

## Praise to the Lord

This prayer service is best used at the conclusion of Chapters 1 and 2 of *Jesus Christ: Source of Our Salvation*.

### Opening Prayer

**Leader:** O Lord, open my lips . . .

**All:** And my mouth shall declare your praise.

**Leader:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit . . .

**All:** As in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen. Alleluia!

### Hymn of Praise

*Sing an appropriate hymn of praise.*

### Psalm of Praise (based on Psalm 93)

**Leader:** Alleluia! The Lord is King, robed with majesty, alleluia!

**All:** Alleluia! The Lord is King, robed with majesty, alleluia!

**Group 1:** The Lord is robed in splendor and girt with strength. The Lord has set the world firm. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

**Group 2:** Even the raging waters sing, O Lord. The mighty torrents lift their voices.

**Group 1:** More powerful than the roar of mighty waters, more powerful than the breakers of the sea, powerful in the heavens is the Lord.

**Group 2:** Indeed, the Word of the Lord is trustworthy; holiness befits God's house for all the length of days.

**Leader:** Alleluia! The Lord is King, robed with majesty, alleluia!

**All:** Alleluia! The Lord is King, robed with majesty, alleluia!

**Leader:** Lord, fulfiller of promises, remember your promise to us. Send us the light of Salvation.

## **Prayer of Praise from the Book of Isaiah (based on Isaiah 2:2-5)**

**Leader:** Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**All:** In days to come,

the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established  
as the highest mountain  
and raised above the hills.

All nations shall stream toward it;

many peoples shall come and say:

"Come, let us go up to the Lord's mountain,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,

That he may instruct us in his ways,  
and we may walk in his paths."

For from Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and set terms for many peoples.

They shall beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks;

One nation shall not raise the sword against another,  
nor shall they train for war again.

House of Jacob, come,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord!

## **Gifts of the Spirit**

**Reader:** A reading from the Book of Isaiah (11:1-4)

But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: A spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord, and his delight shall be the fear of the Lord. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and shall decide alright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.

A great light has shown upon the world.

**All:** A great light has shown upon the world.

## **Zechariah's Prayer of Praise (Based on Luke 1:69-79)**

**Leader:** Blessed be the Lord who sets us free.

**All:** Blessed be the Lord who sets us free.

**Group 1:** Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.

**Group 2:** Through his holy prophets, God promised from of old that he would rescue us and restore us.

**Group 1:** God swore an oath to Abraham our father: to deliver us from our foes, to set us free to worship without fear, holy and righteous once again in his sight.

**Group 2:** You, my child, shall be named the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of their salvation by forgiveness of their sins.

**All:** In the tender compassion of our God, the dayspring from on high will break upon us, to shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet on the road of peace.

**Leader:** Blessed be the Lord who sets us free.

**All:** Blessed be the Lord who sets us free.

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

**Leader:** Loving Creator, you send your Spirit to be a light for our hearts, and through your Son you make us lights to others. Hear us as we pray. That the Light of the World may shine on all who remain in darkness, we pray . . .

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader:** That we may remain ever faithful to the light God has granted us, we pray . . .

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader:** *Invite petitions from the students.*

**Leader:** Accept our prayers in the name of Jesus the Light of the World.

**All:** Amen.

*Pray together the Lord's Prayer.*

### **Closing Prayer**

**Leader:** Lord of Light and compassionate God of all, you give us this day to walk as your children, following the bright path of your Son. Illumine our way until we come to live with you in light eternal, through Christ the Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** May the Lord bless us, deliver us from all evil, and lead us to light.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Let us praise the Lord.

**All:** And give God thanks.