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Prayers of .....  
John Wanamaker

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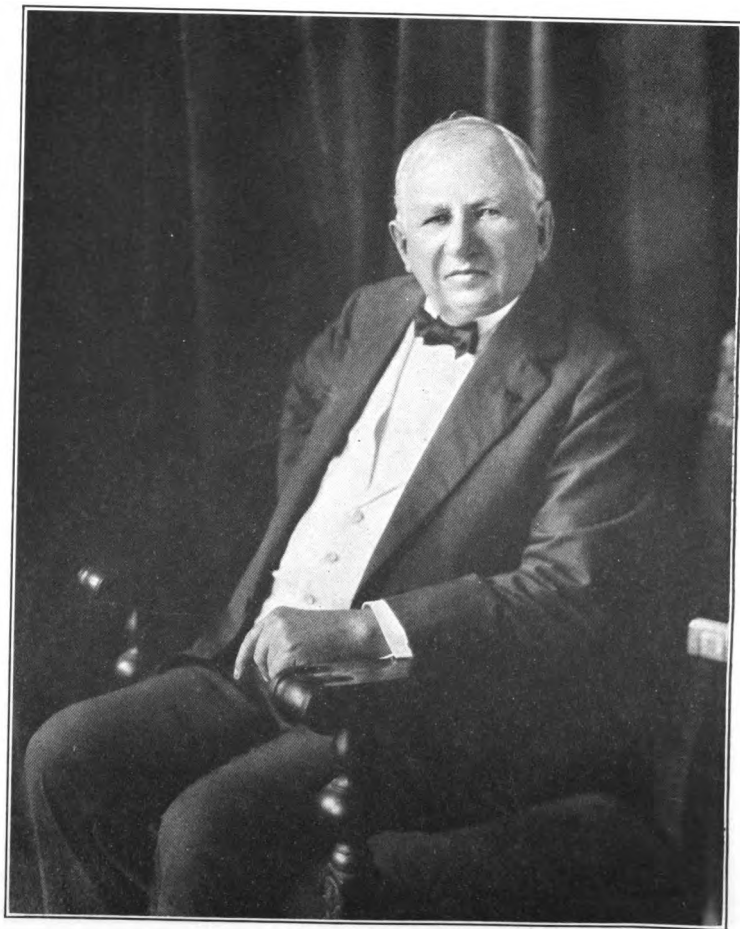


Princeton University.

Presented by

Herbert Adams Gibbons.

*Prayers of  
John Wanamaker*



*John Wauanate*

*Prayers of*  
*John Wanamaker*

*With an Introduction by*  
*A. GORDON MACLENNAN*  
*Pastor, Bethany Presbyterian Church,*  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*



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## *Introduction*

**I**N no place is a man's true self revealed as in prayer. A man's life and a man's prayers correspond. "A grand, bold life will produce grand, bold prayers; a limited life will produce limited prayers." When man comes into the presence of his Maker, he leaves behind the outward garments in which he concealed his inner soul from the eyes of his fellow-men. There is unconsciously a recognition that "all things are naked and open before the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

The exercise of prayer is ennobling. The highest office to which God has called man is that of the royal priesthood. "To be kings and priests unto God—what a magnificent office is that!" Too often it is true that we are so taken up with the trivial and valueless things of sense, that we fail to rise to our exalted position, and the deep tragedy of it all is that so many of us are insensible of our loss.

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Moses, coming from the Mount of Communion, "wist not that his face shone." To the one spending time with God in the secret place of communion there is imparted a beauty of countenance and a heavenliness of spirit, and all earth seems transformed by the vision of the unseen.

Alexander Whyte of Edinburgh, speaking of prayer as the most magnificent office of man, says: "The magnificence of all true prayer—its nobility, its royalty, its absolute divinity—all stand in this, that it is the greatest kind of act, and office that man, or angel can ever enter on and perform. Earth is at its best and heaven is at its very highest when men and angels magnify their office of prayer and praise before the throne of God." The performing of that office will inevitably leave the fragrance of heaven clinging to one's garments and the kingliness of glory in his step.

In the prayers contained in this volume, there is revealed the loftiness of soul, the catholicity of spirit, the perfect understanding of human need, and the great childlike faith of John Wanamaker. He was truly a man of prayer, and the place of prayer was precious to him. He always approached the



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Throne of Grace with great reverence and deep humility, as though he, too, had heard the command, "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

The following prayers are closely associated with the different services of The Bethany Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia, of which Mr. Wanamaker was the founder and senior elder. For sixty-five years, lacking but two months, he was the active superintendent of the Sunday school; and every Sunday, unless absent from the city or prevented by illness, he was to be found at the Superintendent's desk, leading the school in the Superintendent's prayer.

The regular Church Prayer Meeting always found him in his place, and many times he has said: "I like to be present at the meeting, in the middle of the week, feeling, as I sit among the people gathered, some of them deaf, hearing hardly a spoken word, and others with failing sight, that as the Lord passed around amongst them He might give me a blessing too." It was his custom, when forced to be absent from the meeting, to send a letter explaining his absence, or, if he knew

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far enough in advance that he would not be present, he would send a substitute to take his place at the service.

His was an extremely busy life, so crowded indeed that one wondered where he got even moments to give to the multitude of interests which filled every hour of his time. Sunday was no exception in this regard. He was present, always, as leader of a little meeting of men at nine o'clock in the morning, for prayer and meditation, known as the John Wesley Class Meeting. At nine-thirty he attended the Brotherhood meeting, leading and inspiring the men with his unique personality and deep spiritual insight and constant interest in the lives of the three hundred or more men who met there. From the Brotherhood meeting he went to the regular morning church service, taking a full part in all the worship. At two-thirty in the afternoon, he was present to superintend the great Sunday school which he, with the same uniqueness which built the greatest merchandising establishment in America, developed from a class of twenty-seven pupils to an enrollment of five thousand.

But his activity in connection with the

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church and school did not cease with the services on Sunday, for wherever there was trouble, or sickness, or death he always found time to be present giving words of counsel and help and always to lead the distressed ones to the Throne of Grace where he had found One able to help in all times of need.

It may truly be said that the people of Bethany Church and Sunday school will longest remember him by the uniqueness and tender sympathy of his prayers. He knew God, and in his prayers revealed that he knew Him.

A. GORDON MACLENNAN.

*Philadelphia, Pa.*

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Oh Lord Jesus Christ, to whom we  
send our prayers, mend the  
roofs of our lives battered by  
the storms & cracked by the heat  
& repair the leaks of our lives  
put in the broken lights  
Sanctify beauty in unity &  
Sanctify our lives that we  
may be blessed & have blessing  
to bestow upon others

*The above is a facsimile of one of Mr. Wanamaker's  
Prayer Notes.*

## *Prayers of John Wanamaker*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our blessed Father, we worship Thee as the keeper and comforter of man. Thou art his Creator and Redeemer, and Thou hast offered to abide with the believing soul forever. We would receive Thee, Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, and lodge Thee in our hearts for the solace and comfort of Thy grace. We need Thee so much, blessed Holy Ghost, and Thee, the Father, and Thee, most adorable Christ, the Son of the Father—we need all, and always.

The Lord Himself dwell in us and give us an eye to see the altar in the cloud, the flame in the night-time, and the sign in the sky of the summer day. Establish us in the faith “that all things work together for good” in order that we may not want to meddle with, or question Thy providence. Believing in the living God, may we rest in that faith, as men rest under a roof that no storm can shake. The Lord hear our cry that we may become holy, and glad, and young. Amen.

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**H**EAVENLY FATHER, to-morrow none of us will be as young as we are to-day. Not to read Thy Book aright is to lose another day, and put off our getting into Thy love and knowing Thy plan for our lives. Not to call upon Thee, to-day, in sincere prayer for Thy wisdom and help, is to neglect an opportunity and to risk a certainty on the hazard and the uncertainty of another day that may never come. Thou hast said: "Seek Me early and thou shalt find Me." May our hearts respond gladly to this invitation. With something more than the earnestness of a merely earthly seeking, may we say: "I will give Thee my best strength and bloom of my best years, before the evil days draw nigh, in which I am compelled to say, 'I have no pleasure in them.'" Amen.

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**WE** are glad, O God, to be in Thine house, and will sing of Thy mercy. We come to Thee in the Name of Jesus, Thy Son. There are some who disavow the Name of Jesus, but His Name is our plea, the Name chosen of God and precious. Put Thine arms about us. Protect and guide us and give us of Thy grace to supply all our needs according to the riches Thou hast in glory by Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

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**BLESSED SAVIOUR**, Mighty Son of God, wounded but not destroyed, buried and risen again, to Thee we come with full hearts, with memory charged with thankfulness, and again we make oath and say that by the grace of God we will be Christ's evermore. Help us through the weariness of life, whisper to us that life is but a poor, dull, gray day which prepares the way for the dawn of heaven; then shall we be patient, resigned, loving, merciful, pure, good, with hearts quickened to hear the sounds of our Lord's coming. Then it will be that many a time we shall be surprised into sudden and ecstatic joy. Amen.



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**WE** come to Thy Throne, Almighty and Everlasting God, and we thank Thee for the sanctuary. Outside, the world is wet and rough, but here is a rest and peace above understanding. By the medium of human saintship and fellowship, Thou dost keep the world together until it comes time to burn it, but when that time comes not an hair of Thy servants' hair will be singed. Thou wilt save all who have believed and cared to be saved.

In the journey we are making, we care not how many miles we travel, if we may but keep in Thy fellowship all along the way. Baptize us with the Holy Ghost, and if our way be up-hill and rough, "out of our stony griefs, Bethel we'll raise." Give us, to-day, a gladdening visitation. Bring us every day nearer to the morning, ever singing Thy free grace and dying love. Amen.

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**O** LORD, Thou canst clear away the morning clouds and give the benediction of Thy sunlight. Thou canst also clear away the night of darkness in our minds about holy things. Thou canst clear away the spirit of neglect, and doubt, and fear, and turn all the clouds into glory of faith and peace. Send, to-day, some good angel from Heaven with a light to point out in Thy Book a message for us all. Teach us that life's battle is but for a little while, and that the victory is Heaven, forever. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, wilt Thou help us to read to-day's lesson and think it over well? May we remember that whatsoever a man, a boy or a girl soweth, that shall he, or she also reap. If we have made fools of ourselves before Thee, or our family, and have turned aside from Thy Son, our Lord, we confess our sin. Do not destroy us utterly, we pray Thee. Do not blow out the little candle still burning in our hearts. Hear, and pity, and help, and take us in, as if we were wounded birds. We ask it in the Name of Him who came to seek and save the lost. Amen.

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**O THOU**, of whom the heavens are but a symbol, and this Sabbath Day a sign and covenant of Thy love to tired men and an ignorant world, we come to Thee in worship and in praise. We bless Thee, for the brightness of the autumn that lights us to the House of God, where we may find rest and refreshment. We have come with our morning psalm and prayer. We will say "Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever." Come to us, we humbly pray. We halt at the Cross of Thy Son, and pray Thee, O Father, that out of Thy strength Thou wilt mend our weakness and perfect our faith. For the sake of Jesus our Lord, we pray. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, which art in Heaven, if we bring unto Thee our little song of praise and love and thankfulness, Thou wilt not disdain the strain. Please, blessed Christ, whom we worship with the Father, and most gracious Holy Ghost, do Thou, as the only begotten Son of the Most High, make up what our song and prayer lack. Deliver us from small ideas, from ignorance, from prejudice and from neglect of opportunities, and lead us into the truth and true light of life. Lighten us with Thy smile, and bring unto us a token of Thy love, and we will give Thee all the glory. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, we have come many ways and long distances to meet in Thy house for supplication and to receive Thy message. Some have come from hospitals and darkened chambers. Some have come from houses of mourning and from freshly dug graves. Some have come from the woods and hills of summer holidays. Some have come, troubled and tried, fearful and despondent. Some have come with gladness to praise Thee for victories achieved in Thy Name.

