

Chaplain's Handbook

Sons of Union Veterans

FORWARD

Brothers:

It is hoped through the use of this Handbook, that our Chaplains will have a handy reference in carrying out all of the duties of their office, along with materials to provide guidance in the various services and ceremonies a Chaplain may be called upon to perform or assist in.

It is very important that we give honor to our God in all that we do; in leading our brothers in prayer, thanksgiving, remembrance and dedication. This is at the center of our Order, as illustrated by the open Bible on our altar and calling upon our Creator's blessing in all of our ceremonies. For this reason, I asked our current National Chaplain, Jerome Kowalski to prepare such a work. I hope you find it useful.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

James B. Pahl
Commander in Chief

PREFACE

It seems to this chaplain that the main purpose of his ministry is to pray to the Lord for the living and deceased members, for their families, and for the success of the endeavors of our Camps, Departments and National Order. We are simply responding to the Gospel message that we "*pray unceasingly*", (1 Thess. 5:17) and that if we do, our Heavenly Father will answer our prayers (Matt 7:7).

Jews, Catholics and every branch of the Protestant Denominations served in the Union Army. To set one course of theology for all would be to denigrate what they fought for. Rather, we encourage each chaplain to use the version of scripture with which he is comfortable. We may be firm believers in Christ Jesus as our Savior, but when conducting a service in a Jewish cemetery, or in a place where a large number of Jews are present – it might be better to quote the psalms and the stories and lessons of the Old Testament. We are not saying that all religions are equal, or that one (mine) is better than another. When everyone stands before the throne of God on Judgment Day they will have to answer for their own beliefs and actions. Kindness, understanding, compassion will probably have greater weight in God's eyes than knowledge of philosophy and theology. As a sixteenth century religious writer put it, "In the evening of life we will be judged on love." If there is any message that comes through in the scriptures – it is that the Almighty loves us, and wants us to love Him back, and to love our fellow man as we love ourselves. To forgive our enemies, and then to be happy with Him in paradise for all eternity.

It is not our intention in this book to glorify the fine men who served as chaplains in the Union Army from 1861 to 1865, Their achievements and glories can be found in other works. Nor do we seek to re-create the atmosphere of hate, oppression and ill will that existed at that time between the people of the North and the folks in the South. Rather, we seek to present a handy guide that can be used by chaplains to help them in their current ministry. Something to read, something to preach, something to supplement the wealth of materials that are available to everyone – on religion.

QUALIFICATIONS

If we look at the example of how Jesus selected His Apostles and try to use that template in selecting Chaplains for our Order we would be hard pressed to find anyone who fit. Rather than finding someone who can fit the role, we must ask the man to change to fill the position. Volumes can and have been written about the qualifications, and yet the SUVCW has never seen fit to put them in writing. Rather they take the procedure from the Wedding at Cana – “*do whatever he (your superior) tells you*”.

It would be nice if the man were a practicing Christian, if he went to Church on the Sabbath, if he practiced the Golden Rule, if he attended all functions of the Order, if he gave a good example, if he could read, preach and sing. But to give these specifications would be to limit the ability of the Commander to select the man who best fits the role – because that man above all else is willing to do the job.

Therefore let the Commanders of Camps, Departments and the National Order continue to use their own best judgment and select Chaplains who are willing and can adapt to the needs of those whom they serve.

Jerome Kowalski
National Chaplain
May 2009

**This Chaplain's Handbook was compiled
in May 2009
through the efforts of
National Chaplain Jerome Kowalski
And Rev. Robert J. Miller (www.robertjmillier.net)**

Recreating the World of Civil War Chaplains

A short history of Union Civil War chaplains

“Very early on, Abraham Lincoln and the War Department recognized the value of religion and need for chaplains for Union troops. Beginning in 1861 (with Orders #15 and #16), a series of wartime regulations were passed which dealt with various aspects of chaplain life—from their commissioning and purpose, to details like pay, forage, clothing, professional standards, etc. Since the military chaplaincy had been small prior to 1861, many special issues had to be worked through gradually—such as pay scales, officer status, and non-Christian chaplains.

For the first year of the war, Jewish rabbis were ineligible for official chaplaincy, because of legislation defining chaplains as “regularly ordained ministers of a Christian denomination.” After public agitation, and a personal interview between Rabbi Arnold Fischel and President Lincoln in December 1861, the words “*religious* denomination” were substituted for “*Christian* denomination,” and the issue was resolved.

There were three types of Union chaplains: *post* (connected to a specific military post or facility), *regimental* (one specific regiment), and *hospital* (one specific hospital). Wherever they ministered, great flexibility was required, because chaplains were confronted with a wide variety of needs and duties. As Warren Armstrong remarks in his excellent book *For Courageous Fighting and Confident Dying*, “*the duties of the chaplaincy demanded endless energy and unlimited patience, devotion to duty, and constancy of conviction,*” this “*the man who could not bend to the extraordinary circumstances . . . could not gain the confidence of his men and ultimately found himself rejected by those whom he had hoped to serve.*” Many Union chaplains did resign in disgust, disappointment or disillusionment, but “*far greater was the number who remained to serve . . . and captured the affections and respect of their comrades.*”

Thousands of chaplains enlisted when the war began, one per regiment, and headed south with their units. Given the antagonism of a few officers, the irreligion of others, and other early challenges in defining their duties, “they were hardly there for the pay [but] believed their service would be needed, and that religion was an imperative part of the soldiers life.” As the largest Northern religious denomination, Methodists had the largest contingent of chaplains (more than a third), but all major denominations were represented. Baptists were at least equal in membership to Methodists, but preferred to stay away from the church-state involvement that the chaplaincy represented, instead preferring to serve as “volunteer missionaries” for their denomination.

By the end of the Civil War, 2398 ministers, priests and rabbis had rendered service to the Union armies—including over seventy Catholics, and seventeen blacks.”

[Robert J. Miller, *Both Prayed to the same God – Religion and Faith in the American Civil War* (Lanham MD: Lexington Publishers, 2007), p. 99]

Chaplain’s official duty and actual roles

(a) “The one duty specified for all chaplains (formally in the North, but not in the South) was holding regular worship services—most often on Sunday afternoons to avoid conflict with drilling. At times this was hard to do (due to weather, drills, being on march, about to do battle), so chaplains had to have flexibility and adaptability. Many meetings were held spontaneously when troops were available. If no chapels were around (many were built by soldiers when they were encamped for a period of time), religious gatherings were held outdoors in front of a tent or in the woods, with the listeners sitting on logs or boxes, or standing in irregular fashion.

Chaplains played a wide variety of roles in both armies, and the best chaplains were those who became “jacks of all trades” for their men—comforting the homesick, counseling the sorrowful, teaching reading and writing, writing letters for hospitalized, maintaining libraries, becoming postmaster, carrying men and equipment on marches, foraging, digging wells and rifle pits and more.”

[Robert J. Miller, *Both Prayed to the same God – Religion and Faith in the American Civil War* (Lanham MD: Lexington Publishers, 2007), p. 98]

(b) “Early legislation and Army regulations did not prescribe duties for regimental chaplains; however by the time laws providing for better quality and broader denominational and racial representation became effective, a pattern evolved. The dimensions of the pattern developed almost immediately as chaplains, relying on experience, attempted to provide ministerial leadership to regiments as though they were congregations in uniform. Chaplains who generally earned the respect of their men and were able to influence them religiously carried out the expected ministerial functions and at the same time undertook a multitude of tasks that eased the minds and bodies of the troops.

From the very beginning the conduct of public worship was the most conspicuous function of a chaplain and became the chief means of fulfilling his duty. Most chaplains attempted to have at least one worship service each week, generally on Sunday. A manual prepared in 1863 to aid the chaplain in his work urged that a definite hour be fixed for the Sunday service. The period immediately following the customary morning inspection was recommended as the most desirable. The majority of chaplains attempted to adhere to that recommendation. But when regiments were on reconnaissance or in combat, services were held erratically.”

[Roy. J. Honeywell, “Serving Mr. Lincoln’s Regiments”, in *The U.S. Army Chaplaincy – 1791-1865* (-----), p.--]

Structure of war-time religious services

“Forms of worship varied with denominational orientation and other circumstances, but the usual Sunday service consisted of Scripture reading, songs, and a sermon. For chaplains from other denominations which emphasized liturgical worship the general service presented difficulties. Episcopal and Lutheran chaplains normally observed the Sacrament of Communion and then conducted general worship. Catholic chaplains, in addition to celebrating the Mass, would conduct general worship if no Protestant chaplain was available. At times Catholic and Protestant chaplains shared in a worship service and in a common mission discovered a new sense of brotherhood during an era of more than a little friction between their churches.

In any service conducted by chaplains, the sermon was the preponderant element. Sermons constituted a major contribution to the spiritual well-being of the soldiers. Very few chaplains relegated preaching to a minor role. Many were judged by what and how they preached, and a few were pulpiteers of genuine talent who could fashion timely and well-reasoned discourses.

In the thousands of sermons preached, two general themes were prevalent. The FIRST stressed loyalty to the cause of the Union as synonymous with service to God; in turn, God supported the righteous soldier. To be a Christian was to be a patriot, brave, reverent, strong, and righteous in the struggle against satanic attack. Chaplains strove both for a mood that would encompass the majesty of the cause and arouse the soldier’s determination to fight valiantly while maintaining good personal character. God would sustain the Northern cause only if its soldiers fought bravely and conducted themselves as Christians ... Many sermons were admonitions against swearing, gambling, licentiousness, and drunkenness, but they were subsidiary to the larger theme of God and personal patriotism.

