

Boy Scouts of America  
Troop 23, Mt. Prospect, IL  
Interdenominational Worship  
Guide

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Interdenominational Worship Guide

## Introduction

Hello and welcome to the Troop 23 Interdenominational Worship Guide. This is a collection of religious material that may be used for the various Chaplain's Aide duties including Scout's Own Services, table graces, invocations and benedictions. These resources have been compiled from a variety of sources and religions to provide for the diversity that is found in Scouting.

As Lord Baden-Powell said:

The Scout, in his promise, undertakes to do his duty to his king and country only in the second place; his first duty is to God. It is with this idea before us and recognizing that God is the one Father of us all, that we Scouts count ourselves a brotherhood despite the difference among us of country, creed, or class. We realize that in addition to the interests of our particular country, there is a higher mission before us, namely the promotion of the Kingdom of God; That is, the rule of Peace and Goodwill on earth. In the Scouts each form of religious is respected and its active practice encouraged and through the spread of our brotherhood in all countries, we have the opportunity in developing the spirit of mutual good will and understanding.

There is no religious "side" of the movement. The whole of it is based on religion, that is, on the realization and service of God.

Let us, therefore, in training our Scouts, keep the higher aims in the forefront, not let ourselves get too absorbed in the steps. Don't let the technical outweigh the moral. Field efficiency, back woodsmanship, camping, hiking, Good Turns, jamboree comradeship are all means, not the end. The end is CHARACTER with a purpose.

Our objective in the Scouting movement is to give such help as we can in bringing about God's Kingdom on earth by including among youth the spirit and the daily practice in their lives of unselfish goodwill and cooperation.

With this in mind, we should remember the 12<sup>th</sup> point of the Scout Law and be reverent toward God. It is my prayer that you will personally be drawn closer to God and be able to lead other scouts toward being reverent.

God Bless & Take care...

Geoff Cowell  
Chaplain, Troop 23  
March 3, 2005

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## Call To Worship

### General

#### **Psalm 100: 1 - 3**

##### **Bible (netwoods.com)**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands.  
Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence with singing.  
Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us, and we are His;  
We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture."

### Baha'i Faith

#### **Blessed is the Spot**

##### **Baha'i Writings (netwoods.com)**

Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain,  
and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the  
meadow where mention of God hath been made and His praise glorified.

### Christianity

#### **Call #1**

##### **Author Unknown (prebyterian.org)**

Let us stop for a moment  
And in our stillness give praise to God  
Who looked at the new creation and said  
"It is very good"  
Let us worship God.

#### **Call #2**

##### **Author Unknown (prebyterian.org)**

Just as the body is made up of many parts,  
So we gather from different backgrounds,  
Different people with different talents and gifts,  
To worship God and give thanks for each other.

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**Call #3**

**Psalm 134 – Bible (prebyterian.org)**

Leader Everyone who serves God come and offer thanks.

**All Thank you God for your love to me**

Leader Everyone who has gathered in this place, lift your hands and praise God

**All Thank you God for your love in this place**

Leader Shout praises to God for you are God's servants, so shout praises.

**All Thank you God for your love to others**

Leader All who serve in this place, who serve our God, come and shout praises.

**All Thank you God for your love that we can share**

Leader Praise the name of our God who is kind and good.

**All Thank you God for your love endures forever.**

**Call #4**

**Matthew 11:28-30 CEV – Bible (prebyterian.org)**

If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest. Take the yoke I give you. Put it on your shoulders and learn from me.

I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest. This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.

Christ calls us to come to worship  
To rest from the things that are troubling us  
To learn what Christ can teach of life  
To realize what we can offer to others  
And so to return into the world to serve  
Let us worship God

**Call #5**

**Author Unknown (prebyterian.org)**

In the beginning God created all things declaring them to be good. When God created men and women they were given the charge of all creation. As God's days of creation ceased ours began. The God given gifts are to be used to continue God's creative work. In worship we come to give thanks and to share in this task.

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**Worship the Lord Your God**

**Rev. Rusty Weller ([geocities.com/Eureka/Gold](http://geocities.com/Eureka/Gold))**

To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God;  
To feed the mind with the truth of God;  
To purge the imagination by the beauty of God;  
To open the heart to the love of God;  
To devote the will to the purpose of God

**Judaism**

**Bring Me Closer to You**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

O God, it is not easy to pray,  
And yet I pray that these few moments  
Will somehow bring me closer to You.