May we all make known to Thee our needs and in Thy Infinite mercy hear and help us, according to Thy wisdom and love. Lift upon us the light of Thy countenance, and enable us to see Thy love and leading and to be sure that at the last we shall not be left by the way, but saved by grace, unfailing. We present our prayers in the Name of our risen Lord. Amen.

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**O LORD**, be not far away when any of us are in trouble, but be Thou the strong tower unto which we may run and be safe. Shower a warm blessing upon us in our fears, and in the fierce heat of discouragement and peril, lift us up when we are cast down and shoot Thy beams of life and light into every Herod's prison. Help us to endure the crosswinds of life. Let Thy eye, tender and pitiful, look upon us, and be to us a source of comfort, and help us to put out our hands to every good work. O blessed Christ, gone before us, be our strength and stay through all the journey that lies ahead. Amen.

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**WE** thank Thee, O Master of life and beauty, for the lovely garments in which Thou hast robed the springtime—the work of the invisible fingers of One who hides Himself in His gifts of beauty and love and riches.

We thank Thee for coming to the earth in human form, because by that act Thou hast brought us nearer to Thyself and given us a fuller knowledge of the Father.

We feel our own littleness and seek Thee in order that we may learn Thy purposes for our lives, that we may be stronger and more hopeful. This we ask in the Name of Thy Son. Amen.



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**O FATHER**, into this place, so much older than many of us, but built for us to use without cost, by those who feared God and consecrated it to His worship, we come with hymns of thanks and praise to learn from the Book written for us, of Thy plan, in the words of Thy Son, set down by those who saw and heard Him. We pray Thee to give us willing minds to learn, and ready hearts to believe all that Thou hast spoken. Let none of us be allowed to wander into the darkness of carelessness and neglect, or into the paths of folly. Put forth to us Thine arm of Almightyness and give us a proper view of the responsibilities of life. Cover our prayers with Thy Son's Name. Amen.

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**O** GOD, our Father, ever accessible and desirous to have us come to Thee, we might have been so much further on in knowledge and happiness if we had sought Thee oftener, and really hearkened unto Thy voice. Father, graciously forgive us and remove all that hinders our devotion, that it may not be difficult for us to come into Thy presence. Command our thoughts and prove Thy power over our spirits that our lives may count for Thy glory. Amen.

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**H**EAVENLY FATHER, we come to Thee now and we ask that Thou wilt work a miracle in our hearts, through Thy Book, by revealing to us, to-day, a sight of the human heart at enmity with God, and Thy Son in Pilate's Hall. May we see the malice, mocking, spitting, scoffing and smiting displayed when men's hands, hearts, tongues, feet and eyes were against the Saviour. May the tide of divine love meeting human hatred make a deep and lasting impression on our hearts, thereby overcoming our unbelieving nature. We ask it in the Name of our Crucified Lord. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Maker and Preserver of all things, blessed and only Potentate, through Thine only, most holy, well-beloved Son, we approach Thee with deep reverence and love in the attitude of supplication. We are constrained to pray, yet we know not how to pray as we ought, but Thou wilt teach us if we come with meek and repentant hearts. We confess our littleness, our unworthiness, our neglect and actual trespass. We bow our souls before Thee in self-accusation and in penitence. Do Thou in Thy infinite mercy look upon us, not in judgment, but in pity, sympathy and redeeming love. We cry unto Thee, "God, be merciful unto me a sinner," and concerning each of us may the angels say—"Behold he prayeth."

Father, Shepherd, and Redeemer, we put ourselves wholly into Thy hands. Thou art the physician of our souls. Heal us with the balm of hope, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and tell us when we may open our eyes, with our blindness finished, and see wondrous things in Thy law and behold God and Heaven that is open to the souls Thou dost pardon. Amen.

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**WE** thank Thee, O Christ, that Thou didst come into the world to light man's way through it to the Holy City and though the way lies through the Slough of Despond and hard by Doubting Castle, and up the steep hill of Difficulty, yet He who suffered in Gethsemane still lives to help us, and the light of Calvary shines through dark days and starless nights and makes the way over the river Jordan bright and safe to the city of the one song, where they sing only the song of the redeemed.

Let no man unmake himself by blindness of unbelief. Heal the eyes of his understanding. May he stand in the sunny windows of God's love and truth and find this earth to be but one apartment of the great house of God, and the vestibule of Heaven. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY and Everlasting Father,  
Jesus our Lord, Blessed Holy Ghost,  
everywhere and ever near us, the stars of the  
night, the sun of the day, and the sky that  
roofs us, glorify Thee, their Maker. The  
clinging vines along the road, the white clover  
in the field, and the creeping honeysuckle on  
the fences, are little gospels of love and  
beauty and they glorify Thee, Thou God of  
the gardens. The orchards have blossomed  
with promise and the little birds, eating from  
their cherry-tree tables, glorify Thee. Thou  
wilt not disappoint the birds, nor let even the  
squirrels or the rabbits starve.

O Lord, when Thou comest to look for  
fruit from the men of this Brotherhood, let  
not one of them disappoint Thee. Thou dost  
not like uselessness. We remember to have  
read that in Thy lifetime here upon earth,  
Thou didst cut one tree down because it bore  
no fruit. May we *abound* in fruit, plentiful  
and good, not merely ornamental. Thou hast  
planted us in a goodly place. May there be  
something in our lives to please Thee for all  
that Thou hast done for us. Amen.

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**O** GOD, our Father, send a blessing to every one, to-day, and may each heart be made conscious of a look from Heaven. Let none feel lonely, sad, or forsaken, but let Heaven's angels sing in his ear of hope and home. Relight our gone-out lamps, and clean out the dead ashes in our hearts. Kindle a warm, comfortable fire upon the altars of our souls, and bring us back again from our wandering afar. Let Thy forgiveness be as waves of the sea and fill this house with tears of joy, as we gather around the Cross of our Redeemer, to sing praises unto the Lamb. Amen.

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**O** LORD, the god of this world has blinded the eyes of many that they believe not. To them, Jesus Christ has no form or comeliness. He passes by and they do not care. Open Thou our eyes, O Christ, to see ourselves as we are and to see Thee as Thou art, and like Bartimæus, may we be healed and enter upon a new life. Thou hast graciously said, "Incline your ear and come unto Me. Hear and your souls shall live." It is not by what we see but by what we hear. We remember that Bartimæus did not see Lazarus, or the lame man throw away his crutches, but we thank Thee that faith saved him, and that faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. May we, to-day, through the hearing of Thy Word, grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Amen.



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**O** GOD of Heaven and earth, it is not under any compulsion that we come to Thee, but a hallelujah in our hearts will not lie still. It must be spoken to Thy praise in our prayers and glad worship at Thy holy feet. We have such poor ways of measuring things, for we do not understand. Wilt Thou take the scales from our eyes, and the dead rocks from our hearts. Undo the devil's halter from our mouths and open Thou our lips to confess Thee, Father, Saviour, and Holy Ghost.

If any man would do evil, the Lord break both his arms and cripple both his hands before he does it. If he would open his mouth in slander and lying and blasphemy, the Lord put gravel stones between his teeth so that he cannot speak to the hurt of his own and his brother's life. If any man would do good and show light and sweetness and charity, the Lord's angels be around about such an one, a thousand fold, until his holy purposes are accomplished. May we have the consciousness of liberty through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, which art in Heaven, we thank Thee for the Lord's Day which is as a mountain peak high up in the air, with the clouds of doubt and worldliness lying far below. We have heard of the better life and of the higher places of the city of God, where there are no shadows, and our hearts have longed to enjoy its restfulness. We have heard that "all have sinned and come short of Thy glory," and we know that we are not exceptions to this all-inclusive law. Come to us amid all this Sabbath sunshine, in the person of Thy Son. Show us the light above—the brightness of the sun, that our souls may be flooded with a new morning. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our Father, it is al-  
together by Thy grace that we are per-  
mitted to appear before Thee. The Cross of  
Thy Son is our meeting-place, for without it  
our prayers would be of no avail. We thank  
Thee that He has become our propitiation,  
our High Priest and Advocate. O Lord,  
Thou hast accepted our beginnings and we  
believe that Thou wilt perfect that which  
Thou hast begun. Lead us on as children.  
Teach us. Give us faith and aspirations that  
we may grow in grace and in knowledge.  
Help us to be young-hearted, that we may,  
with childlike faith, lay hold upon Thy  
promises, and experience the fullness of Thy  
love through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, we would not shut our eyes and talk as to nothing, and have our words fall back upon us like dead autumn leaves, and call it prayer. In Thy wisdom Thou hast made our eyes incapable of seeing the far and final distances, but where we cannot see, we would trust to Thy grace, and rest our lives in Thy love. Thou hast kindled within our hearts great desires, and Thou hast revealed Thyself to us, in the person of Thy Son. Enable us, by Thy grace, to press forward, "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Thou hast written for us Thy Great Book regarding Thyself and Thy Kingdom. In it is contained the testimony of witnesses, who have lived and who are known in history. To deny Thee is to deny the forces of the storm, the sea, and the sun, for they also testify of Thy reality. Help us to read aright the life that Thou didst create in the beginning, and hast sustained through all centuries and that still dwells in all living men. Truly our life is from God, and must be accounted for to God. Illuminate us by Thy Spirit that our lives may be newly created in Jesus Christ, through whom alone is salvation. Amen.

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**O** LORD, our God, Thou hast taught us to make supplications and intercession, and to whom we are directed to give thanks, we beseech Thee to receive our prayers offered to Thy Divine Majesty. We thank Thee that Thou hast unveiled Thyself and made known to us Thy attributes of love, mercy, justice and power. Thou hast given us a revelation of Thyself in Thy Holy Word, which came in old time, not by the will of man, but by holy men who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. We bless Thee that Thou hast crowned Thy revelation in Jesus Christ, who was made in the likeness of sinful man. We praise Thee for His wondrous grace, large-thoughted care, patient endurance, calm self-denial and sacrifice, even down to the dark hour of Calvary.

O blessed Christ, Thy finished work on earth in purchasing salvation is over. Come back again and walk with us, who must toil and suffer in the fulfillment of life's task, that we may exemplify the truths and hope of Thy Gospel in daily service. We ask this in Thy precious name. Amen.

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**M**AY the Lord be with us this beauteous morning of a summer day. We crowd up close to the Cross of Calvary to say our prayers in the name of the Man "wounded for our transgressions and by whose stripes we are healed." We think that we may have crosses to bear, but there is none like Thine, O Man of Sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

If any man has come into Thine house depressed and in darkness, lift upon him the light of Thy countenance. Let him be wholly overcast with the beams of Thy love. Have us all in Thy holy keeping throughout this day. O Lord, stay and stop all war. Turn away the sword and silence the roar of the cannon that Thy Name be praised; and the glory shall be all Thine. Amen.

