

Leader Guide Template

Friday Prayer for the Healing of the Nations—Lent

INTRODUCTION -

If you have a commemoration, a special welcome to guests, or particular instructions about a portion of the service, put them here.

OPENING - *<Name>*

The assembly stands.

Blessed be God
Who forgives our sin,
Heals every illness,
Saves us from death,
Enfolds us with tender care,
And crowns us with steadfast love.
Blessed be God forever.

OPENING HYMN:

PSALM: *<Psalm (and verses, if necessary)> - <Name>*

“Our psalm today is Psalm XX, verses Y through Z (if not doing the entire psalm). We will <read/sing> the psalm <responsively/antiphonally> by whole verse. <I/the cantor/portion of the group> will <read/sing> the odd-numbered verses, followed by <the assembly/other portion of the group> <reading/singing> the even-numbered verses.”

NOTE: Modify the suggested form if you are doing the psalm in a different manner, such as a sung refrain after groups of verses or some other presentation.

After the Psalm is finished, allow 10-15 seconds of silence.

PSALM PRAYER: - *<Name>*

The Psalm Prayer can be found after the psalm in the ELW Leader's Desk Edition, beginning on p. 737

READING: *<Book, Chapter and verses> - <Name>*

Before the reading, announce:

A reading from <Book>, the <Xth> chapter.

After the reading, say:

Word of God, word of life.

The assembly stands.

HYMN: <Number, Title>

The assembly is seated.

BRIEF TIME FOR SILENCE (15-30 seconds)

After the Litany for the Healing of the Nations, there will be a time for prayer. You may light a candle and place it in any of the stations, or just pray as you wish. If you pray at the station with the square vessel [located in _____], others may come and lay hands upon you while you pray, joining their prayers with yours.

PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS - <Name>

The Litany of the Nations begins the time for prayer.

Cantor sings the refrain first, then everyone sings.

For the healing of nations we pray to you O God.

*The cantor sings the stanzas and after each pairing of countries, the assembly sings **Peace be yours.***

After each stanza, everyone responds with the refrain.

HYMNS:

Choose several shorter, contemplative-style hymns for singing during the prayers.

Hymns may be chosen from ELW, Singing Our Prayer, or another resource (provided that copies can be distributed before the service).

<Number, Title>

<Number, Title>

<Number, Title>

CONCLUDING PRAYER - <Name>

The assembly stands.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You are gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You draw near to those who call upon you, crying out from their hearts. Hear our cries, receive our prayers, and fill us with your blessing, until needy no longer, your whole creation sings your praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER: - <Name>

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

BLESSING: - <Name>

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God bless us, and direct our day and our deeds in peace.
Amen.

The leaders share the peace with one another as an invitation for the assembly to do the same.