**Native American**

**Watch Over Us**

**Author Unknown ([netwoods.com](http://netwoods.com))**

O Great Spirit! Watch over us as we begin this day. Protect us as we live in your care. Give us bounty and hold us from harm. We are your children and wish only to please you. We hold our Mother Earth close to our hearts and wish her goodness. We thank You for your love.

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## Invocations

### Be Merciful

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Be merciful to me, O God, Be merciful, for I have taken refuge in You.  
In the shadow of Your wings, will I take refuge until this time of trouble has gone by.  
I will call upon the most high God, The God who maintains my cause.  
He will send from heaven and save me;  
He will confound those who trample upon me;  
God will send forth His love and his faithfulness. Amen.

### Court of Honor #1

**Author Unknown, Source Unknown**

Dear Lord, bless all those everywhere who contribute to shape the hearts, minds, and bodies of young people. Let us remember what they have taught and apply it daily.

When facing deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy. If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal. Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevail, let us be Helpful. In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be Courteous. Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind. Though lawbreaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be Obedient. While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful. In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be Thrifty. When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be Brave. As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be Clean. While witnessing impiety and irreligion, let us remember to be Reverent.

In short, in a world that has for generation after generation lamented the lack of good examples, let us, as Scouts, stand out, grow up, and be real adults. Amen

### Court of Honor #2

**Author Unknown, Source Unknown**

A Scout is reverent, let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the interest in the scouting movement that has brought this group together and for the success of the scouting program in the United States and the world. We are grateful for the influence that Troop 23 has had on the lives of these boys. We pray for your continued blessing on this troop: its leaders, its committee, its sponsor, and most importantly, its Scouts through the years ahead. We pray that Troop 23 will continue to turn out great leaders for tomorrow. Amen

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### **Eagle Court of Honor**

**Isaiah 40:31 – Bible (white-tx.net)**

Yet those who wait for the Lord  
Will gain new strength;  
They will mount up with wings like eagles,  
They will run and not get tired,  
They will walk and not become weary.

### **He Has Told You**

**Micah 6:8 – Bible (white-tx.net)**

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
And what does the Lord require of you  
But to do justice, to love kindness,  
And to walk humbly with your God?

### **Our Friendship**

**Chaplain's Aide – Troop 964 (Benjamin W. Kidd)**

Our Friendship to those who need it.  
Our Love to those close to us.  
Our Thanks to those who deserve it.  
Our Encouragement to those who are unsure.  
Our Support to those who seek it.  
Our Respect to those who have earned it.  
Our Understanding to those whose views differ.  
Our Comfort to those who suffer illness.  
Our Consolation to those who grieve.  
Our Time to causes we deem worthy.

These are gifts we can all afford to give. None is beyond our means, none has to be gift-wrapped, and none needs to be exchanged for size or color preference. A gift of oneself is precious not only to the recipient, but enriches the giver as well.

### **Sanctify Our Campsite**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Sanctify our campsite with your presence and joy. By the spirit of affection and service unite our Scouting families, that they may show your praise in our land and in all the world.



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## **Scouting Reminder**

**Author Unknown, (Source Unknown)**

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In short, in a world that has for generation after generation lamented the lack of good examples, let us, as Scouts, stand out, grow up, and be real adults.

## **The Lord Will Reign Forever and Ever**

**Jewish Service of the Heart (netwoods.com)**

May the time be not too distant, O God, when all your children will understand that they are brothers and sisters, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before you. Then shall your kingdom be established on earth, and the word of your prophet shall be fulfilled: "The Lord will reign forever and ever."

## **We Give Thanks**

**Author Unknown (geocities.com/scoutpack28)**

Lord, we give thanks to You for our strength, for our courage, for our love and for our Scouts.

We ask You to bless our actions, bless our thoughts, and bless our organization to lead the youth of America in a positive and compassionate way. In Your Name we ask. Amen

## **Benedictions**

### **Bless and Keep You Forever**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Edelweiss

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever;  
Grant us peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever.  
May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.

### **Blessing**

**Author Unknown (naums.org)**

Let us go forth with God's blessing to serve Him in joy and gladness.

### **Evening Song**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Day is done. Gone the sun  
From the hill, From the sea, From the sky.  
All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.