The SECOND prevalent sermon theme of Protestant chaplains was the standard evangelistic one inherited from Edwards, Whitfield, and Finney. No matter how it was preached, it answered the gospel question ‘What must I do to be saved?’ The emphasis was on Paul’s concept that all were sinners, subject at death to the wrath of a righteous God. Soldiers were told that wholehearted conversion was the only way to escape eternal confinement in hell. Procrastination was dangerous, for death could come at any time to soldiers caught up in battle; for them, salvation was especially urgent. The great Protestant aim was to ‘save’ each man’s soul prior to physical death. The preferred time for preaching evangelistic sermons was during the winter camping periods when the tempo of combat slowed enough to make nightly meetings possible. A few chaplains, capitalizing on the prevalence of fear, gave evangelistic discourses on the eve of battles.”

[Roy. J. Honeywell, “Serving Mr. Lincoln’s Regiments”, in *The U.S. Army Chaplaincy – 1791-1865* (-----), pp. 99-100]

The Religious Services of Civil War Chaplains – In Their Own Words

Chaplain Thomas K. Beecher (141st NY) - 1862

“Shall I tell you of our Sunday? At first dawn, you may easily hear that ‘tis Sunday, for the camp is far quieter than usual, even though a soldier’s duty does not cease on any day. At a quarter of ten, our Adjutant forms parade, while the Chaplain fixes a box pulpit out in a neighboring meadow. Then the battalion marches out and forms in front of the Chaplain – close, compact and attentive. A short prayer of invocation – a hymn – a passage or two from the articles of war – a short lesson from Scripture, with very few words of explanation or reminder – a prayer – and the sung doxology, complete a catholic regimental service.

As we close, the village bells tell us other assemblies, at which many of us attend. At the Episcopal Church, my brother and I attended, and for the first time in our lives took the sacrament of our lord together. That the liturgy laid hold of our hearts – that the Scripture lessons seemed strangely fresh and instructive – that pensive and devout memories crowded us unspeakable – and we prayed tear blind, “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven” – need not be told to you. No wonder that soldiers, sailors and all travelers love liturgies. To hear in a strange land the same words one has learned to love at home; to remember the uncounted thousands who are using those same words with us, brings one to a conscious “communion of saints” – “The holy church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee.”

From: Thomas K. Beecher, “Letter from Chaplain Beecher,” *Elmira Weekly Advertiser and Chemung County Republicans* (Elmira, NY), 10 October 1862, 3.

Anonymous Union Chaplain in Army of the Cumberland - @ September 1863–64

“Writing of sermons, did you ever make one in a field preaching at the Front? If not, I must give you a homely little picture I saw yesterday, which by the calendar was Sunday. Blundering past a rusty camp, the tents stained and rent, I came upon a group of about as many as met of old “in an upper chamber”, and not an officer among them, unless it might be a sergeant. They were seated upon longs, and the Chaplain was just leading off in a hymn that floated up and was lost, like a bird in the storm, amidst the clash of bands and the rumble of army wagons in the valley below. The chaplain wore a hat with a feather that he might have been born in, for all I knew, for during the entire services, praise, prayer and preaching, the voice came out from beneath the hat with a feather in it. Perhaps it would have struck you as irreverent, but it may be that he feared the misfortune of the wolf who talked hoarsely with Little Red Riding Hood because he had a cold in his head.

At the heels of the Chaplain as he preached, a kettle was bubbling over a fire and a soldier boy on his knees beside it was apparently worshipping the hardware. But he was no idolater for all that, since a closer look discovered him fishing in it for something with a fork. Around the preacher, but just out of sermon range, boys were smoking, darning, chatting, reading, and having a frolic. The voice of a muleteer came up distinctly from below, as he damned the hearts of his six in hand ... The passing trains of ammunition crushed the Chaplain’s sentences in two, and, now and then, whistled a truant word away with them, but he kept right on, clear, earnest, sensible ... I could not help feeling a profound respect for the preacher and the little group around his feet.

To mingle with the men and share in their frolics as well as in their sorrows without losing self-respect. To be with them and not of them. To get at their hearts without letting them know it. These are indeed tasks most delicate and difficult, requiring a tact that a man must be born with, and a good honest sense that can never be derived from Gill’s “body of divinity”. ‘How do you like Chaplain S.?’ I asked of a group of Illinois boys one day. ‘We’ll freeze to him every time,’ was the characteristic reply, and not unanticipated, for I had seen him dressing a wound, helping out a blundering boy whose fingers were all thumbs with his letter to ‘the girl he left behind him,’ playing ball, running a race, as well as heard him making a prayer and preaching a sermon. The surgeon and chaplain are co-workers. I said the former should report to the women and I half believe that the Chaplain should do likewise.”

From: Benjamin Franklin Taylor, *Mission Ridge and lookout Mountain with Pictures of Life in Camp and Field* (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1872), 139f.

Chaplain Alonzo Hall Quint, 2nd Mass Inf. - date unknown

“The Sabbath service is held at half-past four o’clock, P.M. under the lengthening shadows. The drum and fife play ‘church call;’ the companies are formed as for parade. Each marches to the sound of music, to its place, till the regiment formed three sides of a square, leaving, perhaps, fifteen feet each side of the preacher. Just within the square are the field and staff officers, and the band, which plays a voluntary. At a word of command, the singers leave the ranks and stand near the band. In the service, the men stand until the time for the sermon, when, at the word, ‘Rest,’ all are seated but still in order. The sermon closing, all instantly rise, uncovered, for prayer and benediction. These ended, ‘Attention! Company A, left face, march!’ and to the music of the band, the men march to their tents. There is no lack of attention, and never a disrespectful look

Sabbath evening, at half-past seven o’clock, it is our prayer meeting, lately establish. It is held, now, in an open space, near the tents if our band. Each time, it has been a dark evening. A few candles cast a dim light. The flame of near or distant camp-fires shines fitfully on the browned faces of hardy men, bringing into deeper shadow the somber blue of their uniform. They stand closely – a hundred of them. A familiar revival hymn, perhaps ‘Behold, behold the Lamb of God,’ or ‘We’re going home, to die no more,’ attracts others, for music is a great charm in camp. A prayer, a reading of Scripture, a short address from the chaplain, singing, and then all are invited to speak, or pray, or sing. One comes forward quietly into a little vacant space, and in a low voice testifies to the grace of God. The another; and one prays, or singing breaks forth; or one, in whose heart the springs have long been choked up, bears witness that the fountain is once more gushing, and mourns over his sins. Here and there are visible tears rolling down some rough cheek; ‘it seems so like home,’ or ‘it makes us feel human,’ or ‘it reminds one of a praying father.’

The hour passes. Tired? No; though no cushioned seats have rested them – they have all been standing the whole period. But they have rested upon the grace of God; and they look forward with yearning hearts to the Wednesday evening prayer-meeting.”

From: Horatio B. Hackett, *Christian Memorials of the War* (Boston: Gould and Lincoln, 1864), 126-28.

PRAYERS and BLESSINGS

Creeds

APOSTLES' CREED (Profession of faith)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invocations and Benedictions

Meals

Meetings

Memorial Services

Prayer to St. Barbara (patron of artillerymen)

[History: Born a pagan in a pagan family. Father a Roman official. Believed in Roman gods. Barbara converted to Christianity, and her father locked her into a tower to keep her from practicing her faith. But legend has it that angels ministered to her there. Her father, angry she wouldn't recant and abandon beliefs, beheaded her with his own sword, and was struck by lightning immediately. Thus she became the patroness of artillerymen.]

Almighty and everlasting, we ask you to bless this gun ... let those who service it do so in good health and safety. Let those who see its roar be reminded of your power and might and that what you want for your children is peace and not war. Bless all of us here gathered And keep us always safe from the attack of our enemy. We ask this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Father (the Lord's Prayer)

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom the power,

and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace the Lord is with Thee. Blessed are thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. AMEN.

Glory be

Glory be to the Father, and to the on, and to the Holy Spirit - as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope.

Lord grant not so much that I be consoled as to console, be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we are given, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

The "Jesus Prayer"

Lord Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Blessing of a Christmas Tree

Dear God, two thousand years ago, You brought Your Son, Jesus into this world to teach us the power of love and sacrifice. As we raise this tree, we remember His birth and the meaning of His life for us. Bless this tree as a symbol of our celebration of Jesus' birth and our gratitude for His sacrifice.

May the joy this tree brings and the gifts we place under it remind us of the many gifts You have given us. We ask Your blessings upon our loved ones, this day and always.

Amen.

(Credit: National Shrine of Our Lady of Providence, USA)

Blessing of Books

Father of light and wisdom, we praise you for your gifts: for giving us the power to see, and the ability to write and read and to use the arts of printing. Help us to use these crafts and skills for your greater honor and glory, and for the salvation of all your people. Blest + these books, and grant that all who use them may grow in wisdom and grace before you and all your people. Father, we praise you through Jesus Christ your Son in the love of your Holy Spirit, now and always and for ever. Amen.

Blessing of a Camp (or Campground)

Heavenly Father, we praise You for the wonderful world You have made for us.

Help us to enjoy its beauty and so be led closer to You.

Bless + our camp, and help us to stay here in safety and peace.

Bless + us during this camp, guide us by Your loving hand, and be with us and protect us at all times.

Father, we ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing of a Family

Blessed are You, eternal God, King of the universe: You have called us in Jesus to be Your beloved people, living pure and blameless lives in Your sight.

Bless + this family who ask for your grace. Let your Spirit guide their words and deeds, so that their light may shine before all and lead all who know them to give You praise.

May their home be filled with the spirit of love, with the obedience of faith, and the strength of hope.

Make their lives happy in Your service, and bring them in Your love to your eternal home.

