

At the Close of Day

Psalm 134

Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, *
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.
Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; *
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

A Reading from Daily Readings, personal choice, or this:

Lord, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your
Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. Jeremiah 14:9,22

The following may be said:

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see;
A Light to enlighten the nations, *
and the glory of your people Israel.

*Prayers for ourselves and others may follow. It is appropriate that
prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings of the day, and penitence for
our sins, be included.*

The Lord's Prayer

Luther's Evening Prayer

I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear
Son, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive
me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me
tonight. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all
that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe
may have no power over me. *Amen.*
The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. *Amen.*

Daily Devotion Format for Individuals, Families, and Households Adapted from the Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer and Luther's Small Catechism

In the Morning

From Psalm 51

Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from Daily Readings, personal choice or this:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”
1 Peter 1:3

A hymn or song may be used; the Apostles Creed may be said.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

Luther's Morning Prayer

I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear
Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and
danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all
evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I
commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your
holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over
me. *Amen.*

At Noon or Midday

From Psalm 113

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.
Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.
From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.
The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

A Reading from Daily Readings, personal choice, or this:

“O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength.” Isaiah 26:3; 30:15

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your mercies' sake. *Amen.*

Or

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

In the Early Evening

This devotion may be used before or after the evening meal.

O gracious light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

A Reading from Daily Readings, personal choice, or this:

“It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation--the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” 2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer

The Prayer

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*