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**L**ORD, Thou hast made us and Thou knowest the mystery of our nature. Stoop to our littleness and condescend to our weakness for we have spoiled the few days we have lived. We come into Thy house and to Thy Book for help. Read it unto our hearts we pray Thee and change our ways. Relight the fire in every dark room of our being that the light of God may shine from the windows of our souls as constant beacons to our fellow-men to the way of light. Saviour of all men, leave a blessing upon every heart, to-day, and we will give Thee the praise and the glory forever. Amen.



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**O** LORD, we come into Thy sanctuary to-day, the place wherein we have often seen Thee in the times gone by. In the memories of the past, we are rich, and glad, and grateful, for surely we have seen the Lord, when wrestling in prayer with the unseen One. He has changed our names from Jacob to Israel and given us a new authority in life and we feel that Thou art our living Father, the Eternal God, "our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home." We give each other into Thy tender keeping this day, while we worship in this Thy house. Make us conscious of Thy presence, and bestow Thy benediction upon us. Amen.

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**O**UR GOD, we bless Thee for this Sabbath Day, for it bears the finger-prints of Thy hand. We enjoy its quietude. We love the house of prayer, because in it our spirits are made lighter and our souls are lifted up nearer to Heaven. Our early Sabbath mornings speak to us of the Resurrection morning, when the angels talked over an empty tomb and declared the triumph of Thy power. Bless us, we pray Thee, in our fellowship together, and let Thy rich blessing be upon our homes, our wives, sisters, mothers, and little children.

Help us to win our bread without stripes, or hardships or loss of time. May we treat each other honestly, fairly, sympathetically and generously. Prosper the President and grant him the wisdom in the administration in all affairs of State. Give to us the gladness of heart, and make us think of Heaven, as well as earth, that we may be kept constantly in Thy fear and favor. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, who didst make the world and all the things therein, and so art the Lord of Heaven and earth, Thou didst send Thy Son to the world that we might know Thee. Thou didst tell Jesus to say that He was the light of the World; and from Him the light has been shining adown the years, bringing peace and plenty. Come into our hearts, blessed Father, through Jesus Christ. Come as the morning light comes, and flood our homes and paths with the brightness of Thy presence. May we open the shutters and pull up the blinds, so that all darkness may be dispelled that we may not stumble in the dark, but have our lives made joyous and our hearts become temples of the living God, by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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**O FATHER**, we have been journeying to the country for its quiet, and to the sea for refreshing air and soothing waters, to restore the strength of our bodies. We come to Thee who art the fountain of Life to drink at Thy springs the water that can revive and restore the life of our souls. It is not to Jacob's well that we come, but to the higher springs, that we may be like trees planted by the water. Let not the summer heat of pleasure dry us, but may we bear fruit in due season.

Pity and forgive us our faults and failures, and cause us to keep close to the old wells of our Christian life—the Church, the Brotherhood, and the Altar of Prayer. Amen.

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**G**RACIOUS and loving Father, how far we have come by Thy grace and how good Thou hast been to us, far beyond our deserving. We have so often wondered and wandered instead of walking on trustingly by Thy side. Forgive and forget our follies. Heal the sores of our heart, and head off the adversary of our souls as we resolutely push on upward to the heavenly city.

We thank Thee for Bethany, and remember how Thou hast led us and fed us for more than forty years. No other home on earth has been like this to us—no other place so restful and comforting. We bless Thee for all Thou hast given us, and pray Thee that we may find some way to give something to Thee. When the days of our coming to this earthly habitation are over, and the change comes, may it be for each of us “to be clothed upon with our house which is from Heaven.” Amen.

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**O** GOD, Thou hast set in motion the world's great clock, and from the eternity of the past it is wound up to go on to the eternity of the future.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under Heaven. All things are beautiful in Thy time, and always shall be, until Thine angel shall declare that time shall be no more.

The massive trees, the bright gardens and the blossoming shrubbery are witnesses to Thy faithfulness.

These Sabbath days are Thy times for worship and praise and prayer, and for ploughing into Thy Book of Truth.

When our days of trial come, may we remember Joseph who through trial ascended to the place of power.

We say our prayers through Jesus Thy Son. Amen.

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**I**T is by Thy grace, Almighty Father, that we are in the house of God to-day. We thank Thee for even a foothold in the sanctuary where Thine altars of prayer are set up.

This is our moment of prayer. We pray to Thee, our Father, for ears to hear Thy call; for eyes to see eternal things; for hearts made clean by the all-purifying blood of the Christ of the Cross, to receive the Divine truth of Thine all-redeeming love.

Give us a vision of Calvary, that we may be holy and glad until we reach the eternal Sabbath Land.

We ask it in the Name of Thy dear Son.  
**Amen.**

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**O** THOU who openest Thy hand and satisfieth the desire of every living thing, we are all guests at Thy table—the smallest insect, the buffaloes on the plains, the elephants in the jungles. Thou hast created us all, and it is by Thy power we are sustained.

We come into Thine House in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Blessed One, our infinite and only Saviour, to catch some glimpse of the Father.

We have been buried in the dust of the week, and have worked continually on things of this life. To-day, we come to Thee for the things eternal, for which our souls thirst.

Our help is not in each other, it is in the living God. Deliver us, we pray Thee, from our own little reason and reasonings. Enable us to stretch the wings of faith and hope.

Out of the blue heavens above come to us, Thou enthroned Immanuel, and to Thy Name shall be the glory. Amen.



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**O**UR HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou art the God of the summer and autumn, the fields, the vineyards and the gardens, which still speak of Thy bounty. They are all a part of Thy revelation just as is the Bible.

Thou giveth us Thy Gospel in order that our conscience, hearts and lives should be planted with Thy truth. Thou dost look for fruit just as the farmer looks for corn and the gardener for flowers. We thank Thee for this goodly place in which to grow and for Thy gardeners, the teachers, and we pray that we may not be simply ornamental, but that Thou wilt find plentiful fruit that therein Thou mayest be glorified. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER and our God, it seems as though a little cloud opens each morning to let in the day, and then vanishes away. Long summer days come and withdraw and the year dies and vanishes away, to teach us that time is transient and passes from us like the leaves of the trees. This is the way in which Thou hast been telling us that there is nothing long or permanent but eternity.

Make us wise to think and act with eternity in mind. Feed our little lives, to-day, and give us a foothold in Thy grace that we be not wanderers from Thee, and to Thy Name shall be all the glory. Amen.

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**G**RACIOUS SAVIOUR, Master and Teacher, who didst say, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God," make plain to us, even to the least and youngest of us, how that the kingdom of God is within us; not in meat and drink, but in righteousness and peace and joy through submission to the Holy Ghost, calling us to repentance and the forsaking of sin and the putting forth of the utmost endeavors of obedience to the will of God.

Help us, O Lord, in our weakness, and wait for us a little, if we fall behind, to bring us on again in grace, knowledge and strength to do Thy will.

Set Thy Throne up in our hearts. Make us loyal, loving subjects of Thy rule. Stop us from having any other god or king. Hold us back from exalting ourselves, and may the kingdom of God be to us, not in mere words, but in mighty power. Amen and Amen.

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**O** LORD, we thank Thee for the manifestation of Thy love in the gift of Thy Son for our redemption, and we thank Thee that through Him there is forgiveness to be found for the sins of the past and grace for days to come. Cleanse us from all that is displeasing in Thy sight, and fill us with Thy Spirit, so that we may be efficient in service and pure in motive.

Keep us from seeking great things for ourselves and give us grace so that we may be willing to do the little things for Thee. Enable us to realize that there is nothing small in Thy sight, when it is done in Thy Name. O, Thou keeper of Israel, keep us until we shall enter into the fullness of Thy joy. Amen.

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**O**UR GOD, Thou dost reveal to us the Divine Will which, at first, began to be spoken by the Lord and was confirmed unto us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders. We thank Thee that we are not left in the dark, for Thou hast taught us how to live in harmony with our brothers, and if they err, to gain them by oft-repeated patience. Keep us counting seventy times seven, before we give up. Help us to keep in touch with the Divine Mind, and be able to prevail in prayer, by keeping company with two or three who pray, to whom there is the guarantee that Christ Himself will be among them. Amen.

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**L**ORD GOD of earth and Heaven, it is by Thy mercy we are living, and here in Thy house enjoying together the blessings of health and fellowship with Thee and with one another. Truly Thy mercy endureth forever. Verily God is love, and there is no limit to His succession of mercies. As the years come and go, may we be found standing in Thy power and might, saved by grace through Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, which art in Heaven, we give Thee thanks that to-day Thou hast opened to us the Sabbath door.

The earth is Thine for Thou didst make it, and set it in the heavens; whatever light it has of sun, moon and stars is only from Thy hand, and that same hand of Thine has been upon us for good, night and day.

Thou art the God and Father of all life, and now we are stopping at the Father's door, because with many life is just beginning, and we need to learn from Thee the right direction that we may not wander or go wrong, and so fail at last to reach Thy home.

We seek Thy blessing through Jesus Christ Thy Son and our Saviour. Amen.

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**W**E return Thee thanks, our Father, for bringing us together again through summer heat and heavy storms, protected from accident on the land and the dangers of the sea.

Thou didst bring a lot of poor, ignorant and dumb slaves out of Egypt. Foolishly and wickedly they soon forgot Thee and thought they had gained their freedom by their own acts. Thou didst fight for them, and they thought they did it all themselves.

Thou didst condescend to be pitiful and merciful, and didst plan to make them a great nation, and at last threw upon them the responsibility of determining their own future.

So also Thou art teaching us. May this day be the top of the hill, where we shall hear Moses and where we will settle what we will do.

The Name of the Lord shall be our banner against the devil.

We pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen.



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**O** THOU, who was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities, who took our chastisement to purchase peace for us, by whose stripes we are healed, by Thy blessed Spirit reveal this mystery to our hearts.

Spirit of the Living God, Father and Son, we bless Thee for the mystery and miracle of Thy love. Leave us not in the darkness of unbelief and little faith. Let us not be small-minded and poverty-stricken in littleness of revealed knowledge.

Teach us to find our wings that we may find the gate of the morning light, and faith at the Fountain opened in the House of David, that we may be cleansed from sin and uncleanness through the atoning sacrifice of Thy Son.

Do Thou hear our prayer and grant an answer for Christ's sake. Amen.

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**J**EHOVAH, our God, Thou didst come to the temple of old through the cloud that fell upon the Ark of the Covenant. Thou hast blotted out the thick cloud of our transgressions.

Thou didst overshadow the people and speak to them through the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

When Thy Son led His disciples out as far as Bethany, He was received up through the clouds. And the promise is that through the clouds He shall come again.

Even as Thou didst speak to Moses, Thy servant, at Sinai out of the clouds, we beseech Thee to speak to us to-day through the clouds about Moses.

Great is Thy Name and greatly to be praised. We would join hands with each other and the invisible choir of angels, to sing Thy praise. Thou coverest the heavens with a cloud and makest them Thy chariot, to water the earth and fill its springs and rivers. Thou dost, in the sunset, touch the clouds with wondrous beauty of sapphire and gold.

Grant us a message from the clouds, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**WE** pray Thee, our Father, to show us more and more of Thy truth, in order that we may know that our spiritual life is increasing day by day. Forbid that our knowledge should exceed our enthusiasm. May both grow together until we all burn with sacred ardor. May our lives be shrines of the Holy One.