Father all-holy, we praise Your Name, and ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing of a Flag (or Emblem)

Heavenly Father, maker and lover of all, we ask you to bless + the people of our country.

(State/Province/Town) Bless + this flag (emblem) and let it always remind us of the principles it stands for.

Help us to work together in peace so that we may give you glory by our lives.

We ask this grace, loving Father, through Christ our Lord.

Amen!

Blessing of a Father

Lord Jesus, our brother, we praise You for saving us. Teach us to love you and Your Father by keeping Your commandments.

Bless + this father, and deepen his love for his wife and family. By his work and example and prayer,

may he lead his children to follow You. Lord Jesus, hear our prayer as we offer You glory for ever and ever.

Amen.

Blessing of Mothers

Holy God, You compare Your own love for Your people to the love of a mother for her children.

Look with kindness on this mother, give her comfort in moments of sorrow, and joy in her work for her family.

Listen to her prayers, and bless + her in all she does for You.

Let her share with Jesus Your Son and Mary our mother in the everlasting happiness of Heaven.

Father, we ask this grace through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing of a Home

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who has made heaven and earth.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

We humbly beg of you, God the Father almighty, to bless and sanctify this home, those who live in it and everything in it. Be so kind as to fill it with all good things. Grant them, Lord, abundance of blessings from heaven and the substance of life from the richness of the earth. Direct the longings of their prayer to the fruits of Your mercy.

Be so kind, then, as to bless and sanctify this home at our coming in, just as You blessed the home of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. May Your angels of light live within the walls of this house, and guard it and all who live in it, through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

(Then the home is sprinkled with holy water.)

Blessing of Parents

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Maker of Heaven and earth: You show Your love for young people

through the love, example, and prayer of their parents. Have mercy on this (these) mother(s) and

father(s), bless + them with Your joy and peace, deepen their love for each other, and help them to raise their children in Your love.

Blessed are You, heavenly Father, now and always and for ever.

Amen.

Blessing of an Object (#1)

Let us pray to our Father in heaven, who has given us this/these N. for our use.

(Moment of silence.)

Blessed are you, Lord God, king of the universe: you have made all things for your glory.
Bless + this/these N. and grant that we may use it/them in your service and for the good of all your people.
Father, we praise you through Christ our Lord.
Amen!

Blessing of an Object (#2)

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who has made heaven and earth.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, at Your word all things are made holy. Pour Your blessing upon this thing (these things) which You have made. Grant that whoever gratefully makes use of it (them) according to Your will and law may, by calling on Your holy name, receive from You health of body and salvation of soul, through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

For Those Who Died

In silence and in gratitude
We bow our heads and pray,
For those who fought for liberty
One distant yesterday.
Who marched in war with courage high
To heed our country's call
Who sacrificed unflinchingly
And gave their very all.
May God remember every cross
And every ocean grave
And bless our dear departed for
The loyalty they gave.
And let us remember now
And strive to keep peace
That hands my toil and fields may grow
and guns forever cease.
Let us humbly grateful for
The passing of the night
But also let us guard the day
And be prepared to fight.

Peter Marshall's Prayer

It is good to ponder on the last prayer which Peter Marshall was to have given to the Senate before he died and which was read there by Dr. Clarence W. Cranford, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church.

“Deliver us, our Father from future hopes and from clinging causes, that we may move into ever-growing calm and every-widening horizons.

Where we cannot convince, let us be willing
to persuade, for small deeds done are better
than great deeds planned.

We know that we cannot do everything, but
help us to do something.
For Jesus sake,
Amen.

My Morning Prayer

Awaking from my morning sleep
I pray the Lord my thoughts to keep,
From his dear side may I not stray
But walk in wisdom's holy way.

If aught befall me thru the day
"Thy will be done", help me to pray.
May each morn find some task begun
And ere the ever the task be done.

Should I athirst and hungry be
To living fountain lead Thou me.
On glades of green Thy table spread
And feed me with the living bread.

And should I die before the night
Give Thou, my soul its upward flight
Till there is Heaven for Jesus' sake
In His own image I awake
Rev. T. G. Knotts

I Met God in the Morning

"The earth is the Lord's
and the fulness thereof"
It speaks of His greatness,
It sings of His love,
And each day at dawning
I lift my heart high
And raise up my eyes
to the infinite sky...
I watch the night vanish
as a new day is born,
And I hear the birds sing
on the wings of the morn,
I see the dew glisten
In crystal-like splendor
While God, with a touch
that is gentle and tender,
Wraps up the night
and softly tucks it away

And hangs out the sun
to herald a new day,
A day yet unblemished
by what's gone before,
A chance to begin
and start over once more,
And all in need do
is to silently pray -
God, help me and guide me
and go with me today."

Helen Steiner Rice

Give Us, Lord

Give us, Lord, a bit o' sun,
A bit o' work and a bit o' fun;
Give us in all the struggle and sputter
Our daily bread and a bit o' butter;
Give us health, our keep to make,
And a bit to spare for others' sake;
Give us, too, a bit o' song
And a tale, and a book to help us along,
Give us, Lord, a chance to be
Our goodly best, brave, wise and free,
Our goodly best for ourself, and others,
Till all men learn to live as brothers.

An Old English Prayer

Take It All To Jesus

If you're always in a dither
with far too much to do,
If you life's a constant hassle
and just too much for you,
If you're plagued and vexed with worries
and life's more than you can bear,
Why not take it all to Jesus
silently in prayer.
He'll comfort, rest and soothe you,
He'll help you to unwind
And as an added bonus
He'll give you peace of mind.

Joan Hardin

A Prayer for Middle Aged

Lord, Thou knowst better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old. keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details. Give me winds to get to the point. I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of others' pains. Help me to endure them with patience. But seal my lips on my own aches and pains. They are increasing and my love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken. Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a

saint - but a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil. make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not busy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but Thou knowst, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Beautitudes for the Aged

Blessed are they who understand,
my faltering steps and palsied hand.

Blessed are they who know that my ears today,
must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know,
that my eyes are dimmed and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they who looked away,
when the coffee spilled at table today.

Blessed are they with a cheery smile,
who stop to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who never say,
“You’ve told that story twice today.”

Blessed are they who know the ways,
to bring back memories of yesterdays.

Blessed are they who make it known,
that I am loved, respected and not alone.

Blessed are they who know I am at a loss,
to find the strength to carry the cross.

Blessed are they who ease the days,
on my journey home, in loving ways.

Author unknown

Your Church and Mine

You go to your church, and I’ll go to mine,
But let’s walk along together;
Our Father has built them side by side,
So let’s walk along together.
The road is rough and the way is long,
But we’ll help each other over;
You go to your church and I’ll go to mine,
But let’s walk along together.

You go to your church, and I’ll go to mine,
But let’s walk along together;

Our heavenly Father is the same ,
So let's walk along together,
The chimes of your church ring loud and clear,
They chime with the chimes of my church;
You go to your church, and I'll go to mine,
But let's walk along together.

You go to your church, and I'll go to mine,
But let's walk along together;
Our heavenly Father loves us all,
So let's walk along together.
The Lord will be at my church today,
But He'll be at your church also;
You go to your church, and I'll go to mine,
But let's walk along together.

The Light

Though darkness has taken
The body from soul;
And we come as all men
To the bridge with a toll,
The Light is still shining
With brightness always -
The Light that is guiding
The traveler each day.
It is guiding the wanderers
Who stray by the side
It is guiding each soul
That is winging its flight.
It is giving a radiance
To hearts that have grieved;
And has shone in the portals
Which longed to receive.

The Light: It is God!
and death is not pain
If we turn to its solace
Again and again.
For the depths of our sufferings
Shall make us more whole
To bask in that Light,
When we're reaching the toll.
Beulah Hastings Wilson

Hello, God

Hello God I called tonight
To talk a little while
I need a friend who'll listen to
My anxiety and trial.

You see I can't quite make it
Through a day just on my own,
I need your love to guide me
So I'll never feel alone.

I want to ask you please to keep
My family safe and sound
Come fill their lives with confidence
Through whatever fate they're bound.

Give me faith dear GOD to face
Every hour through the day
And not to worry over things
I can't change in any way.

I thank you GOD for being home
And listening to my call
For giving me such good advice
When I stumble and fall.

Your number GOD is the only one
That answers every time
I never get a busy signal
Never had to pay a dime.

So thank you GOD for listening to
My troubles and my sorrow
Good night GOD, I love you too
And I'll call again tomorrow.

Thanksgiving

Come ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter's storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come.
Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto this praise to yield;
What and tares together sown, or
Unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord, our God, shall come,
And shall take his harvest home;
From His field shall in that day
All offences purge away.

Give His angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store,
In his garner evermore.

Thanksgiving Prayer

For all your good and gracious gifts
we thank you, God, today,
For schools and churches, hospitals and domes;
For Youth and all its brave, bright dreams,
In love and laughter and adventuring.
For Peace, while others grovel in despair,
For each men's right to seek the life he loves -
For these we thank You, God.
BUT, MOST OF ALL, WE THANK
YOU FOR OUR FLAG!
That Flag our fathers bought with
their own battling faith -

To be a lasting symbol of man's noblest
dream of
Justice, Truth and Liberty for all!
Help us remember what the flag means, God!
Help us be worthy of each stripe and star -
And serve it with our every thought and deed,
And guard it, though it be with life itself!
Amen.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Dear God, as round the table we
Are gathered by Thy grace,
We pause to thank Thee for this food
And for each smiling face.
How wonderful that we can share
These moments once again
With those we love but seldom see
How long the time has been!
We thank You for Thanksgiving Day,
This special time of year
When we can meet with pleasures all
The ones we hold so dear.
Bless those of us now far away:
Please let their spirits be

Here with us round the table, Lord -
One happy family.
And as we take our places here
And fill our plates with food,
Lord, may our hearts and minds be filled
With special gratitude.