### **Great Master**

**Author Unknown (Source Unknown)**

May the Great Master of all Scouts  
Be with us until we meet again.

May we run the race at the Scout pace  
Up the trail that leads to Him.

### **Old Irish Blessing**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rain fall soft upon your fields,  
And, until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

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**Peace of God Descend on Us**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens, let peace descend on us, on all Israel, and on all the world. And we say: Amen

**With Your Grace**

**Author Unknown ([geocities.com/scoutpack28](http://geocities.com/scoutpack28))**

Lord, with Your grace and Your love, may we go out and do Your work to inspire, to teach, and to lead by our own example, instilled in us by You. In Your Name we ask. Amen

## Thoughts

### *Baha'i Faith*

#### **Golden Principle**

Blessed are those who prefer others before themselves.

### *Buddhism*

#### **Golden Principle**

Hurt not others in ways that you would you yourself would find hurtful.

### *Christianity*

#### **Blessed**

##### **Matthew 5 NIV – Bible**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#### **Entering Heaven**

##### **Matthew 7 NIV – Bible**

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life and only a few find it.

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## **False Prophets**

### **Matthew 7 NIV – Bible**

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

## **Giving to the Needy**

### **Matthew 6 NIV – Bible**

Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

## **Golden Principle**

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

## **House on Sand**

### **Matthew 7 NIV – Bible**

Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

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## **Money**

### **Matthew 6 NIV – Bible**

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

## **Salt & Light**

### **Matthew 5 NIV – Bible**

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

## **Hinduism**

### **Golden Principle**

This is the sum of all duty: treat others as you yourself would be treated.

## **Islam**

### **Golden Principle**

No one of you is a believer until you desire for another that which you desire for yourself.

## **Jainism**

### **Golden Principle**

In happiness and suffering, in joy and grief, regard all creatures as you would regard your own self.

## **Judaism**

### **Golden Principle**

What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor.

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**Proverb #1**

**Proverbs 10 NIV – Bible**

A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.

**Proverb #2**

**Proverbs 10 NIV – Bible**

Ill-gotten treasures are of no value, but righteousness delivers from death.

**Proverb #3**

**Proverbs 10 NIV – Bible**

The wise in heart accept commands, but a chattering fool comes to ruin.

**Proverb #4**

**Proverbs 18 NIV – Bible**

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

**Proverb #5**

**Proverbs 10 NIV – Bible**

The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.

**Proverb #6**

**Proverbs 11 NIV – Bible**

A man who lacks judgment derides his neighbor, but a man of understanding holds his tongue.

**Proverb #7**

**Proverbs 11 NIV – Bible**

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

**Proverb #8**

**Proverbs 14 NIV – Bible**

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.

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**Sikhism**

**Golden Principle**

Be not estranged from another for God dwells in every heart.

**Zoroastrianism**

**Golden Principle**

Human nature is good only when it does not do unto another whatever is not good for its own self.



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## Prayers

### Graces

#### **Any Meal #1**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

For health and strength and daily food, we give Thee thanks, O Lord. Amen

#### **Any Meal #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

For this and all Your mercies. Lord, make us grateful. Amen.

#### **Any Meal #3**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

We thank You, God, for this food. Bless us as we eat this meal that it may strengthen us for Your service. Amen.

#### **Any Meal #4**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Be present at our table. Lord. Be here and everywhere adored; These mercies bless and grant that we May love, and serve, and honor Thee. Amen.

#### **Any Meal #5**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Praised arc You, O Lord, who provided all with food. Amen.

#### **Back of the Bread**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Back of the bread is the flour  
And back of the flour is the mill  
And back of the mill is the wind  
And the rain and the Father's will

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**Bless Our Friends, Bless Our Food**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

*Tune: Edelweiss*

Bless our friends, bless our food,  
Come, O Lord and sit with us.  
May our talks glow with peace,  
May your love surround us.

Friendship and love,  
May they bloom and grow,  
Bloom and grow, forever.  
Bless our friends, bless our food.  
Come, O Lord and sit with us.

**Breakfast Prayer**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Dear Lord  
Keep us from being like porridge  
Slow to boil and hard to stir  
Make us like Corn Flakes  
Always prepared and ready to serve!

