

Song

“Come (*Pridi*)”

Offering

Song

“*Daritev*”

Prayers of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

Dismissal and Blessing

Good God, help us
To respect human life
And to accept it in its uniqueness,
Help us to respect the wonders of our nature
And to protect them with all our power,
To mutually support one another
On the path of freedom, justice and peace
As equal members of your family.
May we be blessed in this endeavor by
God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Song

“The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended”

Learn about the 2018 grant recipients online at wdp-usa.org/grants. If you’d like to get on the World Day of Prayer USA email list, please write your name, address, and email address on the sign-up sheet. Please write legibly!



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Order of Worship

Prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Slovenia
and the World Day of Prayer USA Committee



March 1, 2019
World Day of Prayer

Welcome and Greeting

Call to Prayer

One: God of history, for eleven centuries people in Slovenia have known you. As Christians, we have affirmed your love, so to you be the glory, honor, and praise.

All: We praise you with the sound of waterfalls and of the waves of the sea, for our fruitful vineyards and fields, green forests and snow-capped peaks.

One: Jesus Christ, Son of God, whose word works wonders among us, you inspire us to loving action.

All: We praise you in nature, in the villages and cities, in birds singing and wild game calling, with the sound of the organ, accordion, guitars, and zither.

One: O Holy Spirit, with your gifts you bring us together in unity despite our differences.

All: We thank you for the relationships which you build in us and among us. In your hands we place the future of young people, the hopes of families, and the acceptance of our elders.

One: Welcoming God, in your love you have prepared a table for all. You inspire us to open our hearts and our homes to offer a place to the ones who are not yet at the table.

All: We praise and thank you and proclaim the Kingdom of love, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Song

“Celebration! Let’s All Go To the Banquet!”

Women’s Voices

Marjeta’s Story

Reader: Merciful God,

All: forgive us when we silence ourselves in face of injustices.

Mojca’s Story

Reader: Loving God,

All: thank you for communities of care. Help us shape systems of equal sharing between women and men.

Marija’s Story

Reader: Caring Creator,

All: empower us to reach out to people of all generations and show gratitude to those who have gone before.

Ema’s Story

Reader: God, open out hearts,

All: make us more compassionate and understanding, and help those in need find treatment.

Natasha’s Story

Reader: Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Soften our hearts toward those who are different from us.

Reader: Thank you, God, for those who learned with Jesus to be respectful and open-minded and do not tire of embracing ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and asylum seekers, and enabling them to develop their self-esteem.

All: Loving Father, stand beside us in our efforts.

Confession and Prayer for Forgiveness

Word of God

Luke 14:15–24

Song

“Come Along, the Feast Is Ready”

Proclaiming the Good News

Discussion Questions (Think about them for 10 minutes, then share discussion with your neighbors in groups of two or three)

- Can you imagine how the host felt when all of the guests stated that they had more urgent or important business to attend to than the invitation to the great dinner?
- Have you ever experienced the rejection of a previously accepted invitation? How did you feel?
- Have you ever rejected an invitation? How did you feel?
- Now, imagine that you were one of the two or three original guests who had not refused the invitation. When you come into the house, it is full of strangers. Who are they in your context? Would you still come in and enjoy the unexpected company?
- How would you place a table and issue the invitation, “Come; everything is ready”? Who are the people on the street that you would be hospitable to?
- How would you prepare a feast for the “poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame” (Lk 14:13), knowing that they are all beloved children of God?