Amen.

Phyllis C. Michael

A Christmas Prayer

O God our loving Father, help us righting to remember the birth
of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels , the gladness
of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.
Deliver us from evil by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us
to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children and the
Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving
and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Martin Luther's Morning Prayer

make the sign of the holy cross and say:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear son, that You have kept me this night
from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my
doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let
Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have not power over me. Amen

Martin Luther's Evening Prayer

make the sign of the holy cross and say:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, that You have graciously kept me this
day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this
night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things, Let Your holy angel be with
me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen

Services for various occasions

Generic Public Worship Service (from “*Soldier’s Reasonable Service*”)

Hymn

Invocation and Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy Kingdom come; They 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, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin (all join)

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father; We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done. And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind, in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; To the glory of thy holy name. *Amen.*

Absolution (by a minister)

Almighty god, our heavenly Father, who, of his great mercy, hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord’s Prayer (all join)

OUR Father, who are in Haven, 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, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Selection from Psalter (p.15) (Respond.)

Sermon

Creed (profession of Faith) (all join)

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and Earth: And In Jesus Christ his only son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died and buried; He descended into Hell; the third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us Pray.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Prayer for the President

O Lord, our heavenly Father, the high and mighty Rules of the universe, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth; most heartily we beseech thee, with thy favour to behold and bless thy servant, *The President of the United States* and all others in authority; and so replenish them with the grace of thy holy Spirit; that they may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way; Endue them plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant them in health and prosperity long to live; and finally, alter this life, to attain everlasting joy and felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for all Conditions of Men.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations; More especially we pray for the holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves

Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men. WE bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy name; thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Benediction

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

General Thanksgiving prayer

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men.

Hymn

Possible additions for a Generic Public Worship Service

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good-will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks unto thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, son of the Father that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. *Amen.*

The ten commandments

I. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

II. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and show mercy unto thousands in them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: IN it thou shalt do no manner of work, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy manservant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is therein, and rested the seventh day: Wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt do no murder.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid,

nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

Burial Services (Funeral) - Option #1 (Generic funeral service)

On going before the Corpse

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin, worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed by the name of the Lord.

On coming to the grave

Man, that is born of a woman, hath but a short time to lie, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death; Of whom may we seek for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts: Shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O hold and merciful, Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death to fall from thee.

On casting the Earth upon the Body

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in his wise Providence, to take out of this world the Soul of our deceased *Brother*, we therefore commit *his* Body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: looking for the general resurrection in the last Day, and the life of the World to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious Majesty to judge the world, the Earth and the Sea shall give up their Dead; and the corruptible Bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed, and made like unto his own glorious Body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

I heard a voice from heaven, saying unto me, Write, From henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit; and they rest from their labours.

Prayers

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed by thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven; Give up 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. *Amen*.

O Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth, shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in him, shall not die eternally; who also hath taught us, by his holy Apostle St. Paul, not to be sorry, as men without hope, for those who sleep in him; we humbly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life, we may rest in him; and that at the general resurrection in the last day, we may be found acceptable in thy sight; and receive that blessing, which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all who love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world: Grant this we beseech thee, O Merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen*

Benediction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen*.

Burial Services (Funeral) - Option #2 (variations for different locations)

At The Home or Funeral Home

At the house or wherever the body lies in repose the following Lessons may be used:

Job 19:25, 26, 27: I know that my Redeemer liveth; and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my skin

worms destroy this body; yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself; and my eyes shall behold and not another.

John 11:25, 26: Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die.

Revelation 14:13: And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea sayeth the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them.

An appropriate hymn may then be sung or read from the selections in the back of the Chaplain's Handbook. then the Chaplain or Compatriot may read the following lesson or a part thereof.

1 Corinthians 15:35-37: But some man may say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come: Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance be wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, another of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another in glory. so also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterwards that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthly: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthly, such are they also that are earthly; and as is the heavenly such are they also that is heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of god; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying this is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law/ But thanks be to god, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Then you may say a suitable prayer or you may use the one in the Burial Service, which is this prayer

Almighty God, who by the death of thy Son hast abolished sin and death, and by His resurrection hast brought life and immortality to light, to the end that we might be delivered from the power of the devil, and that by the power of the same resurrection, our mortal bodies should be raised from the dead, and live with Thee in Thy kingdom; mercifully grant that with our whole hearts we may steadfastly believe this, and with all thy saints may attain unto the blessed resurrection from the dead; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one god, world without end. *Amen.*

Another appropriate hymn may be sung. then remarks by the Commander or some Compatriot chosen to the honor may be delivered.

At the Church

Whatever plans the family has made are implemented. If the Chaplain is asked to have a part along with the pastor he should participate as requested and for the glory of God.

At the Grave

The following may be said by the Chaplain:

Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh up like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and continueth not. In the midst of life we are in death. Of whom may we seek for succor but of Thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? Yet, O Lord most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death. Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers; but spare us, Lord, most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour; Thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour from any pains of death to fall from Thee. Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased compatriot, we therefore commit the body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking confidently for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ who shall raise His followers to the participation of His own happiness and glory in heaven.

Should there not be present a bugler to sound the final "Taps," the Chaplain or Commander may offer a few final remarks.

Prayer for sick or dying

Blessing of a Sick Adult

V. Peace to this house.

R. And to all who live in it.

(Upon approaching the sick person, pray:)

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who has made heaven and earth.

V. Lord hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry reach up to You.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, may Your peace and mercy enter into this house along with my humble entrance.

Let every wickedness of the devil flee from this place. May the angels of peace be here, and may every sinful discord leave this home.

Show that Your name is great among us, O Lord, and bless our living together.

Lord, You are holy and faithful, and You remain with the Father and the Holy Spirit

for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us pray.

Look upon Your servant, Lord, suffering from sickness of body, and refresh the soul You have created,

so that, purified by this affliction, he (she) may always remember that he (she) has been saved by Your loving pity through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Let us pray.

Merciful Lord, consoler of the faithful, we beg of Your great mercy that at our humble entrance You will visit this Your servant, lying on a bed of pain, just as You visited Simon's mother-in-law. Kindly come to him (her) so that, after receiving his (her) former health

he (she) may return thanks to You in Your Church,

who live and are King and God for ever and ever. Amen.

(Then, extending his right hand towards the sick person, he says:)

The Lord Jesus Christ be with you to defend you.

May He be within you to preserve you,

before you to lead you,

behind you to guard you,

and above you to bless you,

who lives and is King with the Father

and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

May the blessing of almighty God,

the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

descend upon you and remain always. Amen

(Then he sprinkles the sick person with holy water.)

Marriage Services (three options)

First Marriage Service

Order for the Solemnization of Marriage

(At the day and time appointed for the solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married shall come into the body of the church, or shall be ready in some proper house, with their friends and neighbors: and there standing together, the man on the right side and the woman on the left, the Minister or Chaplain shall say:)

Dearly Beloved: We are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the face of this company to join together this Man and this Woman in holy Matrimony; which is commended of St. Paul to be honorable among all men, and therefore, is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, discretely, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God.

Into this holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. If any man can show just cause, why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

And also, speaking unto the persons that shall be married, he shall say:

I require and charge you both, as ye will answer at the dreadful day of judgement, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, that if either of you know any impediment, why ye may not be lawfully joined together in Matrimony, ye do now confess it. for be ye well assured, that if any persons are joined together otherwise than God's Word doth allow, their Marriage is not lawful.

(The minister or chaplain, if he shall have reason to doubt of the lawfulness of the proposed Marriage, may demand sufficient surety for his indemnification; but if no impediment shall be alleged, or suspected, the Minister or Chaplain shall say to the man)

Wilt thou have this Woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

*The Man shall answer,
I will.*

Then shall the Minister or Chaplain say to the Woman,

Wilt thou have this Man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony? Wilt thou obey him, and serve him, love, honour, and keep him in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

*The Woman shall answer,
I will.*

Then shall the Minister or Chaplain say,

Who giveth this Woman to be married to his Man?
The Father may answer, "Her mother and I."

Then shall they give their troth to each other in this manner.

The Minister or Chaplain, receiving the Woman at her father's or friend's hand, shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand and to say after him as followeth:

I _____ take thee _____ to my wedded wife, to have and to hold from his day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us to part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge thee my troth.

Then shall they loose their hands; and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister or Chaplain,

I _____ take thee _____ to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from his day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us to part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I pledge thee my troth.

Then shall they again loose their hands, and the Man shall give unto the Woman a Ring. And the Minister or Chaplain taking the Ring, shall deliver it unto the Man, to put it upon the fourth finger of the woman's left hand. And the Man holding the ring there and taught by the Minister or Chaplain shall say:

With this Ring I thee wed, and with all my worldly goods I thee endow: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Then the Man leaves the Ring upon the fourth finger of the Woman's left hand, they shall both kneel down; and the Minister or Chaplain shall say:

Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever Amen.

O ETERNAL GOD, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy Name; that, as Isaac and Rebecca lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, whereof this Ring given and received is a token and pledge, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Then shall the Minister or Chaplain join their right hands together and say:
Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.*

Then shall the Minister or Chaplain speak unto the company:

Forasmuch as _____ and _____ have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth each to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving a ring, and joining of hands, I pronounce that they are Man and Wife, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

And the Minister or Chaplain shall add this Blessing.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favour look upon you and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen*

Why the Wedding-Ring is on the Bride's fourth finger.

