

Gratitude for Life -- Prayer Service

Call to Prayer Vincent urges us to "... spend at least as much time in thanking God for His favors as we have in asking for them." (Coste, volume 12, page 399)

Leader: O God, come to our assistance

ALL: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit,

ALL: As it was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be world without end. Amen.

Hymn "Let All Things Now Living" (two lines of verse 1, last four of verse 2)



1. Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks - giv - ing To
Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us, By
2. His law he en - forc - es, The stars in their cours - es, The
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains, The



1. God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
guid - ing us on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are
2. sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine,
depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine. We, too, should be



1. o'er us, Pure light goes be - fore us, A pil - lar of fire shin - ing
2. voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a



1. forth in the night: Till shad - ows have van - ished And dark - ness is
2. song let us raise: Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks -



1. ban - ished, As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
2. giv - ing, To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

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Psalm 136

Side 1: Thank You, God, for everything that reveals Your love.

Side 2: Thank you, God, for people who demonstrate Your love.

ALL: Thank You, God, for choosing us to be Your people,
for calling and equipping us to communicate Your love to the world about us.

Glory be ...

adapted from Psalms/Now, Leslie F. Brandt, page 208



Reading Life is a gift, totally given to us without cost, every day of it and every part of it. A daily and chosen attitude of gratitude will keep our hands open to expect that life, allow that life and receive that life at ever-deeper levels of satisfaction, but never to think we deserve it. Those who live with such open and humble hands receive life's "gifts, full measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over into their lap." (Luke 6, 38)

In the end, it is not our own doing. It is God's gift, not a reward for work well done. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus. All we can do is be what God's Spirit makes us to be and be thankful to God for the riches God has bestowed on us. Gratitude and loving service to others are the most appropriate responses we can make. adapted from Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation, 11/20/22

Personal Reflection and Sharing

What would help me live gratefully in my daily life?
How do I show love and gratitude in my service to persons living in poverty?



Litany of Thanks

Response: **We praise and thank you, O God.**
+ for life, freely given ...
+ for our unique gifts and talents ...
+ for God's abundant riches bestowed on us ...
+ for Jesus, our brother and friend ...
+ for the Spirit, who renews our energy and strength ...
+ for persons living in poverty whom we accompany ...
(Please, add your own prayers of thanksgiving.)

Our Father

Closing Prayer **ALL:** Loving God, we are grateful for all the blessings You constantly pour out on us. Let us remember to often take time to think and praise you for them. We ask this in gratitude for Your goodness to us, in the name of Jesus through your Spirit. Amen.

Blessing

Leader: God, bless us with a spirit of praise and gratitude. **ALL: Amen.**

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Prayer Texts

Ephesians 5, 20 "Giving thanks always for all things ..."
Colossians 3, 15 "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts ... and be thankful."

