

Prayer Service for Provincial Convention June 2013

Opening song: Praise the Lord (in the sound of trumpets) 2 verses

Leader: We come together this day to “See the Lord”, to experience him in each other, to see him in nature and praise him for all he has given us to cherish and enjoy.

Reading: Mtt 6: 25-26

Leader: We hear about the birds of the air and the flowers in the fields, but so often in life we pass the wonders you have created without giving any thought to what you have done for us or the immensity of the love you have for your creation. May we breathe in the calmness of nature and allow them to intercede in the busyness of our days. May we learn to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the beauty around us and allow them to give us peace. And may we meet you day after day and praise you for all you have given and done for us!!

Psalm Response: Praise the Lord!!

1. Sing hymns of praise to the Lord;
play music on the harp to our God.
He spreads clouds over the sky;
He provides rain for the earth
And makes grass grow on the hills.
He gives animals their food and feeds the young ravens when they call.....response

2. Praise the Lord sun and moon;
Praise him shining stars.
Praise him, highest heavens
And waters above the sky. Response.....

3. Praise him, hills and mountains,
fruit trees and forests;
all animals, tame and wild,
reptiles and birds. Response....

4. Praise him, kings and all peoples,
princes and all other rulers;
girls and young men,
old people and children too. Response....

5. Let them all praise the name of the Lord!
His name is greater than all others;
His glory is greater than all others;
His glory above heaven and earth.
He made his nation strong, so that all his people praise him...
let all his people praise him. Response.....

Leader:

Lord help us to see you in the sun, the moon, the stars, in the oceans, the mountains, fruit trees and forests.

Help us to feel your presence in the wind, the rain, snow and hail.

Let us trust with confidence as we observe all animals, tame and wild, reptile and bird.

Let us feel your love in the cry of a new born baby, in the wisdom of our leaders, in the enthusiasm of the young and the frailty of the elderly.

And most of all, Lord, let us praise you each and every day because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Leader: Let us now pray Mary's prayer of praise as we say the "Magnificat" together:

"My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Saviour,
for he has remembered me, his lowly servant!

For now all people will call me happy,

Because of the great things the Lord has done for me.

His name is holy;

from one generation to another he shows great mercy to those who honor him.

He has stretched out his mighty arm

And scattered the proud with their plans.

He brought down mighty kings from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,

And sent the rich away with empty hands.

He has kept the promise he made to our ancestors,

And has come to help his servant Israel.

He remembered to show mercy to Abraham

And his descendants for ever!"

Closing song: Praise the Lord (with the sound of trumpets) 2 verses