According to the old service books the practice was for the man to place the ring on the tip of the thumb, reckoned as the first finger, saying, "In the name of the Father; " then on the second finger, saying, " and of the Son; " and then on the third finger, saying, "And of the Holy Ghost; " and finally on the fourth, where it goes and will remain on all properly married ladies, and thus the custom.

Second Marriage Service

The following is another ceremony. Of the Solemnization of Matrimony which was in use during the Civil War era, for those Chaplains called upon to perform weddings for members of the Sons of Veterans, and who have the legal right to do so, might want to consider this service or an abbreviation thereof, if a period ceremony is desired)

When the parties present themselves for marriage, the chaplain or minister is to desire, if there is any person present who knows any lawful reason, why these persons may not be joined together in the marriage relation, that they will not make it known or ever after hold their peace. No objections being made, he is then severally to address himself to the parties to be married, in the following words:

"You (referring to the man) declare in the presence of God, that you do not know any reason by pre-contract or otherwise, why you may not lawfully marry this woman."

Upon his declaring he does not, the chaplain or minister shall address himself to the bride, in the same or similar terms:

"You (referring to the woman) declare in the presence of God, that you do not know any reason by pre-contract or otherwise, why you may not lawfully marry this man."

Upon her declaring she does not, he is to begin with prayer, for the presence and blessing of God.

The chaplain or minister shall then proceed to give them some instruction from Scriptures, respecting the institution and duties of this state, showing,

"that God hath instituted marriage for the comfort and happiness of mankind, in declaring a man shall forsake his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife; and that marriage is honourable in all; that he hath appointed various duties, which are incumbent upon those who enter into this relation; such as, a high esteem and mutual love for one another; bearing with each other's infirmities and weaknesses, to which human nature is subject in its present lapsed state; to encourage each other under the various ills of life; to comfort one another in the things which pertain to God, and to their immortal souls; and to live together as the heirs of the grace of life."

Then the chaplain or minister shall cause the bridegroom and bride to join their hands, and shall pronounce the marriage covenant, first to the man, in these words:

"You take this woman, whom you hold by the hand, to be your lawful and married wife; and you promise, and covenant, in the presence of God and these witnesses, that you will be unto her a loving and faithful husband, until you shall be separated by death."

The bridegroom shall express his consent by saying, "Yes, I do."

Then the chaplain or minister shall address himself to the woman, in these words:

"You take this man, to be your lawful and married husband, and you promise, and covenant, in the presence of God and these witnesses, that you will be unto him a loving, faithful, and obedient wife, until you shall be parted by death."

The bride shall express her consent by saying, "Yes, I do."

Then the chaplain or minister is to say,

I pronounce you husband and wife according to the ordinance of God; whom therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder."

After this the chaplain or minister may exhort them in a few words, to mutual discharge of their duty.

Then let him conclude with prayer suitable to the occasion.

Let the chaplain or minister keep a proper register for the names of all persons whom he marries, and of the time of their marriage, for the perusal of all whom it may concern.

Occasional Collects

For Congress

Most gracious God, we humbly beseech thee, as for the People of these Untied States in genera, so especially for their Senate and Representatives in congress assembled; that thou wouldest be pleased to direct and prosper all their consultations, to the advancement of thy Glory, and good of thy Church, the safety, honour, and welfare of thy People; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations, that peach and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations. These, and all other necessities for them, for us, and thy whole Church, we humbly beg in the name of Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Before a Battle

O Most powerful and glorious Lord God, the Lord of hosts, that rulest and commandest all things; thou sittest in the throne judging right; And therefore we make our address to thy divine Majesty, in this our necessity, that thou wouldest take the cause into thine own hand, and judge between us and our enemies. Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come and help us: for thou givest not always the battle to the strong, but canst save by many or by few. O let not our sins now cry against us for vengeance; but hear us thy poor servants begging mercy, and imploring thy help, and that thou wouldest be a defence unto us against the face of the enemy. Make it appear that thou art our Saviour and might Deliverer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

On Deliverance from the Enemies

O Almighty God, who art a strong tower of defence unto thy servants against the face of their enemies; We yield thee priase and thanksgiving for our deliverance from those great and apparent dangers wherewith we were compassed. We acknowledge it thy goodness that we were not delivered over as a prey unto them; beseeching thee still to continue such thy mercies towards us, that all the world may know that thou art our Saviour and mighty Deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For a Sick Person

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; Look down from heaven, we humbly beseech thee, behold, visit and relieve thy sick *servant*, for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon him with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort *him* with a sense of thy goodness; preserve *him* from the temptations of the enemy; give him patience under *his* affliction; and, in thy good time restore *him* to health, and enable *him* to lead the residue of *his* life in thy fear and to thy glory. Or else give *him* grace so to take thy visitation, that after this painful life ended, *he* may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

After Sudden Visitation

O Most gracious Father, we fly unto thee for mercy in behalf of this thy servant, there lying under the sudden visitation of thine hand. If it be thy will, preserve *his* life, that there may be place for repentance: But, if thou hast otherwise appointed. let thy mercy supply to *him* the want of the usual opportunity for the trimming of *his* lamp. Stir up in *him* such sorrow for sin, and such fervent love to thee, as may in a short time do the work of many days: That among the praises which thy Saints and holy Angels shall sing to the honour of thy mercy through eternal ages, it may be to thy unspeakable glory, that thou hast redeemed the soul of this thy servant from eternal death, and made *him* partaker of the everlasting life, which is through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Forgiveness

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

For Direction

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

After Sermon

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

After Sermon

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

After Sermon

O, God, Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the Faithful, visit, we pray thee, this congregation with thy love and favour; enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting Gospel; graft in their hearts a love of the truth; increase in them true religion; nourish them with all goodness; and of thy great mercy keep them in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom with the Father, and the Son together, we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. *Amen.*

For Unity

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of peace, give us grace seriously to lay to heart, the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord, that as there is but one body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all; so we may henceforth be all of one heart and one soul, united in the holy bond of truth, of faith and charity; and may with one mind and one mouth, glorify thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer during our present National Troubles

O, Almighty God, who art a strong tower of defence to those who put their trust in thee, whose power no creature is able to resist, we make our humble cry to thee in this hour of our country's need. Thy property is always to have mercy. Deal not with us according to our sins, neither reward us according to our iniquities but stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, and be our defence for thy name's sake. Have pity upon our brethren who are in arms against the constituted authorities of the land, and show them the error of their way. Shed upon the counsels of our Rulers the spirit of wisdom and moderation and firmness, and unite the hearts of our people as the heart of one man in upholding the supremacy of Law, and the cause of justice and peace. Abate the violence of passion; banish pride and prejudice from every heart, and include us all to trust in thy righteous Providence, and to be ready for every duty. And oh, that in thy great mercy, thou wouldest hasten the return of unity and concord to our borders, and so order all things that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations. These things, and whatever else thou shalt see to be necessary and convenient for us, we humbly beg through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Prayer for those exposed to Danger

Almighty God, the Saviour of all men, we humbly commend to thy tender care and sure protection, those thy servants who have come forth at the call of their country, to defend its government and to protect its people in their property and homes. Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, be over us; let thy Holy spirit be with us; let thy good Angels have charge of us; with thy loving kindness defend us as with a shield, and either bring us out of our peril in safety, with a heart to show forth thy praises for ever, or else sustain us with a glorious hope by which alone thy servants can have victory in suffering and death.; through the sole merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Soldiers' Prayer

O God our Father! Wash us from all our sins in the Saviour's blood, and we shall be whiter than snow. Create in us a clean heart, and fill us with the Holy Ghost, that we may never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under His banner, against sine, the world, and the devil; looking to Jesus the great Captain of our salvation. We ask it all, because He lived, died, rose again, and ever liveth to make intercession for us. *Amen.*

Civil War Grave Dedication

There is something that soldiers in the Civil War had in common with soldiers in all wars. When cold at night, there is nothing like a wool blanket. The Roman soldiers had red ones and wore them as capes during the day. The men with Washington at Valley Forge shivered with not having enough of them. The French Army tied them to their knapsacks and marched all over Europe chanting "Viva Napoleon".

From the lowest private to the greatest general in either army during the Civil War - the cold nights were made more bearable because of the wool blanket. These blankets will keep you warm even if they are damp. They dry quickly, are light weight and fold tight. Wool is plentiful, and a renewable resource. And all of the men used them. Now green grass is the blanket that covers them in fields though out our Nation - and the whole world. In winter, the blanket is one of snow. On this November evening when you go to bed and pull the covers up around your chin - thank the Almighty for the sacrifices made by the service men and women of our great country.

David the psalmist tells us in the 23rd psalm that the grave is not the end. For death is only a shadow and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Let us pray

Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that in the day of trouble and hour of danger Thou in Thy infinite wisdom raised up men who were ready to do battle, and if need be, to die that this country might be preserved. Grant us we beseech Thee, a continuance of Thy watchful care.

Lord, remind us continuously of the sacrifices that were made by men such as these, that gave so much, so the we may enjoy the blessings of freedom and liberty. Help us to dedicate ourselves to preserving their memory, and may we never forget what has been done for us and our posterity.

Be with and bless the men and women who are serving our country at home and aboard. We pray for their protection and their families. Please give them comfort, confidence, and the peace that passes all understanding, and show us how we may serve them as they have served us.

Finally we pray Lord, that You will hasten the day when peace will cover our nation, as a blanket provides warmth and comfort, and our service men and women are safely home, and all people will live in peace, in the bonds of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

And if you agree, say Amen

Hymns
(arranged alphabetically by title)

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
the Man of God's own choosing;
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name,
from age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us:
The Prince of Darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him Who with us sideth:
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

Abide with Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name,
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown his Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
a remnant weak and small!
Hail him who save us by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all.