**Catholic Blessing Before Meals**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts that we are about to receive from Your goodness, through Christ, our Lord. Amen

**Catholic Grace After Meals**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Almighty God who livest and reignest forever, we give Thee thanks for all Thy benefits. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Doxology**

**Text: Thomas Ken, Music: Louis Bougeois (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

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**Eagle Thanks**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Oobla-de, Oobla-da

Eagle thanks the Lord for the Mountains  
Fish thanks the Lord for the sea  
We thank the Lord for our blessings  
For what we are about to receive.

**Edelweiss Grace**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Thank you Lord, on this day, for our many great blessings.  
Thank you Lord, on this day, for our many friendships.  
Glory to God, may you here our prayers, Guide us on forever.  
Thank you Lord on this day, for our blessings and friendships.

**Evening Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Tireless Guardian on our way, Thou hast kept us well this day. While we thank Thee, we request Care continued, pardon, and rest.

Tireless Guardian on our way. You have kept us well this day. While we thank you, we ask for your continued care, for forgiveness of our sins, and for rest at the close of a busy day. Amen.

**Evening Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

I Dear God, we thank You for this day and for Your presence in it. Forgive us if we have not made it a better day and help us to be tomorrow what we have failed to be today. Amen.

**Evening Grace #3**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Our God, we thank You for this evening meal. As You have been mindful of us, so help us to be mindful of You, that we may know and do Your will. Amen.

**Evening Grace #4**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Oh God, You have given us all things to enjoy. We bring our thanks to you at this evening meal. Bless us as we eat this food, and keep us mindful of the needs of others. Amen.

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**God is Great**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Rock Around the Clock

God is great, God is good  
And we're gonna thank Him for our food  
We're gonna thank Him morning, noon and night  
We're gonna thank you, Lord, you're outta sight!  
Amen! Amen amen amen!

**Hark to the Chimes**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Hark to the chimes, come bow your head.  
We thank Thee, Lord, for this good bread.

**Hebrew Blessing Over Bread**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, our God, King, of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

**Jamaican Camp Grace**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Lift up your hearts;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks  
For this our bread;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks  
For these our friends;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks  
For this our camp;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks  
For this our world;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks  
We thank the Lord;  
Hearts and minds and voices all give thanks

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**Johnny Applesced**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

The Lord has been good to me,  
And so I thank the Lord,  
For giving me the things I need,  
The sun and the rain and the apple seed,  
The Lord is good to me.

**Morning Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Gracious giver of all good, Thee we thank for rest and food. Grant that all we do or say, In Thy service be, this day.

Gracious Giver of all good, thank you for rest and food. Grant that all we do or say this day will serve others and honor Your name. Amen.

**Morning Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Our God, we thank You for the dawn of a new day and for our loving care. Help us to be mindful of You as we begin this new day. Amen.

**Morning Grace #3**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Oh God, we thank Thee for thy care through (lie night and for this new day. Help us to be faithful to You in our thoughts, our words, and our deeds this day and always. Amen.

**Morning Is Here**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Morning is here the board is spread. Thanks be to God Who gives us bread.

**'Neath These Tall Green Trees**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

'Neath these tall green trees we stand,  
Asking blessings from His hand.  
Thanks we give to Thee above,  
For Thy health and strength and love.

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**Noon Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Father, for this noonday meal, we would speak the praise we feel. Health and strength we have from Thee; help us, Lord, to faithful be.

Mighty God, for this noonday meal we would speak the praise we feel. Health and strength we have from Thee; help us. Lord, to faithful be. Amen

**Noon Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Dear God, help us to see the beautiful things in earth and sky, which are tokens of Your love. Walk with us in the days we spend together here. May the food we eat and all Your blessings help us to better serve Your and each other. Amen.

**Noon Grace #3**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Oh God, as this day continues let us not forget to honor and serve You. We thank You for these gifts of Your love. Bless them to our use, and our lives to Your service. Amen.

**Northern Tier Blessing**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

For food, for raiment,  
For life, for opportunity,  
For sun and rain, for lakes and portage trails,  
For friendship and fellowship,  
We thanks Thee, O Lord.

**Our Father**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Frere Jacques

Our Father, Our Father,  
Once again, Once again,  
We would ask your blessing,  
We would ask your blessing,  
Amen, Amen.

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**Philmont Grace**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

For food, for raiment  
For life, for opportunity  
For friendship and fellowship  
We thank Thee, O Lord. Amen

**Philmont Prayer**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

**Tune: US Navy Hymn**

Almighty God of the hill and plain,  
O'er which we hike in sun and rain,  
On mountain pass and valley low,  
Protect us Lord where're we go.  
And from our grateful hearts we'll raise  
Glad hymns of thankfulness and praise.