We bless Thee for all Thy love. No tongue can tell its amount, tenderness, its spontaneousness. It cannot be put into words. Thou art our light, our love, our strength. May we be rooted deep and fruited full to glorify Thee, our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

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**O THOU**, who dost sit in the circle of eternity, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders, we are stunned and blinded by the desolations of wind and water, of fire and destruction that are sweeping the earth.

Let the day of mercy still linger and stay the tides of disaster and death that are rolling in upon the land. Hear the groans of the hurt and stay the east wind, so blighting, and temper the coldness of the night to the unsheltered and the wounded.

Hear the sobbing prayers of this stricken, collapsing, helpless land, under condemnation, bowed down with fear.

All things are in Thine hand, Lord. Save or we perish! We humbly confess our sins and pray that Thou wilt make full pardon, in the Name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, in Thy Fatherly kindness Thou hast visited us to-day, revealing to us that Thou hast summer days always for us at Thy command.

Take up our small handful of days and bathe them with the glory of Heaven's light, that we may be neither blind nor deaf nor starved. Awaken us to answer every sign in Thy condescending Heaven, that we may be ready by the power of Thy Grace to run in the way of Thy commandments.

O, that we had hearkened unto Thee long ago. We thought we could manage for ourselves and our lives have shrunk and become shallow, mean and cunning, in which there is no divinity, when our whole life might have been a tender hymn.

Let no more bitter bread or waters of sorrow come to us and grant that we may walk in the noonday of Thy love, and to Thee we shall ascribe all the honor and glory. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, which art in Heaven, we thank Thee for all our days. Thou hast kissed them every morning and evening with love from Thyself and with opportunities for ourselves; but we thank Thee most devoutly for the Day of days, the Sabbath, the Lord's Day, the jewel of all days—the Day that rises like a high tower, from whose windows we see afar and behold the land beyond the stars.

We bless Thee for the uplifted Man, our enthroned Redeemer, who in mercy and love and tenderness for us, was wounded and bruised. May we do nothing but fall into His extended arms. We pray in His Name, and for His glory. Amen.

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**B**Y Thy gracious kindness, O Lord, we are living under the roof that Thou didst build the first day of creation. Thou hast set down in Thy Miracle Book the things Thou didst care to have us know about Thee and Thy work. Thou art God and there is none other, the Father who with the Son and the Holy Ghost didst make and dost keep up the world.

Thou alone art the explanation of Thyself. We have never seen Thee, but we feel Thee and know that we are booked to return to Thee. Grant that when that time comes we may be what Thou didst want us to be. "The world passeth away, and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." May our lives be obedient to Thy will, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**G**REAT FATHER, we come together in Thy Name. Our first object is to worship Thee. Thankfully we come with one another, for we be brethren.

Eternal Father, Thou art the Spirit and the Father of spirits. Enlighten us in the spirit of light and enable us to surrender ourselves to the life of the Holy Spirit. We ask all in the Name of Jesus, Thy Son. Amen.



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**O**UR FATHER and our God, Thy glory lights up the sky to-day and all the world shares in it, so also does Thy love reach out over the world to give the light of Thy grace to Jew and Gentile and every corner of the world. We thank Thee for the proof of it in our lesson of the Greek mother and her little daughter, and the story of the Roman captain's slave.

We thank Thee that the road is clear to every one to be healed and saved. O, grant that each of the Bethany family may be children of light. Blessed Christ, drive out the world's darkness, and bring in the fullness of Thy true light that we may be blessed. Amen.

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**WE** come to Thee, O God, our Creator,  
in the confidence of Thy love and as-  
sured by Thy promise to hearken to our  
prayer.

O wondrous and patient Father, the loving  
God and redeeming Christ, we worship Thee,  
who art wisdom, power, justice and truth,  
and pray Thee to bestow upon us the Divine  
light that we walk life's pathway surely to  
the everlasting hills of light and to the City,  
whose walls are jasper and whose gates are  
pearl. Amen.

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**O** GOD, we are glad to be in the great family house of the Father, to which Thou hast called us by the voices of men and of angels, who have written Thy Words of invitation in the great Book in which Thou dost reveal Thyself.

We desire to link our lives with the Redeemer, and be associated in the citizenship of Heaven. Lead us upward and forward, and let nothing come into our lives to cause us to forsake the altar built on Calvary. Give us a good passage over earth's dry land to the beautiful shores beyond Jordan, through Jesus Christ, our Leader and Great Deliverer. Amen.

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**O** GOD, our God, we come to Thee in the Name of Jesus, for without His Name there is no prayer. He is our sufficiency and in His sufficiency we abound. He is our propitiation and great High Priest. We live not by our own strength but lean upon the arm Almighty, resting upon the heart all tender, comforted by the love never failing.

O God, we have heard of the sting of Death, but we have heard also of Christ the Victor, the bright and morning Star. We take the pierced Hand and trust to the blood that flowed from His side. We thank Thee that it is an infinite election and yet Thou dost whisper to us to "take heed lest thou fall, or slip, or be thrown down." Our Father, we will not trifle with Thy love, but pray that we, by Thy grace, may walk in the light as He is in the light, and the glory shall all be Thine. Amen.

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**WE** praise Thee, O God, for a Book so great and good. May the Holy Spirit enable us to read Thy Book humbly, and may He open the eyes of our minds to behold the wondrous things that are written and preserved by God for our benefit.

Bestow Thy Spirit upon us that we may have a hearing ear, a thirst for knowledge, a hunger after larger wisdom. Grant us great patience of heart, and tender sympathy with Thyself in all Thy works of love and mercy. Let none of us be blind and walk over precipices to unmeasured chasms of defeat and failure. For Christ's sake. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, we do not understand the cross-lights on the vexing stone walls which throw their shadows across our short day. We want a teacher to go with us, not for an hour, but to abide with us through all our days.

Grant Thy grace to the heavy-laden and those weary with watching over the pain-sufferers and cause them to sing, even in the hospitals.

O Man of the Cross! Christ of Calvary!  
At the right hand of the Majesty on High,  
turn our petitions into gracious answers!  
Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY and Eternal God, our Father, the meadows and the trees are speaking Thy message to us to-day—the message of the gift munificent, without money and without price.

We thank Thee for the little children of nature, hidden in corners, in sand, in cool streams, under the rocks, in the shadow of forest trees, suspended from boughs in the air, not missing one square of earth, but all lavishly dressed by Thy power. We thank Thee for the little birds, saying their family prayers from four to five in the morning, and the congregational singing coming later in the day, by rippling waters, dusky dells, and deep dewy glades through all woodlands, bringing nearer the Creator, Provider and Keeper, in the revealing of the Father's thought and care.

Thou didst not spin out the earth and say, "Go and take care of thyself"; but Thou didst make it Thine own estate, and didst work in it as in a garden. Our Father, we are little plants and small trees in Thy great garden here below. Wilt Thou, by Thy tender care, make us to blossom and to bring forth fruit to Thy praise and glory. Amen.

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**O THOU**, who art God, and who didst make the world and art the keeper of it, we know that Thou art full of mercy and love and art long-suffering of our neglect and badness.

We come to Thee, to-day, with an offering of praise, for Thou art worthy to receive the praise and adoration of our hearts, for Thou art God and there is none beside Thee.

Be merciful unto us for our faults, mistakes and unthankfulness. Meet us as sinners. Our lives are a crying want. Lord, answer this prayer of human love, and keep us from falling, through the grace that is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.



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**WE** give Thee thanks, O Lord, for this bright, winter-time day, with neither clouds nor storm. Wilt Thou, O Lord, clear up the whole earth, dispel the clouds of war and storms of battles in Thine own right way. This is our hope and prayer. Stop the people who are digging their own graves. The years are all Thine. Wilt Thou put one day in them to end war? Thy will be done, and Thy Kingdom come, for Thine is the power and the glory. Amen.

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**WE** are grateful to-day, our Father, for this Sunday-school lesson, which tells us of a house in Damascus and the sending of a man to it, who was just starting to pray. We know that prayer is the outcome of some sense of need. There is a mercy seat and a God above us, who is always at home to hear (like a mother) the faintest cry of His children.

Grant that we may be known as of those who pray. Wilt Thou lead us as Thou didst Saul, of old. Stop us if journeying upon the wrong road. Turn us around and send some good man, or dog, to set us on the right track.

Grant us our petition in Thy love and mercy. Amen.

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**O** GOD, Thou seeth us here again and dost know that we are grateful for all Thy lovingkindness and tender mercies. We have come with hymns in our hearts and prayers upon our lips. We come to Thee as the God of Abraham, but, more especially, as the Father of all that seek Thee and the Redeemer of the ends of the earth. Thy Son spoke concerning Thy power and love and said that we would find access to Thy Throne of Grace, because He died and rose again.

Search Thou our faults and put our sins away forever. In our weakness make us strong with Thy strength. Lighten our understanding by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Speak even a little word of sympathy to the wandering and sorrowing. Let not even a little child lose the way to the Father. Gather us all in everlasting kindness, and bind us to Thyself with the cords of Thy love. Amen.

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**WE** humbly and reverently approach Thee, O God, "the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity," whose Name is holy; "great and marvellous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty, just and true are Thy ways."

Thou King of saints and Saviour of sinners, who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy Name? Thou only art holy, and to Thee all nations and peoples shall come and worship before Thee.

We come unto Thee with our prayers, presenting them through our Great High Priest, who is passed into the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, who is touched with our infirmities and was in all points tempted as we are. We come boldly to the Throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In His Name we present ourselves.  
Amen.

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**O** GOD, we would not be silent in Thy house, for we have received of Thy mercy. We answer Thy mercy with a song and bring Thee hearts filled with words of love and supplication. We wonder at Thy continual, tender love when ours is so often ice cold. Cold is the wind of the world, deep are its valleys, so trying and withering is the blast of care, and the call of the wild. To-day, we would tarry in Thy house. Renew our trust and draw water from the wells of salvation.

Pity our smallness. Lead us in our blindness and multiply Thy compassion toward us, that we may walk in the light of a great hope and be ministered to by watching angels. Establish Thy kingdom in our hearts, we humbly pray. Give us largeness and steadfastness of faith, resting in the living God and drawing strength from the Cross for all we need its cleansing support and daily inspiration. Read, Thou, with Thy own kind and loving eye, the needs of each one of us and according to our necessities minister to us out of Thy bountiful grace. We ask it in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

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**M**OST gracious Father, we thank Thee that while sometimes the weeks take us down-hill, yet these blessed Sundays bring us up again to the bright morning. Stop the world's attractions and diversions on this day that our bodies and souls may not be ruined by their curtaining off of the God who will outlive us.

May none of us take this life offhand, without care or carefulness, lest we play with edged tools, and so cut and scar ourselves everlastingly.

Grant that we may inherit the rich estate to which we are born through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, the world's Saviour. Amen.

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**O LORD,** Thou hast said that if a man trusts in Thee, he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, bringing forth fruit in season and that his leaf shall not wither, and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Thou hast also said that the ungodly are not so but are like the chaff which the wind bloweth away.

O Lord, put our feet in the right paths and help us to stay steadily in Thy ways; let none stray from Thy commandments which are sign-boards along the way. Give us a good candle for any darkness, and may we delight to be together on our Sabbath days to cheer and comfort each other, and to receive Thy blessing. In the Name of Thy Son we ask. Amen.