Ye Gentile sinners, ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall;
Go, spread your trophies at his feet,
and crown him Lord of all.

May we have heav'n's rejoicing throng
Before his presence fall;
Join in the everlasting song,
and crown his Lord of all!

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound!
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart of fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;

He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine,
But God, Who called me here below,
Shall be forever mine.

When we've been dead ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory
of the coming of the Lord;
He is tramping out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning
of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires
of a hundred circling camps.
they have builded Him an altar
in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence
by the dime and flaming lamps;
His day is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery Gospel
writ in burnished rows of steel;
"As ye heal with My contemners,
so with you My grace shall deal";
Let the Hero, born of woman,
crush the serpent with His heel,
Since God is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet
that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men
before His judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him!
be jubilant, my feet;

Our God is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom
that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy,
let us live to make men free;
(originally – die to make men free;)
While God is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory
of the morning on the wave,
He is wisdom to the mighty,
He is honor to the brave;
So the world shall be His footstool,
and the soul of wrong His slave,
Our God is marching on.
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.

Bringing in the Sheaves

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve,
Waiting for the harvest, and time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain

*Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.*

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze,
By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain

Going for with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves,
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

Refrain

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ, the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels, say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Lo! the Sun's eclipse is over, Alleluia!
Lo! He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He dies our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the resurrection day, Alleluia!

King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains that He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky, He's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Here by Thy great help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,

Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

O that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in blood washed linen
How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace,
come, my Lord, no longer tarry,
Take my ransomed soul away;
Send thine angels now to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

Come, Ye Sinners Poor and Needy

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love and power.

Refrain

*I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms;
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O There are ten thousand charms.*

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh.

Refrain

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.

Refrain

View Him prostrate in the garden;
On the ground your Maker lies.
On the bloody tree behold Him;
Sinner, will this not suffice?

Refrain

Lo! th'incarnate God ascended,
Pleads the merit of His blood;
Venture on Him, venture wholly,
Let no other trust intrude.

Refrain

Let not conscience make you linger,
Not of fitness fondly dream;

All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel you need of Him.

Refrain

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all must but his own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends His burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime;
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for Thou hast died for me:
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Dixie's Land

I wish I was in the land of cotton,
Old times there are not forgotten;
Look away! Look away! Look away, Dixie's Land!
In Dixie's Land where I was born in ,
Early on one frost morning.
Look away! Look away! Look away, Dixie's Land!
Then I wish I was in Dixie! Hooray! Hooray!
In Dixie's Land I'll take my stand, to live and die in Dixie!
Away! Away! Away down South in Dixie!
Away! Away! Away down South in Dixie!

Faith of Our Fathers

Faith of our fathers! Living still,
In spite of dungeon fire and sword;
O how our heart beat high with joy,
When-ev'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers holy faith,
We shall be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers! We will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers holy faith,
We shall be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers! Mary's prayers
Shall keep our country close to thee;

And through the truth that comes from God,
O we shall prosper and be free.
Faith of our fathers holy faith,
We shall be true to thee till death.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and Mighty!
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea,
Cherubim and Seraphim
falling down before thee,
Who were and are and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see.
Only Thou art holy,
There is none beside thee.
Perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name
in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, Blessed Trinity.

It is Well with My Soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
What ever my lot you have taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though the devil will ruin, though trials may come
Let this blessed assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate
And He shed His own blood for my soul

It is well, with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin not in part but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, oh my soul

It is well, with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

And Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight
And the clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

It is well with my soul
It is well, it is well with my soul

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Christ, the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!
 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
 Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
 Lo! the Sun's eclipse is over, Alleluia!
 Lo! He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Alleluia!
Christ hath burst the gates of hell, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!
 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
 Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
 Where thy victory, O grave! Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the resurrection day, Alleluia!
 King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!
 Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
 Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia!
 Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!
 But the pains the He endured, Alleluia!
 Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
 Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
 Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Little Brown Church in the Vale

There's a church in the valley by the wildwood
No lovelier place in the dale
No spot is so dear to my childhood,
As the little brown church in the dale.

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning,
To listen to the clear ringing bells,
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

Oh, come, come, come, come,
Come to the church by the wildwood,
Oh, come to the church in the dale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood,
As the little brown church in the vale.
There, close by the church in the valley,
Lies one that I loved so well.
She sleeps, sweetly sleeps, 'neath the willow,
Disturb not her rest in the vale.

There, close my the side of that love one,
'Neath the trees where the sweet flowers bloom,
When the farewell hymns shall be chanted,
I shall rest by her side in the tomb.

Oh, come, come, come, come,
Come to the church by the wildwood,
Oh, come to the church in the dale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood,
As the little brown church in the vale.

Nearer My God to Thee

Nearer, my God to Thee, nearer to Thee!
E'en tho' it be a cross, That raiseth me;
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Tho like the wanderer, The sun gone down;
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

There let the way appear, Steps unto heav'n;
All that Thou sendest me, In mercy giv'n -
Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Then with my waking thoughts, Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs, Bethel I raise;
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon and stars forgot, Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

Now Thank We All our God

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on your way
With countless gifts of love, and still is our today.

O may this gracious god through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
Preserve us in His grace and guide us in distress,
And free us from all sin till heaven we possess.

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The son, and Spirit blest, who reigns in highest heaven,
Eternal, Triune God whom earth and heav'n adore
For thus it was, is now and shall be ever more.

O Worship the King all Glorious above

O worship the King all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell His might, O sing of His grace
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Your pow'r has founded of old;
Has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In you do we trust, nor find You to fail;
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end.
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend!

O measureless Might! ineffable Love!
While angels delight to hymn You above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall list to Your praise.

O God our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past, our hope in years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood, with all their lives and cares,
Are carried downward by the flood, and lost in following years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away,
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
Be Thou our Guard while troubles last, and our eternal Home.

Old One Hundredth (Praise God from whom all blessings flow)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creature here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creature here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice,
Come ye before Him and rejoice,
All people that on earth do dwell,
Serve Him with mirth, His praises tell.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creature here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

My hope is built on nothing less,
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness,
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
Refrain:

On Christ the solid Rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds with the vale.
Refrain

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.
Refrain

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in Him be found;
Drest in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.
Refrain

Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy side a healing flood,
Be of sin and double cure, save from wrath and make me pure.

Should my tears for ever flow, should my zeal no languor know,
This for sin could not atone, Thou must save and Thou alone,
In my hand no price I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown, and behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

Shall We Gather at the River

Shall we gather at the river,
Where bring angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river,
Washing up its silver spray,
We will talk and worship ever,
All the happy golden day
Refrain

Ere we reach the shining river,
Lay we every burden down;

Grace our spirits will deliver,
And provide a robe and crown
Refrain

At the smiling river,
Mirror of the Savior's face,
Saints, whom death will never sever,
Lift their songs of saving grace.
Refrain

Soon we'll reach the silver river,
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace.
Refrain

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father's throne
Make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief
And oft escaped the tempter's snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
The joys I feel, the bliss I share,
Of those whose anxious spirits burn
With strong desire for thy return!
With such I hasten to the place
Where God my Savior shows His face,
And gladly take my station there,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
Thy wings shall my petition bear
To Him whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless.
And since He bids me seek His face,
Believe His Word and trust His grace,
I'll cast on Him my every care,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!
May I thy consolation share,
Till, from Mount Pisgah's lofty height,
I view my home and take my flight,
This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize;
And shout, while passing through the air
"Farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer!"

The Vacant Chair

We shall meet but we shall miss him,
There will be one vacant chair;
We shall linger to caress him,
While we breathe our evening prayer.
When a year ago we gathered,
Joy was in his mild blue eye,
But a golden cord is severed,
And our hopes in ruin lie.

Refrain:

We shall meet but we shall miss him,
There will be one vacant chair;
We shall linger to caress him,
While we breathe our evening prayer.

At our fireside, sad and lonely,
Often will the bosom swell
At remembrance of the story,
How our noble Willie fell;
How he strode to bear our banner
Through the thickest of the fight,
And uphold our country's honor,
In the strength of manhood's night.
Refrain

True, they tell us wreaths of glory
Ever more will deck his brow,
But this soothes the anguish only,
Sweeping o'er our heartstrings now.
Sleep today, oh early fallen,
In thy green and narrow bed,
Dirges from the pine and cypress
Mingle with the tears we shed.
Refrain

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer:
do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou will find a solace there.

What Wondrous Love is This

What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down
sinking down, sinking down
When I was sinking down, sinking down
When I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown

SELECTIONS FROM SCRIPTURE

The "*Bible on one page*":

<http://www.jrsbible.info/bible.htm>

Scriptures for Various Occasions

FOR THANKSGIVING

Joshua 4

Lamentations 3

Ezek. 39

Is. 14, 25, 26, 37, 38

1 Tim. 2

Psalms 18, 20, 31, 33, 34, 46, 47, 48, 66, 68, 75, 76, 77, 78, 85, 89, 96, 97, 98, 105, 106, 107, 108, 110, 117, 118, 124, 125, 126, 135, 145, 146, 127

FOR FORGIVENESS

Matt 5, 6, 7, 14, 18, 24, 25

Luke 13

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2 Cor. 1

1 Pet. 1,2, 4 and 2 Pet. 2, 3

Psalms 2,7,9, 10, 11, 17, 22, 27, 28, 35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 52, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64, 69, 70, 71, 74, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 86, 90, 91, 94, 102, 115, 123, 137, 140, 144

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FOR REPULSE

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Rom. 5

1 Cor. 15 and 2 Cor 4, 5

1 Thess. 4

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FOR FUNERALS

1 Tim 6:6-21 and 2 Tim. 4:1-17, 19-22

Heb. 11, 12

James 5

1 Peter 1 and 2 Peter 1, 3

Rev. 4, 5, 6, parts of 7, 15, 20, 21, 22

FOR PEACE

Is. 11, 12, 25, 26, 32, 35, 51, 52, 54, 61, 62, 65:17-25

Ezek. 37:1-13

Jer. 30, 31, 32, 33:36-44

Psalms 29, 30, 44, 46, 47, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 65, 68, 85, 89, 97, 98, 105, 106, 111, 114, 116, 122, 126, 127, 136, 144, 147

Miscellaneous Psalms

Psalm 1

¹Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

²but his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

³And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

⁴The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

⁵Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Psalm 2

¹Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rules take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed saying,

³Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

⁴He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall have them in derision.

