

A PRAYER SERVICE  
FOR A MEETING OF THE PARISH WORSHIP COMMISSION

GREETING

Leader: As in all things, we are gathered by our God who is Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit.

INTRODUCTION

Leader: Friends, each time we come together as a committee we are focused on preparing the sacred liturgy for our community. Let us now spend time renewing ourselves at the table of God's Word and ask God to strengthen us in our ministry.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.  
O God of everlasting goodness, be with us at our gathering.  
You have called us to prepare the worship of this community.  
Renew in us a sense of awe in your presence,  
manifested in the sacramental life of our parish.  
Just as your Son gathered his disciples in the upper room,  
so may we be gathered to give praise and honor to your name.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

READING OF THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING                      Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

Brothers and sisters, I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord,  
beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with  
all humility and gentleness, with patience,  
bearing with one another in love,  
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.  
There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.  
But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets,  
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,  
to equip the saints for the work of ministry;  
for building up the body of Christ,  
until all of us come to the unity of the faith  
and of the knowledge of the Son of God,  
to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM    Psalm 100:1-5

Leader:        Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

All:            Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Leader:        Know that the LORD is God.

All:            It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader:        Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

All:            Give thanks to him, bless his name.

Leader:        For the LORD is good;

All:            His steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all  
generations.

#### GOSPEL                Matthew 26:17-19

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,  
"Where do you want us to make the preparations for you  
to eat the Passover?"

He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him,  
              'The Teacher says, My time is near;

              I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.' "

So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared  
the Passover meal.

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### SILENT REFLECTION

## INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Friends, God's holy Word,  
as well as the sacred words and actions of the Church,  
inspire us to grow closer in our relationship with Jesus Christ.  
Let us pray now that we will be renewed in that relationship.

Minister: That we will continue to be inspired by the celebration of the Church's  
rites, we pray to the Lord.

That the words and actions of the liturgy will move us to work for justice for  
those who are in need, we pray to the Lord.

That our efforts to prepare the Church's rites will lead to deeper  
participation in the liturgy by all the members of our community,  
we pray to the Lord.

That we will all be led to that full, conscious, and active participation in the  
liturgy called for by the Church, we pray to the Lord.

That we will be renewed in our ministry as we prepare the liturgy with care,  
respect, and a deep sense of the active presence of the Holy Spirit, we pray to  
the Lord.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Let us gather all our prayers into one and raise our hands to heaven,  
praying in the words our Savior gave us. Our Father. . .

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Leader: May God our creator bless us in our ministry and strengthen us in faith.  
All: Amen.

Leader: May the Lord Jesus find a dwelling place within our hearts.  
All: Amen.

Leader: May the Holy Spirit inspire us in our work and deepen our sense of awe  
before the Lord, made manifest in the Church's liturgy.  
All: Amen.

Leader: May almighty God bless you *[OR]* *May almighty God bless us,*  
protect us from all evil, and bring us to life everlasting.  
In the name of the Father ☩ and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE      Leader:      Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.