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**D**EAR LORD, in the midst of the excitements of the time, we thank Thee for the Sabbath and its sanctuary blessings. In the whirlwinds of the hour, in the midst of the billows of the infinite sea of difference of opinion, may we spend more time in the gardens of worship in the study of Thy Word. Give cooling draughts to the feverish, bread to the hungry, and undertake Thou for us that we fail not. Hear our prayers, to-day, in the Name of Thy dear Son. Amen.



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**O**UR FATHER, we thank Thee for the Sabbath without a cloud in the sky. Lift us we pray Thee above any shadows that are above us. Bid the clouds of sickness, disappointments, loneliness, losses, broken vows and troubled consciences to be dispersed. Show us what we are, and what we ought to be. May we see a light such as Paul saw, along our way, to-day, and may our eyes be opened and our hearts cry out, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" If we are smitten to the ground, let some kindly hand lead us into friendly places and to new paths of peace and blessing.

Father, Saviour, Holy Spirit, we are sorry to have grieved Thee. We confess our sins and forsake them, trusting to Thy love and Thy pardoning grace. Take back all wanderers. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**O** LORD, wilt Thou open our eyes to see that there is happiness in this world and a straight road? Enable us to take the Guide Book that we may not miss the Way. Give us honest minds, clear judgment, and responsive hearts. Our days and years are passing fast. May we have visions of the summer land of Heaven, as we journey toward the setting sun. Give us an eye to see the altar in the clouds, the flame in the stars of night, the sign of God in the fields of this summer day. May we believe in God, the living God, and rest in His house with the faith that no storm can break through our Father's care and protecting arm. Come to us with new visions of the Cross, a new light on redeeming blood. Father, Son and Holy Ghost, we worship Thee and give Thee the praise and adoration and our hearts. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, not one of us could tell what is hidden in the earth until the April sun came to bring to life the grass, and the flowers and the blossoms. No more can we tell what is hidden in Thy plan and purpose for us until the Son of Righteousness shall drive away the darkness and dreadfulness of war and reveal Thy law, to end hostilities and resentments and restore peace and good will on the earth.

O King of kings, and Lord of lords, help us and may we know Thy will to carry it out to its utmost fulfillment. Amen.

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**O** LORD, our God, Thou hast done great things for us and our song to Thee shall be true and glad. We bless Thee for sunshine, for all music, all young-heartedness and every ray and gleam of hope. There is peace to our souls in Thy Sabbath and rest in God's house. We come together from week to week to freshen, to renew and restore. Grant unto us greater power than our own. May we hear Thee say, "This is the way, walk ye in it," for the end is Heaven. Grant us the conscience of Thy presence, and the light of Thy countenance through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Thou hast formed us and not we ourselves. Thou art our living Father. Thou wilt not forsake the work of Thy own hands. Even men like ourselves would not make tubs and buckets to break them up and throw away, and Thou, being wiser than the wisdom of men, didst not make men in Thine own image to crush and discard them at the end of this brief life. God is love. All men have told us so and we have found in our own experience that the testimony of those, who have gone before us, is true. Grant us faith to trust that Thy plan may be accomplished and Thy Name eternally glorified. Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**O** LORD, Thine eyes are open to all who call upon Thee, and we are conscious of the truth that "Thou, God, seeth man." Come not with the candle of judgment to judge us. Save us from self-delusion, self-deceit, self-confidence. Cleanse our hands and our hearts. Deliver us from all our enemies and mercifully show us the way until life's little days are over, and to Thee shall be the glory. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our Father, we bless Thee for this house of prayer, and the open altar, and that the world has a gate in it that opens upon other worlds. We have been busy, here and there, and let the King pass by, not realizing that the things of salvation might be forever lost. We have almost mocked the prophets that have spoken to us. O, that we had hearkened and accepted the messages and the companionship of the angels to minister unto us. Wilt Thou, O Father, hear in Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, the pride of our sorrowing hearts and pity and forgive us with a great forgiveness, that we may truly not live a wild and foolish life, but begin the new and better life this day. For Christ's sake. Amen.

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**O** GOD, Thou hast come to us in the Person of Thy Son. By Him, Thy voice speaks to us in tenderness and love, and by His death we behold Thy justice and mercy.

Give us bread to-day in Thine house, and the water of which Thou didst speak at the well at Sychar. Grant us clear vision of truth and lofty purposes of soul. Dispel our fears and dry our tears. It is to the Cross of Thy Son we have come with this prayer. Amen.



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**O** GOD, our God, we are glad to-day to be in the old meeting-place, the only place with Thy sign-board on it, where God and man can be sure to meet. Help us to use this bright, good day of opportunity, for there is neither knowledge nor device in the grave whither we haste.

We thank Thee that we live under the Bible star, that marks right ways and warns against wrong ways, and that shines through every cloud. We are prone to be too self-trustful and try to pick our own ways. Pity our folly and keep us on roads of Thy blessing, from the beginning and on to the end. We ask it in the Name of Him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Thou dost bless us to bring us within the four walls of Thy sanctuary. We thank Thee that it is a house of restfulness and calmness, of prayer and praise, suggesting to us that there is an eternal Sabbath and an inheritance of peace; that the world began with an Eden and that it shall end with an Eden of glory. Be near to us through the summer and all the years, nearer and dearer, as life rolls on until the morning dawns and the shadows fade forever. Amen.

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**M**ERCIFUL FATHER, by Thy grace we again have access to Thy Throne. We thank Thee that we have seen Thy face and that we have heard the music of Thy voice. We have had revealed to us the gentleness of Thy Fatherliness through the life of Thy Son. We humble ourselves before Thee and pray that the law and life that Thy Son expounded and exemplified may displace our low, small, cunning lives, as the summer sun meets the snow and causes it to melt and the earth to bring forth an abounding harvest. Some of us are still in the winter-time of our lives. O Thou, who created the earth and dost recreate in the passing seasons, work upon our stony hearts and reclothe us with the beauty of a redeeming and spiritual nature.

We supplicate Thee, O Father and King, at this moment for a new manhood through the enabling Christ, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light. Amen.

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**O FATHER**, we thank Thee for the sanctuary. We love to come to it as Thy Son did when He was here upon the earth. Somehow it has rest and hope and peace in it, while the world lieth without, full of lies and disappointments, keen and sickening. In Thee, O Lord of Heaven and earth, is our infallible security, whilst Thou art keeping the patched-up and shattered earth together until Thou art ready to return. O God, Thy Name is above every other name—king, kaiser, pope or potentate.

We have come many miles on the road helped by our Saviour Lord. Sweet Christ, dear and dearer Christ, with many of us it is late in the afternoon of our lives. Do not leave us until we are inside the gate, in the never-ending summer life of Thy presence, at whose right hand there are pleasures forevermore. Amen.

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**WE** are here, our God, on the appointed Day in Thine own House. Thou hast promised to be here Thyself. Wilt Thou, who hast created us, read the story of our short lives in the light of Thine all-comprehensive plan! Do not chastise us, we beseech Thee, for our neglect and mistakes and faults, but untie the knots and straighten them out and keep us from the madness of indifference and wilful misdoing. Give us healing that we may no longer be cripples. May we be trees with heavenly blossoms, bearing heavenly fruits, that Thou mayest be glorified in us. Amen.

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**M**OST merciful Father, Thou wilt come to us in Thine own way. We shall know of Thy coming by the warmth of our hearts and the obedience of our wills.

We are travelling on a road that is mysterious, and we are distressed for lack of knowledge. If Thou wilt draw near unto us, the road will be shorter and brighter, and the air clearer. Grant us, to-day, undeniable proof of Thy presence. Make our hearts glad in fellowship with Thee and with Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**GOOD LORD**, we have come together for a few hours to rest and rekindle hope and peace. Take us up, by the Spirit, from this earthly sanctuary to the upper and innermost Sanctuary that we may get farther from low levels and pits, and into the glorious sunshine.

Be gracious to us for weakness and shortcomings. We run after the world and mix in its frivolities until its cold wind bites into our souls. Our hearts are full of self-accusations. Some sit in the loneliness of despair, withering in soul and body.

To-day, may we all overhear Heaven's music and catch a new gleam of the celestial glory of Thy presence, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**WE** humbly pray Thee, our Father, that we may be kept in our proper places, asking only the questions of intelligence and humility and submitting our wills wholly and lovingly to Thy will. Make us simple, sincere, true, always falling into the great current of Thy movements.

Deliver us from selfishness, littleness and the untried ways that fill our minds with distress. Cause us to seek Thy wisdom and guidance that we may not lose our temper and act foolishly as Naaman did, who almost lost the thing he most desired in all the world. Always keep us truly humble that all the glory may be Thine. Amen.



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**O** LORD, our God, the heavens declare Thy glory, and the firmament sheweth Thy handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

The dying winter struggles to give up her place that the spring may bring the birds and flowers. The laws of nature are perfect, and the laws of the God of nature are perfect, converting the soul. The testimonies of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

Thy voice, O God, has spoken to us in the twelve lessons of the past quarter. They have been rivers of revelation and hope, and we would be, like trees, planted beside these rivers to grow and be fruitful as the Apostles were, who at Thy command established the Church on a sure foundation, even Jesus Christ.

Wilt Thou make our poor prayer come to something through Jesus Thy Son? Amen.

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**O** GOD, our Father, who dost hold us accountable for the way we spend our time, not our days only, but also our thoughts and deeds, Thou hast given us these golden hours of Sunday to gather around the altars of Thy house, to say our prayers, confess our faults and get new strength.

We ask Thee to give us Thy Holy Spirit, that we may rightly interpret the events of life and see the utter folly of wasting our days on useless things and things contrary to Thy will as it is revealed in Thy Book. Enable us to look into Thy Book with reverent and expectant eyes, and to be guided by it.

Convert us from folly and lay Thine hand upon our hearts for our dear Saviour's sake. Amen.

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**WE** come into Thy house, O Lord, to renew our trust and to draw from the Holy Spirit, as from a never-failing river of water, the strength we so much need.

Do Thou read to our hearts our lesson of the day. Establish us in well-doing and sweet content to be in Thy family. Be near to us always, that we may lean on Thine arm, and wilt Thou hear our daily cry. In Jesus' Name we ask. Amen.

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**“WHEN I consider Thy heavens, O God, and the work of Thy hands, what is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that Thou visitest him?”** The heavens are telling Thy glory and all Thy works do praise Thee. Thou waterest the hills and dost make the valleys laugh with corn. Thou dost give food to man and beast, so that none lack or suffer hunger. We hail Thee as the maker of Heaven and earth. Thou wilt not forsake the work of Thy hands, but wilt bring it all to completion.

We thank Thee for the religious instinct and the strange mysterious hunger of our hearts. “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.” We come to bless Thee for this Thy day of rest, for this Thy house of peace, and Thy Book of revelation. We bring our sins to be forgiven, Lord. Send some strong angel to smite the foe of our souls, and bring us, we beseech Thee, to victory. Amen.

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**BLESSED FATHER**, Thou dost carry the whole world on Thy shoulders, yea the entire universe. Would that it might be in Thy broad bosom; to be there would be summer-time always! But so many of us are blind, singing, "The earth is the Lord's" and holding back our hearts and lives.

If we confessed our sins we would not only be pardoned and cleansed, but also brought into the liberty of Christ our Lord, to both see and do His will.

Help us to draw near to the Cross and its Priest, who died to make a great forgiveness. Amen.

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**O**UR HEAVENLY FATHER, as the flowers love the sun, so do we love this day of Thine, with its rest and peace which make us feel Thy tender love and care. We love the beautiful things of the spring and summer, the new blossoms, the little flowers, the blue grass and the brilliant stars, and we know that we, too, are in the hollow of Thy strong hand. All these things around us are tokens of Thy nearness.