⁵Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

⁶Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

⁷I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee.

⁸Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

⁹Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

¹⁰Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

¹¹Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

Psalm 8

¹O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

³When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

⁴What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

⁵For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

⁶Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

⁷All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

⁸The fowl of the air and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

⁹O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Psalm 13

¹How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

²How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine

enemy be exalted over me?

³Consider and hear me, O LORD my God; lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death;

⁴Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; and those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.

⁵but I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

⁶I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

Psalm 14

¹The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

²The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

³They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

⁴Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

⁵There were they in great fear, for God is in the generation of the righteous.

⁶Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge.

⁷Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

Psalm 15

¹LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle! who shall dwell in thy holy hill?

²He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

³He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour.

⁴In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not

⁵He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved.

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

²Day unto day utterest speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

³There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

⁴Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

⁵Which is a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

⁶His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, year, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

¹²Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

¹³Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 24

¹The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

²For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

³Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

⁴He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

⁵He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jabob. Selah.

⁷Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

⁸Who is this King of glory? the LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

⁹Lift up your heads, O ye gates: even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

¹⁰Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

Psalm 25

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

⁶Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

⁸Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

¹¹For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

¹²Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.

¹³His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land.

¹⁴The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.

¹⁵My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

¹⁶Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

¹⁷The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.

¹⁸Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

¹⁹Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.

²⁰Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

²¹May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

²²Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Psalm 27

- ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- ²When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
- ³Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.
- ⁴One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to enquire in his temple.
- ⁵For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.
- ⁶And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises to the LORD.
- ⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.
- ⁸When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.
- ⁹Hide not thy face from me: put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me. O God of my salvation.
- ¹⁰When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.
- ¹¹Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.
- ¹²Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.
- ¹³I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
- ¹⁴Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the LORD.

Psalm 32

- ¹Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- ²Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.
- ³When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.
- ⁴For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me; my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.
- ⁵I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.
- ⁶For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.
- ⁷Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble: thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.
- ⁸I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.
- ⁹Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.
- ¹⁰Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.
- ¹¹Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

Psalm 42

- ¹As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.
- ²My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?
- ³My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, "Where is thy God?"
- ⁴When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.
- ⁵Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of my countenance.
- ⁶O my god, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.

⁷Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.
⁸Yet the LORD will command his loving kindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.
⁹I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
¹⁰As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me: while they say daily unto me, Where is thy God?
¹¹Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*
⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
⁵God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
⁶The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*
⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Psalm 51

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
³For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.
⁶Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.
⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.
¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguilt, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.
¹⁵O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
¹⁶For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem;
¹⁹then will you delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Psalm 67

¹God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us: *Selah*.
²That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

³Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

⁴O let the nations be glad and sing for you: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

⁵Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

⁶Then shall the earth yield her increase; and god, even our own god, shall bless us.

⁷God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Psalm 90

¹LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

²Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

³Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

⁴For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

⁵Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

⁶In the morning, it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

⁷For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

⁸Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

⁹For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

¹⁰The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

¹¹Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

¹²So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

¹³Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.

¹⁴O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

¹⁶Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

¹⁷And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Psalm 92

¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High;

²to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

³to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

⁴For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

⁵How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

⁶The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this:

⁷that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever;

⁸but you, O LORD, are on high forever.

⁹For behold, your enemies, O LORD, for behold, your enemies shall perish; all evildoers shall be scattered.

¹⁰But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox; you have poured over me fresh oil.

¹¹My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies; my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

¹²The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,

¹⁵to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Psalm 103

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
⁴who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
⁵who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
⁶The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.
⁷He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.
⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
¹³As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.
¹⁴For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.
¹⁵As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;
¹⁶for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.
¹⁷But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his
righteousness to children's children,
¹⁸to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.
¹⁹The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.
²⁰Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!
²¹Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!
²²Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

Psalm 121

¹I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
²My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
³He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
⁴Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
⁵The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand.
⁶The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
⁷The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
⁸The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and ever for evermore.

Psalm 139

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.
⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?
⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
⁹If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.
¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,"
¹²even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.
¹³For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.
¹⁷How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.
¹⁹ Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me!
²⁰ They speak against you with malicious intent; your enemies take your name in vain!
²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
²² I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.
²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!
²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Psalm 145

¹ I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.
² Everyday will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.
³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.
⁴ One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.
⁵ I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.
⁶ And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.
⁷ They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.
⁸ The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy.
⁹ The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.
¹⁰ All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.
¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;
¹² To make know to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.
¹³ Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations.
¹⁴ The LORD upholdeth all that afall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.
¹⁵ The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.
¹⁶ Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.
¹⁸ The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.
¹⁹ He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.
²⁰ The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.
²¹ My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Psalm 150

¹ Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.
² Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
³ Praise him with the sound of the trumpet; praise him with the psaltery and harp.
⁴ Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.
⁵ Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.
⁶ Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

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SELECTIONS FROM ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Farewell Address (Given in Springfield, IL on February 11, 1861 as he left for Washington DC)

“My Friends: No one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried.

I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail.

Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell.”

Emancipation Proclamation (proclaimed after Union victory at Antietam, on 22 September 1862)

“Whereas on the 22nd day of September, A.D. 1862, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the 1st day of January, A.D. 1863, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

"That the executive will on the 1st day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof, respectively, shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State or the people thereof shall on that day be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such States shall have participated shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof are not then in rebellion against the United States."

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as Commander-In-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this 1st day of January, A.D. 1863, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days from the first day above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Palquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terrebone, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkeley, Accomac, Morthampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States and parts of States are, and henceforward shall be, free; and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defence; and I recommend to them that, in all case when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known that such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.”

Gettysburg Address (Given November 19, 1863 at dedication of the cemetery at Gettysburg, PA)

“Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation: conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war. . .testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated. . . can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war.

We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate. . .we cannot consecrate. . . we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us. . .that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion. . . that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain. . . that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom. . . and that government of the people. . .by the people. . .for the people. . . shall not perish from the earth. “

Letter to Mrs. Bigsby

[NOTE: *This letter became very well known in 1998 after its use in the film Saving Private Ryan.*]

Executive Mansion, Washington, November 21, 1864.

Mrs. Bixby, Boston, Massachusetts:

Dear Madam: I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant-General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must be any words of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming. But I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the Republic they died to save. I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom.

Yours very sincerely and respectfully,
Abraham Lincoln.

Second Inaugural Address (Given

“Fellow-Countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement somewhat in detail of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself, and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it, all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, urgent agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union and divide effects by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was somehow the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union even by war, while the Government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it.

Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease with or even before the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offenses; for it must needs be that offenses come, but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him?

Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said "the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Mary Todd Lincoln's funeral eulogy remarks (re 2 pine trees)

George Washington's Thanksgiving Day Proclamation – 1789

*Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the **providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor**; and Whereas **both Houses of Congress have**, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public **thanksgiving and prayer**, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the **many and signal favors of Almighty God**, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"*

*Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be **devoted by the people** of these States **to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be**; that we may then all unite in **rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks** for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been able to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.*

*And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our **prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions**; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.*

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.

POETRY

O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

by Walt Whitman

O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
The ship has weathered every rack, the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;
 But O heart! heart! heart!
 O the bleeding drops of red,
 Where on the deck my Captain lies,
 Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
Rise up - for you the flag is flung -- for you the bugle trills,
for you bouquets and ribboned wreaths -- for you the shores
 a-crowding
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;
 Here Captain! dear father!
 This arm beneath your head!
 It is some dream that on the deck
 You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has not pulse or will,
The ship is anchored safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;
 Exult O shores, and ring O bells!
 But I, with mournful tread,
 Walk the deck my Captain lies,
 Fallen cold and dead.

IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN DEAD OF THE IRISH BRIGADE

by William Collins

Whose Monument was Unveiled on the Battlefield of Gettysburg, July 2, 1888.

I.

Peace spreads her wings of snowy white
 O'er Gettysburg today;
No sound is heard of coming fight,
 No marshaling for the fray;
War's grim battalions dream no more
 At morn the foe to greet;
The long, long, fitful strife is o'er,
 And we as comrades meet.

II.

We meet in love, and hand in hand,
 Above our brothers' graves,
We pledge true fealty to the land
 O'er which our banner waves;
But while its folds in glory swell
 And proudly flaunt the air
We think of those who fought and fell
 To keep it floating there!

III.

Of those who in their manhood died
To blot out Slavery's stain,
And rear aloft in all its pride
Fair Freedom's flag again!
'Tis ours to raise this cross on high
Above the Irish dead,
Who showed mankind the way to die,
When Truth and Freedom led.

IV.