**Praise Ye The Lord (Alleluia)**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord  
Allelu, allelu, allelu, alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord

Praise ye the Lord  
Alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord  
Alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord  
Alleluia  
Praise ye the Lord!

**Round of Thanks**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

For health, and strength,  
And daily bread,  
We praise Thy name, O Lord.

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**Scottish Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Yankee Doodle

Some have meat and cannot eat,  
And some have none that want it.  
But we have meat and we can eat,  
And so the Lord be thanked.

**Scottish Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Auld Lang Syne

There's some has meat that cannot eat  
And some would eat that had it  
But we have meat and we can eat  
So let the Lord be thanked

**Sea Base Grace**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Bless the Creatures of the sea,  
Bless this person I call me,  
Bless these Keys, You made so grand,  
Bless the sun that warms this land,  
Bless the fellowship we feel,  
As we gather for this meal. Amen.

**Table Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

To God who gives our daily bread a thankful song we raise, and pray that he who sends us food  
May fill our hearts with praise.

**Table Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

Our Father, may the strength that comes through the food you give us enable us to do your will.



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**Wayfarer's Grace #1**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Tune: Doxology

For all the glory of the way,  
For Thy protection, night and day,  
For roof-tree, fire and bed and board,  
For friends and home, we thank Thee Lord.

**Wayfarer's Grace #2**

**Author Unknown (Wood Badge C-47-03)**

For all the glory of the way,  
For Thy protection night and day,  
For food, tree, fire and bed and board,  
For friends and homes, we thank the Lord.

**World Hunger Grace**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

For food in a world where many walk in hunger  
For faith in a world where many walk in fear  
For friends in a world where many walk alone  
We give you humble thanks, oh Lord

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**General**

**Always There**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

Hello God, I called tonight To talk a little while  
I need a friend who'll listen To my anxiety and trial.

You see, I can't quite make it Through a day just on my own...  
I need your love to guide me, So I'll never feel alone.

I want to ask you please to keep, My family safe and sound.  
Come and fill their lives with confidence For whatever fate they're bound.

Give me faith, dear God, to face Each hour throughout the day,  
And not to worry over things I can't change in any way.

I thank you God, for being home And listening to my call,  
For giving me such good advice When I stumble and fall.

Your number, God, is the only one That answers every time.  
I never get a busy signal, Never had to pay a dime.

So thank you, God, for listening To my troubles and my sorrow.  
Good night, God, I love You, too, And I'll call again tomorrow!

**Call to Worship Prayer**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

God, our Father, we thank you for the beauty of the earth, for the food we eat and for the comforts we enjoy. Help us to love others more, to be concerned with the problems of our day, and to understand Your will in our actions. Grant us the strength to live wisely and well, to be worthy users of Your creation and ready and willing workers for the causes of goodness.

**Camp Closing Prayer**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

God, we thank you for this beautiful weekend. The smiling faces we see and the laughter we hear echoing through the trees fill our hearts with gladness and remind us that, in this fast-paced world of ours, there are times when we all need to pause and refresh ourselves in nature's calm and beauty.

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**Camper's Prayer**

**George Earle Owen (netwoods.com)**

God of the mountains and hills, make me tall and strong; Tall enough and strong enough to right some wrong.

God of the stars, make me steadfast and sure;

God of every lake and stream, flow through my life & make it clean;

Let me do nothing base or mean.

God of the trees and woods, keep me fresh and pure;

God of the rain, wash from my life all dirt and stain;

Pure and strong let me remain.

God of the seed and soil, plant in my heart thy love;

God of the darkness and day, through shadows or light, be my stay. Guide thou my way.

God of the radiant sun, light thou my life;

God of the glorious dawn, make each day a fresh start.

God of the evening peace and quiet, keep me free from fear & strife.

God of the gay, free birds, sing in my heart.

God of the surging waves and sea, wide horizons give to me;

Help me to see the world as thou would have it be;

God of the lovely rose, make me lovely, too;

God of the morning dew, each day my faith renew.

God of all growing things, keep me growing, too.

**Evening Prayer**

**The Outlook, B.C./Yukon (netwoods.com)**

Lord, in the quiet of the evening,  
come into our hearts as we lie down to rest,  
and help us to know that, in camping outdoors,  
we need not fear. You are with us.