May we realize that we are trees of Thy planting and may we bear blossoms and fruits plentifully to Thy praise, and by Thy grace. Amen.

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**B**LESSED be Thou, our Father, which art in Heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. We have come into Thine house to worship Thee. Thou art the God of Noah, Moses, Joseph, Elijah, Hezekiah and Daniel, who were generals fighting against evil. We pray Thee to enlist us for Thy service, make us straightforward, honest through and through, and give us victories over ourselves and all evil, like Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel, Thy servants of old. Keep us faithfully along the highway of prayer, that we may ever be responsive to Thy will. Amen.

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**T**HOU, God, art not far off, but nigh at hand, within the whisper of every soul, and Thou dost even hear the falling of our tears.

O, Thou Worker of miracles, be pleased to drive the winter out of our lives and create a long, sweet summer in our hearts.

As we sing our hymns uttered from lips and hearts of praise with joy and thankfulness, grant us Thy touch upon our lives that we may know more of Thy blessing.

Bless our leaders and bless us all, through our Advocate, the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Amen.



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**O FATHER**, we thank Thee that this is not a common building, but a chosen place for Sabbath rest, where Thou art present. Help us to see Thy face, O Father, and to hold fast to Thy hand. Give us attentive ears that we may get Thy messages. Show us how to lay hold upon eternal life even as we take up some things with our fingers. Teach us to take into our hearts, with every breath, the truths of God that we may be victorious over our enemy, the devil.

Help us to do every day a brave full day's work, facing the duty and privileges that come; not letting our days rust in worry and fretfulness. Grant that we may be on the lookout for opportunities of serving Him, who told His disciples that they must take the cross and follow Him. May our lives be constantly guided by Thy will, that Thy Name be glorified. Amen.

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**O** LORD, we thank Thee that Thou dost permit us to speak to Thee in prayer, to tell our thoughts and express our desires. We believe that Thou wilt do what is right and best for us, not to our poor seeing, perhaps, but best in the end, when Thou dost bring in the revealing morning to tell the secrets of time.

Thou knowest our littleness and peevishness; count them not against us. Stoop to our weakness and grant us a long hearing. We leave everything with Thee, the God of beginning; we leave it with Thee, O Christ, the Gethsemane sufferer; we leave it with Thee, O Holy Ghost, who broodest over man to help him.

We are all prodigals, having gone far afield, but now behold us returning, confessing our sin and shame. We have sinned personally against Thee, and personally seek Thy forgiveness. Great redeeming Son of God, pity us poor sinners and show us Thy grace. Amen.

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**G**RANT us at least one look out of Heaven's window, Father of all things, to-day, as we meet at this altar of prayer. We have no Name by which to pray, but the Name of Thy Son. Wilt Thou mercifully hear and help us for His sake. We bless Thee for Thy Book—the only Book of beginnings and endings. May we learn to read it with clear eyes and willing hearts. We bless Thee for this Thine house, and our great church family. May we be happy in this sweet home of hospitality, security and affection, and while here may we get a sight of Heaven's open, golden gate. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**O** LORD, the day whose wind and rain give us discomfort is soon forgotten when the sun broods over the land to bless it. We then say: "It is nothing." Help us to realize that the rainy days, altogether, are as nothing to the long summer with its cornfields and flowers, gardens and orchards of apples and pears, fruited deep. So help us to rebound from our troubles, fears and discouragements, knowing that these "light afflictions are but for the moment" and are worth a more eternal weight of glory. May we know from experience the truth and testimony of Joshua—"there failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel: all came to pass." Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Thou who dost pre-  
side over all created things in the world,  
and all that therein is, we are compelled to  
trust Thee for our bodies, their structure, the  
keeping of them in order, the duration of life  
and the future beyond. Help us to trust  
Thee, to care for every interest of our lives.  
Keep us from all burdens and anxieties that  
we may not vex our heads with overcares, but  
may we cherish a steadfast faith in all the  
holy and wise providences of our Father, and  
follow on with loyal and responding devo-  
tion, casting all our care upon Him, knowing  
that He careth for us. Amen.

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**C**OME nigh unto us, Thou blessed Son of God, as Thou didst to Saul on that day in which Thou didst turn his life around. Some of us are journeying, if not to Damascus, we know not whither. Let the light of heaven shine over us all and may we, too, hear the voice that Saul heard, saying, "Why persecutest thou me, who gave my life for thee?" Put an end to our disregard of Thee, and like Saul, may we say, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" May we not be disobedient to the heavenly vision to the end that Thou mayest be glorified. Amen.

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**O LORD,** Thou knowest the sea of life and to just what harbor we are sailing. Each one of us is making a strange, short voyage. Thou hast put in our hands Thy Book which contains our sailing directions. We ask Thee to undertake our whole life for us. Be Thou our Pilot and may Thy course be our course that Thou mayest steer us straight to the shores of everlasting joy and peace at Thy right hand. We make our prayers in the all-sufficient Name of Thy Son. Amen.

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**O** GOD, we thank Thee for, and rejoice together in, the clean, clear light of the Sabbath day, the one day marked with the words of the Creator to be remembered and kept holy. May we make it a day of upward climbing to see the face of God. May there be no waste of Sabbath hours and may our lives be broadened by studying the example of Jesus, and striving to be like Him. Make our homes sweeter, our lives more gentle, and may all things go better with us because of our spending the day of God's kindest gift to the world, in obedience to His command. Grant us the Sabbath peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



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**O**UR FATHER, we have come to sit down together, to rest after a busy week, and to think. We are not satisfied with ourselves for we all, like sheep, have gone astray. What we have done is what we ought not to have done. We are stung to the quick with disappointment, sorrow and desolation. It seems as though there were a cankerworm eating at the core of our hearts, and there is no rest for our souls day nor night.

Have pity upon us, Lord, and cut us not down in Thy displeasure. We confess our sin and bring it to Thee. Let our prayers prevail in Heaven, and do Thou heal and help us to a new life in Christ Jesus. Amen. •

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**WE** bless Thee, our Father, for the starting of the week, which shuts off all other days, lifts the fogs, clears the sky and shines with peculiar glory. Help us to study ourselves and our best interests, and not to squander time. We thank Thee for those who dug this well of refreshing water, and procured for us the blessings of its fellowship; for Dr. Chapman, Dr. Dickey, Mr. Horney, James H. Coyle. Help us, who have inherited the well, to keep it clean and to dig it deeper. Make us thirst for refreshing streams, that we may drink deeply at the spring of everlasting life. Grant that our souls be not distressed by the turmoil of the world, but may we abide in the everlasting peace of Thy favor. Amen.

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**E**VER-LIVING GOD, our Father, we have come into Thy house again through Thy mercy which has kept us alive. We would worship Thee with reverence. We hallow Thy Name, O God, our Father, the Name which is above every other name. We worship Thee, O Christ, God manifest in the flesh. We hear Thee speak, O Christ, who walked the pathways of this very earth and talked and did things like a man, and left the earth richer for the charity of Thy words and the work of Thy dear, kindly hands. Thou hast written Thy Name on so much of daily life that we cannot walk or talk or open the doors of our homes without thinking of Thee and Thy ways in Galilee.

We have come to this house which dignifies and sanctifies all the houses around it, because it is the sign of the Cross. Forbid us to forget it and may we use it to bring our thoughts back to Thee, remembering that it is set here to repeat Thy light, and to show us the way to Heaven. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Thou hast cared for us through the days gone by with all the care of Thy Fatherly love. While we were yet sinners, Christ, Thy only Son, begotten of the Holy Ghost, lived and labored and died for us. Jesus, Emmanuel, has carried all our iniquities and buried them in a grave that knows no resurrection. O, the depth and the height of the infinite love of Thy Father-heart! We stand in Thy love. It is our security and our song. Our help is in Thee, the living God, and not in ourselves. There are mysteries beyond us even as there are in the blue heavens. Yet out of them we are receiving glories and the promise of the summer harvest. Enable us to come out of our little, animal cages and strengthen our wings of faith and hope and imperishable confidence in the sacrificial blood of Calvary. Amen.

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**E**TERNAL GOD, our Father, we are thankful to be in Thine house on this Sabbath Day. We come to Thee in the Name of Christ, our Saviour, who brought life and immortality to light in the Gospel, where alone we find the certainty of our Atonement by the Man sent to do what He did, because He had no sins of His own to answer for. We wish to keep our Sabbath as Jesus did, and to help others to do the same. Help us all to keep the sanctity of the Sabbath as the best of all foundations of happiness and prosperity. We pray in the Name of the Lord of the Sabbath. Amen.

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**D**EAR FATHER, God, the only Father of spirits, in Thee we live and move and have our being. Thou art near at hand and not far off from any one of us. Enable us to consider not only this life but also that which is to dawn when our pulses cease to beat. Give us vision as we sit together in friendly brotherhood. Let not the devil blind us and bring us to desolation at the last. We need Thee, our Father, and Thy strong arm of protection and guidance. Wilt Thou take us into Thy tender keeping, and to Thee we will give all the praise and glory. Amen.

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**F**OR Thy boundless mercy and loving kindness, O God, our Father in Heaven, we give Thee praise. Through all the summer days at work and at rest from our earliest years, Thou hast guided and upheld us. Take us further on and closer to Thyself, in these days of sickness and sad-heartedness. Let not our little brothers or sisters fall down with sickness but may the Lord be around about our houses in His protecting way. Be Thou the physician and the nurse and may the next news be "all is well." We ask all in the Name of the Great Physician. Amen.

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**WE** know, our Father, that as we tarry in Thy house—this stopping place on our journey—that there is not a word upon our lips or a thought in our hearts that Thou dost not know. Wilt Thou, to-day, accept us and bestow upon us Pentecostal blessings. Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Three in One, and One in Three, we worship Thee, the Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier of men. Give us the full comfort of Thy grace and love, and put the song of the saved in our souls. O blessed Cross, blessed tomb, blessed garden of the Resurrection! We rejoice in the fact that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again for us. O God, the Father, Redeemer, Holy Spirit seal us, on our foreheads, with the new Name. Amen.



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**O LORD, Thou hast told us how to pray. Help us to shut the door, shutting out the world, and the enemy and any fear or doubt which spoils prayer. May there be no distance between our souls and Thee.**

**Help us to pray in the all-prevailing Name of Jesus, the Name we love. His Name means blood, redemption and deliverance. Cleansing in that great Name we pray; and in His patience, the gracious tenderness of the Son of God, we wait Thy answer, O Father! Amen.**

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, Father of mankind and Lord of all grace, we pray Thee to call out our spirits in true worship of Thyself. We have nothing to give Thee but penitence, and praise for Thy mercies and goodness to us. We each bring a little bundle of love—poor love, because it is so far below what we owe Thee. We spend our weeks in flying little kites of selfish pleasure and almost begrudge this one-seventh of time that Thou hast marked for Thyself. We humbly confess our faults and failings, and implore Thee to enlarge the horizon of our lives that we may always see that there are two worlds instead of the one in which we live.

Cast us not away from Thy presence, O God, because of our shamefulness, indifference, and neglect of our Father's will, and care, or because of shiftlessness of our minds and manner of living. May the life of Thy dear Son shine into our lives and, like Him, may we work the works of Him that sent us while it is called to-day, seeing that the night cometh when no man can work. O Lord God, all pitiful, all merciful, all loving, all forgiving, fix our vision and steady our lives. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, the Creator and Ruler of the world, we have come, a happy family, to sing our thankful songs and offer our united prayer.

