

ORDER for BAPTIST MINISTRY

Midday Prayers for Thursday and Epiphany

Celebrating the presence of God

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

*In the midst of the day,
we pause to reflect upon
God's goodness and mercy,
and to commit the day afresh
to his guidance and upholding.*

Where we see dimly, as in a silvered mirror, misted by our mortality, Lord, shine your light into our hearts and minds, that we might see you more clearly.

***God of light and life
in whose Son Jesus Christ
is revealed all your glory in its
noon-day brilliance, fullness of
God in flesh and blood,
we praise you that in your
appearing as one of us
you meet us as your children.***

*A pause to acknowledge
any specific thanks and praise*

Acknowledging our humanity

Where we have become so consumed with work in the busy-ness of the day, that we forget you,
shine your light afresh into our clouded minds and draw us once again to yourself.

Where our steps have taken us from the best, and we have settled for a broad and easy path,
guide us one more into the way of Jesus Christ, and reveal your glory through us. Amen

Listening for the Word

A freely chosen reading, the Gospel from the Communion readings from the Common lectionary or

⁸ For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—
⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light.

**Therefore it says,
"Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."**
Ephesians 5:8–14. NRSV

Bringing our concerns

We pray for those we have encountered, or whose circumstances have captured our hearts and prayers ...

We pray for all that the remainder of this day promises ...

We pray for our world, church, members of this Order and circle of friends and family ...

We pray for the light to shine in the darkest places of our world, bringing the hope of the Kingdom of Christ where fear reigns and lives are most broken.

Silent prayer

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer. Amen.

Continuing to love and serve

As the remainder of the day unfolds and we seek to be attentive to your Word and Spirit, contemplating you, the Triune God, in silence and conversation, in stillness and in service,

***So reveal your glory in us
that we might carry about us
the aroma of Christ, this day,
that through us others might be
touched your Kingdom and
encounter your love, to the glory
of your name, Amen.***

(+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit)

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