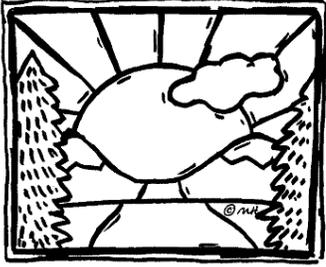


# Morning Prayer from A DISCIPLE'S PRAYER BOOK CHRIST IS BORN!



## THE GATHERING

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this sacred circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen.

## The Gathering Psalm of Praise

*Psalm 51: 16, 11 - 13*

Open my lips, O Lord, **\*and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, **\*and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence **\*and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again **\*and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **\* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## GOSPEL OF THE DAY *As appointed*

### RESPONSE

#### Reflect and Respond to the Gospel of the Day

1. What word(s), idea(s), or sentence(s) stand out for you in the Gospel of the Day?

*(Reread the Gospel.)*

2. What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?

*(Reread the Gospel.)*

3. What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do?

### APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYER

*Individual and Group Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication (ACTS)*

#### Collects

*This and/or other Collects, as appointed are said or sung*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.