We thank Thee that from the beginning to the end of time, Thou art the reigning One and that none can ever be voted into power or be higher than Thyself; that the black prince of darkness, the devil, can neither extinguish the glorious sun in the sky, to-day, nor snuff out the light of Thy Book, nor cancel the peace and its power to shed light and joy and peace upon the human heart.

We have come to Thy house, to-day, to pray and learn. May we take the next step and the next, and so follow on to the Eternal Home by the only path, which is faith in the Cross of Him who redeemed us with His own blood. Amen.

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**O** GOD of all grace, Thou hast invited us to come to Thy throne of grace. If Thou wert an earthly king, we would come with fear and trembling to Thee. May we come humbly and reverently before Thee, for Thou art a great God and greatly to be feared. We thank Thee for the mercies which we enjoy and though the day is dark and cloudy, Thy house shall be bright and happy with Thy praise. Each one of us would bring his own tribute in song and gift. Do Thou give us Thy rod and staff and bring us in due time to the mountain-top. Amen.

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**O LORD GOD**, we enter Thy house with thanksgiving, with adoring song and fervent prayer. The Holy Spirit has written Thy Book for our guidance. Give us seeing eyes, hearing ears and an understanding heart. Look upon us in pity and smite us not according to our deserts. Take not Thy Holy Spirit from us. Show us our sinfulness in neglecting our children and parents and above all the awfulness of neglecting God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. O grant that we may know Thee, whom to know aright is life eternal. Amen.

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**O** LORD, our God, we have come, to-day, from many places but with one desire. "One thing have we desired of the Lord and that will we seek after, that we may dwell in the house of the Lord, and enquire in His temple." We would live on the sufficiency of Thy plenty. It is our joy to know that Thou canst answer every question of our hearts. Wilt Thou give all the needful wisdom. Open every gate before us and lead the blind, that they may not stumble. Let us no longer bow down to ourselves, but wilt Thou speedily complete Thy wishes of grace in our poor souls. Lord, God of Heaven and earth, despise us not for our idle, neglectful, unworthy lives, but may we see the true, high meaning of the black Cross, the dripping of the red stream of the Saviour's blood, and by its power may we be driven to great devotion, and to the sacrifice of ourselves for Him and our fellow-men. Amen.

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**G**REAT is Thy power, O God, our Father, and Thy wisdom is shown in all things above and under the earth. We will think of Thy greatness, to-day, and sing of Thy mercy and love. Our best view of Thee, our Father, is at the Cross of Thy Son, our Saviour. Reveal Thyself still more, to-day, in our study of the life of Jesus. Turn our mysteries into lamps; meet us at these altars of Thy sanctuary, and may we store food for our soul's hunger, that we may not want. Amen.

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**O** GOD, we join in the song of praise for this new day, so light and bright. We thank Thee for its welcome to God's house and we receive it as a token of Thy mercies, that Thou wilt send upon us according as our faith triumphs over doubt. Thou dost distribute Thy gifts variously, but Thou knowest where the gifts are, and Thou wilt ask an account of the mechanic that makes the automobile, and the laborer who cleans it. Blessed is that servant, who, when his Lord cometh, shall be found waiting, watching and ready.

Lift the deep shadows of war that make the earth seem like a yawning grave, with death on the right hand and a great fear and misery on the left. God bless the President, and every man that looks for a way to complete the task that is ours. Thou art the King of kings and Lord of lords and all thrones are under Thy feet. O Prince of Peace, take the sceptre of government and rule. Amen.



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**T**HOU, O God, hast placed us in a world lighted by illustrations of Thy presence, Thy nearness and Thy goodness. Distant stars pour upon us messages of light. Flowers of the fields and fruitful meadows and beautiful trees are all blossoms of fragrance and beauty as the seasons come and go. Oh, that we would consider the lilies, that we could read aright the message of one blade of grass! Enable us to keep our eyes open, and to behold things rightly that we may understand Thy love and care. May we keep steadily on with good people so that we may constantly dwell in the atmosphere of Thy presence. In the Name of our Lord, who died on a tree. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, we come into Thy garden to gather flowers of hope, of recovery and joy. We bless Thee that Thou hast called us to rejoice, and we will, if Thou wilt lift upon us the shining of Thy countenance. We bless Thee for these four walls that form this house of security and calm and peace. Give us the stillness of faith and certainty of triumph.

From the very beginning Thou hast declared Thyself a God of love. But also Thou hast revealed Thyself as a hater of sin, but all through Thou hast been pitiful and forgiving. We thank Thee that finally, "even as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up." Lord, we thank Thee, to-day, as a nation and a family for that lifting up and pray Thee to bring us all at last to the blessed, new, immortal life. Come nearer and nearer to us until the rests of these summer days shall lengthen into the summer of Heaven's eternal rest. Amen.

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**T**HOU art the First and Ancient of Days,  
O King Eternal. Thy throne, O God,  
is forever established in the heavens, and nothing shall move it. Every day Thou art showing Thy goodness. Thou art the living and loving Father. At daybreak Thou dost shed Thy light over the earth, and at eventide Thou dost rewrite Thy covenant in the stars. With these manifold blessings, let us not become careless and grieve Thee. Rebuke us not for our unlovingness. Visit us not with fierce retribution, but by Thy all-healing grace, work in us repentance and love, and may Thy tender compassion redeem us from all evil. Amen.

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**GOD AND FATHER,** Maker and Ruler of the earth, Controller of the seas, we approach Thy throne and sanctuary on high, where angels abide and worship Thee. Wilt Thou look down to this sin-smit-ten earth and connect the two worlds that we may be, to-day, associated with pureness and blessedness, and be in companionship with the angels and receive help from Thine own hand, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, that we may henceforth magnify Thy Holy Name.

Dark as the midnight has the week been with its crushing sorrows. Give comfort of a special kind to those bereaved and desolate families, whose griefs are heavy and speech-less. O Lord, we are all continually journeying by sea, or land, exposed to accident and sudden death. Wilt Thou direct all the perplexities and fears and influence all men to believe that it is high time to put away the playthings of ignorance and folly, and take up seriously the business of the world to come, that we may not be barren and unprofitable servants. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, this great universe that Thou hast created by Thy power carries Thy smile and testifies to us Thy presence in this holy place which bears Thy Name. If a building on earth be regarded as sacred to the memory of Lincoln or Grant or the Declaration of Independence, much more is this great earth sacred as the temple of Thy making! Teach us that there is no unholy ground, since Thy Son, Jesus Christ, has been here, and His footprints and His grave have blessed it all.

Oh, the depth of the richness of Thy love. In this love we stand, and live, and are saved. We praise Thee that Thou didst purchase us, who being slaves to sin and on our way to the prison-house of Death, didst buy us, not with silver or gold, but with the precious blood of a Lamb without blemish, and without spot, even the blood of the Christ. Amen.

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**BLESSED CHRIST**, the good Samaritan, it is so easy to fall by the way. Do Thou for us, as the good Samaritan did for the poor Jew, beaten and robbed on the highway. Give us of Thy thought for our need, and because of Thy help and care may we go and do likewise. **Amen.**

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**T**HOU, O Lord, hast led both flock and shepherd in the days that are past, and we will come into Thy sanctuary and give Thee the praise. We praise Thee with thoughts of love and with sincere thanksgiving in our humble prayers; we praise Thee in hearty songs and reverent attention to Thy holy Word; we praise Thee this day by our offerings which, after all, are Thine, because we have no strength to think or act except Thou dost bestow it upon us.

Bless us, O Lord, throughout this new day that we may grow in grace and holiness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**F**ATHER of our spirits and God of all grace, hold us in the hollow of Thine hand, we humbly pray Thee. They only are kept who are kept by Thee. Hide us in Thy pavilion from the strife of tongues: hide us in Thine almightiness from the assaults of every foe. How are the mighty fallen! But Thou dost deplore a greater fall. Thine heart is moved toward Thy people, because Thou hast nourished and brought up children and they have rebelled against Thee. Forbid that we should shed our tears only over historical falls; may each man remember that he, too, may fall, and droop, and die.

“Hold Thou me up and I shall be safe,” is the cry of every broken heart. Keep us, and we shall not stray; love us, and mightily restrain us by all the ministry that can guard human character from apostasy, and we shall yet be saved. Give hope to those who are in great sorrow of heart, because of fear and apprehension concerning their ability to finish the race and to receive the crown. Amen.



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**BLESSED SAVIOUR**, Mighty Son of God, wounded but not destroyed, buried but risen again—to Thee we come with full hearts, with memory charged with thankfulness, and again take oath, and say that by the grace of God we will be Christ's forevermore. Help us through the weariness of life; whisper to us that life is but a poor, dull, gray day which prepares the way for the dawn of Heaven; then shall we be patient, resigned, loving, merciful, pure, good, and our hearts shall be quickened to hear the sounds of our Lord's coming; and many will be the time when we shall be surprised into sudden and ecstatic joy. Amen.

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**O** GOD, our Father, we come to Thee in the name of Thy dear Son. Draw nigh to Thy children as they draw nigh to Thee. We cannot live without Thee. Each morning come to us before the sun rises, and every night watch over us till the stars die out. Make all things remind us of Thy presence. Take us up in Thine arms, and bear us over life's stony places as a mother would her children. Look at us with the eyes of Thine heart, and make us to feel Thy love.

We are sinful—cleanse us. We are helpless, come to us with Thy strength. We are wayward, take us by Thy hand and lead us into paths of peace. Keep us in the way that leads to life. Let us not bring dishonor upon Thy name by acts of sin and folly. Make us to adorn the doctrine of Christ in all things, and so, kept by Thy power and saved by Thy grace, may men take knowledge of us that we have been with Thee. This we ask in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

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**O**UR FATHER, Thou knowest what lies before us to-day. Thou seest the end from the beginning, the troubles and trials, the secret pitfalls and yawning chasms. Thou knowest how the Evil One is bent on our hurt, and how like a roaring lion he would utterly destroy our souls. Undertake for us to-day. Lead us along a prepared road, around all obstacles, by the side of all dangers, through all difficulties, up all slopes, over all chasms, and bring us at last to a happy home in Paradise of God.

Be our Guide and Companion by the way. Dissipate the gloom with the sunshine of Thy presence. Uphold our steps when we would falter and fall. Let us not, for a moment, forget our Helper. If Thou wilt lead us thus, the day will bring no sorrow, and evening no regrets. God, grant it, for Christ's sake. Amen.

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**O** GOD, blessed and holy, we come to Thee on the morning of this new day, that Thou mightest fill us with the Holy Spirit, and the light and glory of Thy presence. Life is dark and cheerless without Thee. Come to us, O Thou, who art brighter than the sun, and purer than the angels, dispel the darkness from our hearts and make us pure. We want, this day, that not only should we be kept unsullied, and walk before Thee, and in the presence of our fellow-men, in white, but we desire also that we might reflect a little of Thy glory upon others. Grant that men may take knowledge that we have been with Thee. Be pleased to preserve us, so pure and spotless that our bodies may be holy temples, and our souls sanctuaries in which Thy spirit may shine, and through which men may see the Father. Amen.

