

Night Prayer for Thanksgiving 2025 – Online Prayer & Preaching

CALL to WORSHIP *You may light a candle at your gathering place.*
Almighty God grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **Amen**
By day, O God, **you grant your steadfast love,**
and at night your song is with me, **a prayer to the God of my life.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 *Contemporary English Version*

Moses said to all Israel: The LORD is giving you the land, and soon you will conquer it, settle down, and plant crops. And when you begin harvesting each of your crops, the very first things you pick must be put in a basket. Take them to the place where the LORD your God chooses to be worshiped, and tell the priest, "Long ago the LORD our God promised our ancestors that he would give us this land. And today, I thank God for keeping his promise and giving me a share of the land."

The priest will take the basket and set it in front of the LORD's altar. Then, standing there in front of the place of worship, you must pray:

My ancestor was homeless, an Aramean who went to live in Egypt.

There were only a few in his family then,
but they became great and powerful, a nation of many people.

The Egyptians were cruel and had no pity on us.

They mistreated our people and forced us into slavery.

We called out for help to you,
the LORD God of our ancestors.

You heard our cries; you knew we were in trouble and abused.

Then you terrified the Egyptians with your mighty miracles
and rescued us from Egypt.

You brought us here and gave us this land rich with milk and honey.

Now, LORD, I bring to you the best of the crops
that you have given me.

After you say these things, place the basket in front of the LORD's altar and bow down to worship him.

Then you and your family must celebrate by eating a meal at the place of worship to thank the LORD your God for giving you such a good harvest. And remember to invite the Levites and the foreigners who live in your town.

Psalms 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all you lands!

Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.
Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's holy name.

Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

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Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

John 6:25-35

When the disciples found Jesus on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Humanity will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal."

Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?"

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one whom God has sent."

So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

HYMN of the DAY "Now Thank We All Our God"

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.

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3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

MESSAGE ***Food That Lasts***

RESPONSE to the WORD

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

Into your hands I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, I commend my spirit.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; **that awake
we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.**

Now, master, let your servant go in peace according to your word,
because my eyes have seen your salvation.

You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples.

**It's a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and a glory for your people Israel.**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; **that awake
we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.**

PRAYERS

Hear my prayer, O Lord;

listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;

hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;

when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Holy God, **hear our prayers.**

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest
to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted,
shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen**

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the day, especially for the good we
were permitted to give and to receive; the day is now past and we commit it
to you. We entrust to you the night; we rest securely, for you are our help,
and you neither slumber nor sleep; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

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LORD'S PRAYER

Jesus, remember us in your realm, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as
we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

Now in peace I will lie down and sleep;

you alone, O God, protect me.

We praise the blessed and holy Trinity, one God,

who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection.

Holy Jesus, stay with us today and always, and sustain
and help us in all our joys and sorrows.

**Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil,
and bring us to everlasting life. Amen**

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*This is from Luther's Small catechism:*

### TABLE BLESSINGS

The children and the members of the household are to come devoutly to the table, fold their hands, and recite:

"The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature."

Then they are to recite the Lord's Prayer and the following prayer:

"Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen"

Similarly, after eating they should in the same manner fold their hands and recite devoutly:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever. God provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they cry. God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who await God's steadfast love."

Then recite the Lord's Prayer and the following prayer:

"We give thanks to you, Lord God our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for all your benefits, you who live and reign forever. Amen"

*We wish you a happy and blessed  
Thanksgiving holiday with family & friends!*