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**Leader's Prayer**

**Bob Slater (netwoods.com)**

Please God grant me  
The spark to imagine  
The daring to innovate  
The discipline to plan  
The skill to do  
The will to achieve  
The commitment to be responsible  
The leadership to motivate

**O my God...**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

O my God, how good you are,  
How kind and loving too.  
Help me to grow up more and more,  
Help me to grow more like you.

**Prayer for Courage**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Almighty God, who gives strength to the weak and upholds those who might fall, give me courage to do what is right, for those that trust in you have no need to fear.  
Make me brave to face any danger which may now threaten me. Give me the help that you have promised to those who ask it, that I may overcome my fears and go bravely forward.  
Fill me with courage, that nothing which is my duty to do, may be too hard for me. Let me put my trust in your power and goodness.  
Thank you my Lord.

**Prayer for Our Country**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Leader: Let us pray together.

Our God and God of our ancestors, we ask Your blessing upon our country, on the leaders of our nation, and on all who exercise rightful authority in our community.

Unite the inhabitants of our country, whatever their origin and creed, into a bond of true friendship, to banish hatred and bigotry, and to safeguard our ideals and institutions of freedom.

May this land under Your Providence be an instrument for peace throughout the world.

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### **Prayer for the Creation**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

God, sometimes I hold something small in my hand... a piece of moss or a budding twig,  
and - peering closely at this tiny world - I feel a sudden wonder.

Help me to remember that you made these worlds, and countless others,  
and...in remembering...come closer to you.

O God, we thank Thee today for the world in which you have placed us;  
for the universe whose vastness is revealed in the blue depths of the sky;  
whose immensities are lit by shining stars beyond the strength of mind to follow.

We thank you for the beauty of our earth, for the sweetness of the flowers,  
the solemnity of the stars, the sound of streams and swelling seas,  
for stretching lands and mighty mountains which rest and satisfy the soul,  
the purity of dawn which calls us to holy dedication,  
and the peace of the evening which speaks of everlasting rest.

Above all, we thank you for the dignity you have bestowed upon every human being  
as the crown of your Creation.

Give us the grace to let the light of your glory shine through us,  
in our action, words and thoughts. Amen.

### **Prayer of Thanks**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Leader: Let us pray together.

We thank You, O god, for this day, for morning sun and evening star; for flowering of trees and  
flowing of streams, for life-giving rains and cooling breeze; for the Earth's patient turning, the  
changing of the seasons, the cycle of growth and decay, of life and death. When our eyes behold  
the beauty and grandeur of your world, we see the wisdom, power and goodness of its Creator.  
We awake and, behold! It's a great day!

### **School Prayer**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Father, you created me in your image and likeness. I have come from you and I am ordained to  
you. Watch over me. Inspire me to choose good and to avoid evil. Allow me the sensitivity to  
see the needs of my neighbor and the strength to respond gently. Give me the courage to follow  
the truth, and the grace to know you my Father, Amen.

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**A Scout's Prayer**

**Michael F. Bowman (netwoods.com)**

Dear Heavenly Father, help to keep my honor bright and teach me that integrity of character is my most priceless possession.

Grant that I may do my best today, and strive to do even better tomorrow.

Teach me that duty is a friend and not an enemy, and help me face even the most disagreeable task cheerfully.

Give me the faith to understand my purpose and life, open my mind to the truth and fill my heart with love.

I am thankful for all the blessings you have bestowed upon my country.

Help me to do my duty to my country and to know that a good nation must be made from good men.

Help me to remember my obligation to obey the Scout Law, and give me understanding, so that it is more than mere words.

May I never tire of the joy of helping other people or look the other way when someone is in need.

You have given me the gift of a body, make me wise enough to keep it healthy, that I might serve better.

You are the source of all wisdom, Help me to have an alert mind, teach me to think, and help me to learn discipline.

In all that I do and in every challenge I face, Help me to know the difference between right and wrong, And lead me in obedience on a straight path to a worthy goal.