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**O** GOD, our Father, and our Friend, dwell in our hearts by faith, to-day. Make us what we want to be, what Thy love toward us and Thy work for us demand we ought to be. There are heights of living we have not yet attained; come to us and dwell in us, working in our hearts Thine own will and realizing Thine own purposes. Oh, how we desire that this day should be holy and that all we do should be done for Thee. Go with us, we beseech Thee, and be in us, at all times, and in all the circumstances of the day. And not this day only, but through all the days that remain to us, until Thou hast brought us safe through all trials and dangers, to be ever with Thee, there to live in Thy presence and love, world without end. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our Father, our lives are in Thine hand, and we are content that they should rest there. Thou didst call us into being at the first. Thou hast sustained us all along the way, and when Thy wise purposes are completed with us on earth, Thou dost call us away. Thou art reminding us in many ways that we are but sojourners here, and that this is not our rest, and in the midst of all that is so transient and fleeting, Thou art teaching us to look “for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” “So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Enable us to live each hour as in Thy presence, and as if each hour were to be our last. Amen.

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**O LORD**, our God, Thou art to us whatsoever is good. Remember us because we are nothing; we have nothing; we can do nothing. Thou alone art good, just and holy; Thou canst do all things; Thou accomplishest all things; Thou fillest all things. Remember Thy mercies, and fill our hearts with Thy grace, Thou who wilt not that Thy works should be void and in vain. Turn not Thy face away from us; withdraw not Thy consolation, lest our souls become as a thirsty land. Teach us, O Lord, to do Thy will; teach us to live worthily and humbly in Thy sight. Amen.

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**H**EAVENLY FATHER, whose love is Infinite, who hast tenderly cared for us ever since we were born, we thank Thee for this—the Lord's Day—and for the blessings of the sanctuary. May Thy presence now fill this house. Come into our hearts and make profitable unto us the preaching of Thy Holy Word, and all the services of this day. May the Holy Spirit descend in power upon the assembly of Thy people, as it did on the Day of Pentecost. May we be filled with the Spirit and led by the Spirit so that we may grow in heavenly grace, and devote our lives to Thy service and for Thy glory.

Above everything else we thank Thee for the gift of Jesus Christ, the most wondrous proof of Thy love, and for redemption through the precious blood, which He so freely shed to atone for our guilt and to cleanse us from all sin. Keep us near to Thee, this day, and guide us by Thy loving hand all through life, for Jesus' sake. Amen.



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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our Father, we can do nothing for ourselves. We do nothing but stumble and fall in the things we attempt if guided by our own sense, alone. Our lives are being wasted in human experiments. Forgive us, we beseech Thee, for little faith, and no faith, in Thy calls and promises. Buckle up the loose ends of our knowledge and energy with Divine strength so that we may redeem the unspent time. This day is the day on which we desire to begin anew. Do this for us, for Christ's sake. Amen.

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**H** EAVENLY FATHER, help us to live sweet lives, strong lives—uplifting lives that some man, woman or child may have it to say in Heaven: “There’s the one that helped me to God.” Help us to gain the victory over evil, and help us to help some other souls to make the victory sure. Let not our religion be a Sunday fever or a few minutes of Bible reading, or doing good by fits and starts, but a steady flame, burning out of our souls, touching our eyes, hands, feet and pocketbooks until we are filled with peace, and power, and until the glory of God becomes our strength. Amen.

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**F**ORGIVE our transgressions, Merciful Father, and put away our sins, for the sake of Him who bore our transgressions on the painful Cross. Help us to halt many times and long enough to realize that One suffered for us and actually died to clear the way to Heaven for us. Show us our own lives and show us the meaning and way of the Cross of the dear Son of God. Amen.

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**L**ORD, Thou knowest what our lives are: what a struggle, what a failure! Thou knowest their occasional sense of victory. Thou knowest their great sadness. In all these experiences may we have no trust in ourselves. May we have perfect, living trust in the Son of God. Help us to be sons, numbering our ever precious privileges. May we rise to every occasion, and discharge every responsibility in the fear of the Lord. May a voice be heard continually in our hearts, saying: "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Forbid that we should be the creators of our own perdition. May we live wisely and well, all the hours of all our days. Amen.

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**A**LMIGHTY GOD, we are weak, but  
Thou art strong. Wilt Thou take us up  
in the arms of Thine Almightyness, look at us  
with the eyes of Thine heart and then send  
us out into the world again to fulfill life's  
duties with renewed power and rekindled  
zeal. Let us never forget our dependence  
upon Thee, and, strong in Thy strength, may  
we be able to overcome all our spiritual foes.  
Fill us with the joy of the Lord, which is our  
strength. We ask it in the name of Jesus.  
Amen.

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*The New Year.*

**K**ING OF ETERNITY, measurer and director of Time, the years dig their own graves, but Thy Throne endureth forever.

We thank Thee for conducting us through the year. Thou didst not set us down or leave us in our sin. Thou didst stoop to pity and to give us bread, and care, and nightly sleep and morning strength. Take us on now to the promised land. Give to each of us some rose of Sharon, or lily, a New Year's gift from Heaven, freshly gathered by an angel's hand, wet with the dews from the high hills of glory. May we stand first, and last, and through all time, in the strength of the Cross, our days resting in the Most High, that we may live in the years that are eternal. We ask this through the Name of Thy eternal Son. Amen.

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*The New Year.*

**O** LORD, our God, we did not know one foot of the road of the past year when we first entered its portal. We had been lost in the darkness of night many times but for the love, pity and tenderness of the Son of God. In the darkness, Thou didst show Thy infinite light. When we put out our hands, unable to see about us, we were startled to find that Thy hand touched ours. We bless Thee for the way that Thou hast led us, and trust Thee to guide us on till all our years are ended and we have arrived at Home. Amen.

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*Easter.*

**G**RACIOUS FATHER, the whole April sky has shaken out of its lap all the blessings we can hold of health and hope. Thou hast brought us around to another Easter-time. Send us more of such days to reassure us that Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. We thank Thee that ours is a religion of the Morning Star, with new hope, bright dawning and coming love. We praise Thee that Thou didst not leave His soul in hell, neither didst Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption. We are redeemed by His blood and we are inspired to reach Heaven by His victory over Death. May the flowers of the Resurrection make our hearts a garden, and may we know the power of His Resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings. Amen.



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*Easter.*

**G**OD of the fields and gardens, Thou art revealing Thyself in the birds and blossoms and leaves and green grass. We are reading in the green and velvet the revelations of Thy power. Make us true men and women, through and through, that we may realize something of the unspeakable mysteries of growth and fruitfulness. By the Cross of Calvary, and the grave in Joseph's garden, and the empty tomb on the first Easter morning, turn our lives into gospels of love and power. Amen.

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*Independence Day.*

**W**E bless Thee, O God, for our first Fourth of July, and for the one the day before yesterday. Thou didst work a miracle through the *Mayflower* immigrants and Thou hast in all the generations energized their ideas. Let us not crush ourselves by blindness, wealth, or the sense of power. May this nation be established in wisdom, justice and truth that it may work a miracle of the ages. Frame a document of peace for the world that will not imperil our own peace or so weaken our own hands that they shall be powerless to maintain our Heaven-given endowments. Grant wisdom to those in authority over us, but under Thee, that they may rule in wisdom and obey Thy Will. Amen.

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*Thanksgiving.*

**A**LMIGHTY GOD, our Father, we thank Thee that "he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall come again with rejoicing." And Thou hast promised that while earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest shall not fail, and all the ages testify that not one word which the Lord has spoken shall ever, ever fail.

Thou hast heaped the barns with food for the cattle, and Thou hast answered the ploughman's prayer for daily bread.

Thou hast not given a little harvest with a small hand, for even the birds and the squirrels have filled their nests.

We thank Thee for this new pledge of Thy faithfulness, and the reward of industry.

To Thy Name be all glory, praise and dominion, Thou mighty Provider of the Universe, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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*Christmas.*

**O** GOD, Thou dost send a summer Sunday in the midst of winter. It is a part of Thy Christmas gift. How safe we are when Thou dost stand behind us. Let Thy goodness incline us to love Thy commandments and live in them. Lord, if we have but one talent may we do Thy will with it daily, diligently, simply, sincerely. Establish us by Thy counsel and employ us in Thy service. Send a Christmas light over our land and all the earth, and lift us up in ardent thankfulness, joy and praise. Amen.

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*Christmas.*

**O** GOD, our Father, in this upsetting world, neither research, learning or unbelief have been able to disprove or alter the holy Book of God. We know of the prophecy that for hundreds of years remained unfulfilled until its fulfillment in the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. We know about the Star, not a wandering star, nor a shooting star, but a travelling star, that led men to His cradle. We thank Thee for the Wise Men who brought something to pay for the lodging and support of the little family. We thank Thee for the angels that appeared unto Joseph, honored to be the guardian of the Child, and His mother. We worship Thee, O Jesus Christ, not longer a little Child, but all-glorious at the right hand of the Father, our Saviour and our Lord. Amen.

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*Christmas.*

**O** LORD, Thou hast set us among wonderful surroundings—for a little while amid flowers, and again in cold blossoms of snow. To-day there come angel-voices, bringing gladness and through the message of a Christ born long ago, once dead, now living, and listening to our prayer. We adore Thee, O Jesus, Saviour, born at the bosom of the Father to be the healer of the world. Our hearts go out to Thee, O little Child of Bethlehem. We would give Thee heart-room, Child of the Manger. We would receive a blessing and benediction through the mere mention of Thy Name. Enlarge our hearts and beautify our lives, O Son of Mary, and lead us through the mystery of life and through the eternities to sing the hallelujahs of Heaven. Amen.

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*Christmas.*

**O** LORD GOD of the Sabbath, this is Thy day. Send out Thy light and salvation. Give Thy people faith in the Cross. We thank Thee for the sweet Gospel that tells us how Jesus Christ saved others, and in the saving of others, could not save Himself. The Son of Man came not to destroy men's lives but to save them. We thank Thee that on this day there was born unto us a Saviour, He who is the one Saviour, the Hope of the world, the infinite Redeemer. We cradle Him in our hearts and wrap our love and trust about Him. O Thou, who art the Lord of all, send upon us the light, brighter than the sun and make this morning of the Sabbath Day a great, great light, a blessing, a smile, and a presence Divine. For Thy glory. Amen.

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*Anniversary Sunday.*

**E**TERNAL FATHER, God of all time, we praise Thee for this anniversary Sunday, thanking Thee that Thou hast put this house over our lives. We praise Thee for a holy Book and a holy day in which to study it. We bless Thee for the flag of the Gospel that flies over human life, showing the plan and only safe path through this world, which leads over the stars to the home beyond. We bless Thee that Jesus was sent by the Father to set up a sign to show us the right road, and that it is written in our Guide Book, "look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." Amen.



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*Last Sunday in the Year.*

**O** GOD of all blessings, do Thou pity and visit us, to-day, as we wait in the courts of Thine house, otherwise we shall faint and fall and be dead. Our days were never more than a handful, and now there is but a little speck of another year left. Let the summer sun of Thy love still shine for us that we may be alert and wise and not sluggish and not slothful.

Oh, that we had hearkened unto Thee long ago, for then, by this time, we might have been stalwart men, made giant-like and mighty by the indwelling of Thy Spirit, instead of the poor, shallow, cunning, shuffling men that we are. Disarm the devil and sweep him off the earth. Awaken the slumbering Church; then condescend to manage it Thyself, that Thy plans be not hampered and Thy glory be not dimmed, among the children of men. Amen.

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