**Discovering the Golden Thread of Life**

# Opening Prayer

For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you was not "yes and no" but in / him it is always Yes! For in him every one of God's promises is a Yes! *2 Corinthians 1:19,201*

##

0 God, let our mouths proclaim your praise. **Let our hearts rejoice in your goodness.**

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

## Canticle: Venite (said responsively)

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

**In your hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are yours also.**

The sea is yours, for you made it,

and your hands have molded the dry land. **Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For you are our God,

and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand.

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

**All Glory to the Loving One, Source of our being, Eternal Word and Life, Giving Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

*Psalm* 95:*1-7*

Lord, hear our prayer;

**And let our cry come to you.**

Let us pray.

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all,**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

Oh God of peace, keep us from a mindless acceptance of things as they are. Let us all know that at the heart of change and turbulence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you, and that from this central heart of peace, there may flow a creative compassion, a thirst for justice, a relentless proclamation of your love, and a willingness to give of ourselves in the Spirit of Christ. Amen.

God of infinite blessing, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of your creation and teach us to use all things for good, that we may be blessed and be a blessing so that all may live in your abundance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Benediction*

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that God will give you whatever you ask in my name. *John 15:16*

**Blessed be God the source of all life.**

### Canticle: Nunc Dimittis (said together)

**Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised;**

**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,**

**whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

**A Light to enlighten the nations,**

**and the glory of your people Israel.**

**All Glory to the Loving One, Source of our being, Eternal Word and Life-Giving Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### Blessing

*Luke* 2:29-32

The God of Abraham and Sarah call you to your purpose.

The Light of Christ shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. The Spirit of Love grant you courage to journey and fulfill your destiny with integrity. And the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Lover and Life-Giving Spirit,

be among you, and remain with you now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and enjoy the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**