

## Leader Guide Template Friday Prayer Around The Cross

### **INTRODUCTION (optional): - <Name>**

*If you have a commemoration, a special welcome to guests, or particular instructions about a portion of the service, put them here. Otherwise, this section can be dropped.*

*NOTE: instructions about the psalm can go here, or they can go immediately before the psalm (see below).*

### **OPENING: - <Name>**

*The assembly stands.*

**Blessed be God**

**Who forgives our sin,**

**Heals every illness,**

**Saves us from death,**

**Enfolds us with tender care,**

**And crowns us with steadfast love.**

Blessed be God forever.

### **HYMN: By Your Cross**

*The hymn is printed on the back of the worship handout.*

*The assembly sits.*

### **PSALM: <Psalm and verses (if appropriate)> - <Name>**

*If you did not give instructions at the beginning of the service about how the psalm is to be done, give them here. A suggested form is:*

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

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

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

### **PSALM PRAYER: - <Name>**

*The Psalm Prayer can be found after the psalm in the ELW Leader’s Desk Edition, beginning on p.737 or on the G Drive under Student Groups/Committees – Chapel – Worship Resources.*

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

*Before the reading, announce:*

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

*After the reading, say:*

Word of God, word of life.

*The assembly stands.*

**HYMN:** <Title, Number>

*The assembly sits.*

**BRIEF TIME FOR SILENCE (15-30 seconds)**

**PRAYERS AROUND THE CROSS**

*The time for prayer should include common prayer and intercession as well as opportunity for individuals to pray at the cross. Both singing and silence accompany the prayers.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** - <Name>

**INTRO TO INDIVIDUAL PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS:** - <Name>

We now invite you to join us as you wish in prayer around the cross. You may light a candle and place it in any of the stations, or just pray as you wish. If you pray at the station with the square vessel, others may come and lay hands upon you while you pray, joining their prayers with yours. Let us contemplate together the meaning of Christ's cross in our lives and in our prayers.

**HYMNS:**

*Choose several shorter, contemplative-style hymns for singing during the prayers. Hymns may be chosen from ELW, Singing Our Prayer, or another resource (provided copies can be distributed before the service).*

<Title, Number>

<Title, Number>

<Title, Number>

**CONCLUDING PRAYER:** - <Name>

*The concluding prayer can be one of the following, something from another resource, or something written especially for your service:*

**Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified, mercifully grant that**

**we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

*or*

**Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

*or*

**O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ; preserve us in faith, strengthen us in hope, and fill us with love until the day when we are raised with Christ in glory everlasting, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

*The assembly stands.*

**LORD'S PRAYER (select Ecumenical or Traditional) <Name>**

***Ecumenical***

“Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us prayer as Jesus taught us...”

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen**

***Traditional***

“Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...”

**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;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.

**BLESSING: - <Name>**

**Let us bless the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

**Almighty God bless us, defend us from evil, and bring us to everlasting life.**

Amen.

*The assembly departs sharing greetings of peace.*