitable enjoyment of Thy gracious gifts, and may we bring forth the fruits of righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## IN TIME OF GENERAL SICKNESS.

**A**LMIGHTY AND EVER-BLESSED God! in the midst of life we are in death; of whom shall we seek for succour but of Thee, O Lord? Have pity upon us, we beseech Thee, and if it be not contrary to Thy gracious will turn from us this great sickness and mortality where-with we are now visited. But, whether or not it be good in Thy sight further to chasten and exercise us, give us grace to examine our hearts and lives, to repent heartily

of our sins, and to form holy purposes of obedience, to prepare ourselves for any change Thou mayst appoint, and to comfort and aid those who are already stretched on the bed of suffering. Give them the patience which they need,—and O enable both them and us, with unfeigned contrition and humble hope to resign ourselves entirely into Thy hands; that howsoever Thou mayst dispose of us, in life and in death we may be Thine, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.



WHEN GENERAL HEALTH IS RESTORED.

**B**LESSED be THY goodness, O Lord, which hath preserved so many of us alive in the midst of a great mortality; and hath restored health again to the habitations of our neighbors. Blessed be Thy sparing mercy, which hath delivered us from the noisome pestilence. Thou hast been our refuge and our fortress, our God in whom we ought to trust. And now we would offer to Thee ourselves, our souls and our bodies which Thou hast delivered, to be a living sacrifice unto Thee; always praising and mag-

nifying Thy mercies in the midst of Thy church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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FOR PEACE.

**O** GOD, who art the Author of peace and Lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us, Thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies, from within and from without; that we, surely trusting in Thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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WHEN PEACE IS RESTORED.

**B**LESSED be the LORD, who hath caused wars to cease, and made those who were our enemies to be at peace with us. It is Thou, O Lord, who stillest the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people. We praise and thank Thee for our deliverance from those great dangers wherewith we were compassed, and we most earnestly beseech Thee to fill us with the spirit

of kindness and forbearance, that no bitterness may remain in our hearts, and to grant, to us all, grace to lead henceforth a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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FOR A FRUITFUL SEASON: TO BE USED  
IN SPRING.

**O** GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all things, who causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man; who bringest forth fruit out of the earth, and blessest the springing thereof; be pleased graciously to look down from Thy holy habitation in Heaven upon us Thy people, and upon the land wherein we dwell; that both it may become fruitful and yield its increase, and we may grow in wisdom and in goodness, and bring forth plenteously the fruit of good works, to the honor and praise of Thy name, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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THANKSGIVING FOR A FRUITFUL SEASON;  
TO BE USED IN AUTUMN.

**W**E PRAISE THEE, O GOD, who hast opened to us Thy good treasure, and given us rain from Heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. Blessed be God for the plenty wherewith He hath loaded the earth. He maketh the grass to grow upon the mountains; He watcheth over all the earth, and causeth it to bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater. Let all the world rejoice and be glad in Him, who prepareth a table for us, and satisfieth our mouths with good things, and maketh our cup to run over. O that our hearts may overflow with love and thankfulness to Thee, O God, that we may never forget or abuse Thy goodness, but by a sober, charitable and devout use of Thy blessings, may be made fit for the continual increase of them, till they be perfected in eternal life. This we humbly ask in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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FOR THOSE WHO ARE IN BONDS OR AFFLICTION.

**W**E pray to Thee, O blessed Father, in behalf of all, who are in captivity, hard service, extreme poverty, or any affliction. Keep them from sinning against Thee, and from being overwhelmed by their great sorrow. Let the events of their lives be under the command of reason, and of Thy Holy Spirit, and end in holiness, in peace and in joy eternal, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



A COLLECT TO BE USED BEFORE READING  
THE SCRIPTURES.

**B**LESSED LORD, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Thy holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.



## A COLLECT FOR SUNDAY EVENING.

**G**RANT, we beseech Thee, almighty God, that the words, which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may through Thy grace be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of Thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED.

**E**TERNAL God, in whom the spirits of just men do rest in peace from their labors; we bless and praise Thy holy name for all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear, and especially for those most dear to us, of whom we have good hope, that they are fallen asleep in Jesus; and we beseech Thee to give us grace so to follow their good example, that even here we may be united to them in fellowship of spirit, and finally may be gathered together with them into the bosom of Thy love, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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A CONCLUDING PRAYER.

**O** GOD, to whom belong mercies and forgiveness, receive our humble petitions; we confess we are often in our holiest services enchained with earthly affections, but do Thou have compassion upon us and set us free; and enable us to rejoice in Thee with joy unspeakable and full of glory, through Jesus Christ our Mediator. Amen.

THE END.

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