



Formation Devotional

April 21, 2020 Evening

Forming Worship, Life, and Ministry Together at Christ Covenant Church

Come into this time just as you are, like a child who runs to his father's arms. Use this email as you are able, in whole or in part.

Call to Prayer

May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands. (Psalm 90:17)

Opening Prayer

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP 814)

Prayer of Examine

Turn your attention to Christ who is present with you now. With him, review the ordinary events and emotions of your day with gratitude.

1. Where did you move with or feel close to Jesus today?
2. Where did you resist or feel far from Jesus today?
3. Where is Jesus leading you tomorrow? Ask for joy as you follow him.

Praying the Psalms

Prayerfully read the psalm back to God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Psalm 4

Answer Me When I Call

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah

³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;

the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin;

ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah

⁵Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus tells the story of the enslavement of God's people by the Egyptians. God raises up a deliverer named Moses to lead His people out of Egypt, but the Egyptians resist, and God answers with the ten plagues. Exodus also contains the Ten Commandments and instructions for a tent where God would meet His people. This was called the tent of Moses, or the tabernacle.

As you read and reflect on this passage, prayerfully consider how God might be revealing himself to you this evening.

Exodus 30

Answer Me When I Call

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah

³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;

the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin;

ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah

⁵Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put more joy in my heart

than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Gospel Identity

- Thank God for being a God we can depend on; praise him for all the ways he has shown you his love and faithfulness today.
- Thank God that because he loved you first, you can love and serve the people in your life. Thank Him for these people.
- Thank God for his promise to make all things new.

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen. (BCP 833)

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)

Wonder what your next step in spiritual formation is? Consider getting involved in a Growth Group.

For a handy guide to the devotional elements and an archive of past issues, visit ccotc.org/devotional.