They came from a land where Freedom was only known my fame;
Where Slavery's spell, like a breath of Hell, had banned and barred
her name;
Where the brave man moaned in fetters, and the patriot wept in thrall,
And read with the blood of martyrs the despot rules o'er all!
But when on Freedom's soil they stood and saw her banner soar,
And heard the foeman's mustering shout re-echo on our shore,
They leaped, as leaps the lightning's flash athwart the storm-tossed sky,
For that old flag with bosoms bare, to triumph or to die!

V.

This soil is the grave of heroes - it is not common mold!
Each foot is dyed and sanctified with the blood of the brave
and bold:
And in incense rises from their graves to light us on to fame,
And mingles in each patriot soul and sets his heart aflame,
And nerves the veriest slave that e'er shrank from a tyrant foe
To leap to life with armed hand, and give him blow for blow --
To strike the despot to the death though bulwarked round in steel,
And right, with fierce and desperate strength, the wrongs that
brave men feel!

VI.

Here, on the field of Gettysburg, where treason's banner flew:
Where rushed in wrath the Southern gray to smite the
Northern blue;
Where'er that blue, by valor nerved, in serried ranks was seen
There flashed between it and the foe the daring Irish Green!
And never yet, on any land, rushed forth to Freedom's aid
A braver or more dauntless band than Ireland's brave Brigade.
Pause on their graves! 'Tis holy dust ye tread upon to-day -
The dust of Freedom's martyred dead, whose souls have passed away!

VII.

No more the ringing bugle blast
Shall fright the trembling air;
No more the squadrons hurrying fast
To meet the charge - perchance their last -
Amid the battle's glare;
Their pride, their strength - all, all are past.
In peace they slumber there,
And comrades true beside them lie,
Who oft, on field and flood,
Fought in the strife for Liberty
And sealed their faith in blood;
But never yet beat hearts as proud
As those which Ireland gave.
Night's sable mantle was their shroud,
The battlefield their grave!

VIII.

But though from earth have passed away
Their spirits bold and true,
And tombed in cold and senseless clay
the hearts that bounded warm and gay
In war's wild wassail - every fray
Where men could dare and do --
Their deeds will shine in Freedom's ray,
While tyrants stand appalled;
Their name and fame shall last for aye,
And brighter burn from day to day
Till the sun sinks into eternity,
And the Judgment Roll is called!

THE IRISH BRIGADE AT GETYSBURG

by William Geoghegan

Respectfully Dedicated to the Surviving Veterans of that Famous Corps

I.

O comrades, step with reverent tread
Toward this historic mound;
The soil that soaks that brave man's blood
Is always holy ground.
Here five and twenty years ago
An Irish phalanx stood,
And here they swelled the battle tide
With generous Celtic blood.

II.

Thro' many a fierce, ensanguined fight
Two banners o'er them flew --
The emblems of the land they left
And the land they came unto;
No stain e'er fell on either's folds --
No foeman e'er could say
He'd plucked a tassel from those staffs
Or snatched a shred away.

III.

Though rent and splintered, flags and staffs -
With foemen face to face --
Above the vanguard's fire-swept line
Those flags maintained their place,
And out of Stonewall Jackson's lips
The wrathful sentence drew:
"There goes that damned green flag again
Beside that Yankee blue!"

IV.

On Fair Oaks field, on Marye's heights,
Thro' Fredericksburg's dread days,
Well, well, the Southland's vererans knew
Those blended banners' blaze.
Where'er the fight was desperate
And spears struck fire from spears,
Those flags flashed out above the lines
Of the Irish Brigadiers.

V.

The war drum's throb and bugle sound
Ye loved to hear is o'er --
The damp, cold earth is heaped above
Your hearts forevermore;
But memory of your gallant deeds
Enlivens, stirs, and thrills,
Like echoes of a clarion call
Around Kllarney's hills.

GETTYSBURG ODE
by Bayard Taylor

Dedication of the National Monument, July 1, 1869

I After the eyes that looked, the lips that spake
Here, from the shadows of impending death,
 Those words of solemn breath,
 What voice may fitly break
The silence, doubly hallowed, left by him?
We can but bow the head, with eyes grown dim,
 And, as a Nation's litany, repeat
The phrase his martyrdom hath made complete,
Noble as then, but now more sadly-sweet:
"Let us, the Living, rather dedicate
Ourselves to the unfinished work, which they
Thus far advanced so noble on its way,
 And save the perilled State!
Let us, upon this field where they, the brave,
Their last full measure of devotion gave,
Highly resolve they have not died in vain! --
That, under God, the Nation's later birth
 of freedom, and the people's gain
Of their own Sovereignty, shall never wane
And perish from the circle of the earth!"
From such a perfect text, shall Song aspire
 To light her faded fire,
 And into wandering music turn
Its virtue, simple, sorrowful, and stern?
His voice all elegies anticipated:
 For, whatso'er the strain,
 We hear that one refrain:
"We consecrate ourselves to them, the Consecrated!"

II. After the thunder-storm our heaven is blue:
 Far-off, along the borders of the sky,
 In silver folds the clouds of battle lie,
With soft, consoling sunlight shining through;
And round the sweeping circle of your hills
 The crashing cannon-thrills
Have faded from the memory of the air;
And Summer pours from unexhausted fountains
 Her bliss on yonder mountains:
The camps are tenantless, the breastworks bare:
Earth keeps no stain where hero-blood was poured:
 The hornets, humming on their wings of lead,
 Have ceased to sting, their angry swarms are dead,
And harmless in its scabbard, rust the sword!

III. O, not till now -- O, now we dare, at last,
To give our heroes fitting consecration!
Not till the soreness of the strife is past,
And Peace hath comforted the weary Nation!
So long her sad, indignant spirit held
One keen regret, one throb of pain, unquelled;
So long the land about her feet was waste,
The ashes of the burning lay upon her,
We stood beside their graves with brows abased,
Waiting the purer mood to do them honor!
They, through the flames of this dread holocaust,
The patriot's wrath, the soldier's ardor lost:
They sit above us and above our passion,
Disparaged even by our human tears, --
Beholding truth our race, perchance, may fashion
In the slow process of the creeping years.
We saw the still reproof upon their faces;
We heard them whisper from the shining spaces:
"To-day ye grieve: come not to us with sorrow!
Your grief but clouds the either where we dwell;
Your anger keeps your souls and ours apart:
But come with peace and pardon, all is well!
And come with love, we touch you, heart to heart!"

IV. Immortal Brothers, we have heard!
Our lips declare the reconciling word:
For Battle taught, that set us face to face,
The stubborn temper of the race,
And both, from fields no longer alien, come,
To grander action equally invited, --
Marshalled by Learning's trump, by Labor's drum,
In strife that purifies and makes united!
We force to build, the powers that would destroy:
The muscles, hardened by the sabre's grasp,
Now give our hands a firmer clasp:
We bring not grief to you, but solemn joy!
And feeling you so near;
Look forward with your eyes, divinely clear,
To some sublimely-perfect, sacred year,
When sons of fathers whom ye overcame
Forget in mutual pride the partial blame,
And join with us, to set the final crown
Upon your dear renown, --
The People's Union in heart and name!

THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD

Theodore O'Hara, 1847

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last Tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On Fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And glory guards, with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

No rumour of the foe's advance
Now swells upon the wind;
No troubled thought at midnight haunts

Of loved ones left behind.
No vision of the morrow's strife
The warrior's dream alarms;
No braying horn, nor screaming fife,
At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shivered swords are red with rust,
Their plumed heads are bowed;
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,
Is now their martial shroud.
And plenteous funeral tears have washed
The red stains from each brow;
And the proud forms, by battle gashed,
Are free from anguish now.

The neighing troop, the flashing blade,
The bugle's stirring blast,
The charge, the dreadful cannonade,
The din and shouts are past;
Nor war's wild note, nor glory's peal,
Shall thrill with fierce delight;
Those breasts that never more may feel
The rapture of the fight.

Like the fierce Northern hurricane
That sweeps the great plateau,
Flushed with triumph, yet to gain,
Come down the serried foe;
Who heard the thunder of the fray
Break o'er the field beneath,
Knew the watchword of the day
Was "Victory or death!"

Long had the doubtful conflict raged
O'er all that stricken plain,
For never fiercer fight had waged
The vengeful blood of Spain;
And still the storm of battle blew,
Still swelled the glory tide;
Not long, our stout old Chieftain knew,
Such odds his strength could bide.

'Twas in that hour his stern command
Called to a martyr's grave
The flower of his beloved land,
The nation's flag to save.
By rivers of their father's gore
His first-born laurels grew,
And well he deemed the sons would pour
Their lives for glory too.

For many a mother's breath has swept
O'er Angostura's plain,
And long the pitying sky has wept
Above its moldered slain.
The raven's scream, or eagle's flight,
Or shepherd's pensive lay,
Alone awakes each sullen height
That frowned o'er that dread fray.

Sons of the Dark and Bloody Ground
Ye must not slumber there,

Where stranger steps and tongues resound
Along the heedless air.
Your own proud land's heroic soil
Shall be your fitter grave;
She claims from war his richest spoil,
The ashes of her brave.

Thus 'neath their parent turf they rest,
Far from the gory field,
Borne to a Spartan mother's breast
On many a bloody shield;
The sunshine of their native sky
Smiles sadly on them here,
And kindred eyes and hearts watch by
The heroes sepulcher.

Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead,
Dear as the blood ye gave,
No impious footstep here shall tread
The herbage of your grave.
Nor shall your glory be forgot
While fame her record keeps,
For honor points the hallowed spot
Where valor proudly sleeps.

Yon marble minstrel's voiceless stone
In deathless song shall tell,
When many a vanquished age hath flown,
The story how ye fell.
Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's blight,
Nor time's remorseless doom,
Shall dim one ray of glory's light
That gilds your deathless tomb.