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## Scout Prayer

**Author Unknown (Source Unknown)**

God of the mountains, of the forest, of the plains, hear our prayer ---

Hear our prayer for courage ---

Courage to face life's problems;

Courage to meet the unknown;

Courage to rise above the crowd and heed thy bidding

Hear our prayer for vision ---

A vision of the wider horizons of brotherhood and justice;

A vision of high ideals of purity and love;

And , through a rift in the clouds, a vision of thee, the source of all that is pure and true and

Noble

Hear our prayer for endurance ---

Endurance in the face of storm;

Endurance over the sharp rocks and crags;

Endurance to keep on climbing to the end of life's trail

Amen

## Scouter's Thanksgiving Prayer

**By Michael F. Bowman (*netwoods.com*)**

With reverence in our hearts, we, Your many children of many beliefs,  
United in common purpose, gather to offer this our humble prayer,  
In Thanksgiving.

As Scouters we are thankful for:

The many gifts and talents given to our fellow Scouters, and to ourselves; The freedom we have to join together and as a team accomplish more than any of us could alone; The opportunity to be of service to young people, parents, other Scouters and our community; Our joy at seeing so many young people become excited as they grow and are able to meet challenges; Being reminded by their ceremonies and legends that he who serves his fellows, is of his fellows greatest; And most importantly we are thankful for the gift of knowing that our prayers are heard.

We each in own way take this moment to silently add our own thanksgivings . . .

(pause)

With thanks in our hearts we offer our prayers and ask that You, the Great Scoutmaster of All Scouts, be with each of us until we meet again. Amen

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**Serenity Prayer**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

God, Grant me the Serenity To accept the things I can not change  
The courage to change the things I can  
And the Wisdom to know the difference.

**Baha'i Faith**

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity. Be fair in judgement, and guarded in thy speech, Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger. Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring Be a breath of life to the body of humankind, a dew to the soil of the human heart, and a fruit upon the tree of humility.

**Buddhism**

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

May all beings everywhere plagued with sufferings of body and mind quickly be freed from their illnesses. May those frightened cease to be afraid, and may those bound be free. May the powerless find power, and may people think of befriending one another. May those who find themselves in trackless, fearful wilderness--- the children, the age, the unprotected-- be guarded by beneficial celestials, and may they swiftly attain Buddhahood

**Christianity**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Matt 6:9-13 (Bible – KJV)**

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.



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**Prayer of St. Francis**

**St. Francis (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Refrain:

Oh Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love, with all my soul.

- 2 Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness only light,  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.
- 3 Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

**Prayer for Peace**

**Based on Matt 5:3-12 ([indianchild.com](http://indianchild.com))**

Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS, for they shall be known as the Children of God. But I say to you that hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you pray for those who abuse you. To those that strike you on the cheek, offer the other one also, and from those who take away your cloak, do not withhold your coat as well. Give to everyone who begs from you, and of those who take away your goods, do not ask for them again. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

**Seeking the Character of Jesus**

**Rev. Rusty Weller ([geocities.com/Eureka/Gold](http://geocities.com/Eureka/Gold))**

Dear Lord Jesus:

By the power of Your spirit, please flood and saturate my life. Take full charge of my mind, my emotions, my will. Fill my soul with the Holy spirit. Come instill me with Your character.

Jesus, I want and need more of Your: Love, Joy, Faith, Truth, Peace, Patience, Humility, Sacrifice, Mercy, Kindness, Goodness, Obedience, Selflessness, Self control, Faithfulness, Determination, Understanding, Forgiveness, Compassion, Courage, Enthusiasm, Vision, Wisdom, and Power

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**Hinduism**

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Oh God, lead us from the unreal to the Real. Oh God, lead us from darkness to light. Oh God, lead us from death to immortality. Shanti, Shanti, Shanti unto all. Oh Lord God almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions. May there be peace on Earth.

May the waters be appeasing. May herbs be wholesome, and may trees plants bring peace to all. May all beneficent beings bring peace to us. May thy Vedic Law propogate peace all through the world. May all things be a source of peace to us. And may thy peace itself, bestow peace on all and may that peace come to me also.

**Iroquios**

**The Iroquois Prayer**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

*Each of six Scouts can read one part.*

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds and whose breath gives life to the world, hear me.

I come to you as one of your many children. I am small and weak. I need your strength and your wisdom.

May I walk in beauty. Make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things that you have made and my ears sharp to hear your voice.

Make me wise so that I may know the things you have taught your children, the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.

Make me strong, not to be superior to my brothers, but to be able to fight my greatest enemy, myself.

Make me ever ready to come to you with straight eyes, so that when life fades as the fading sunset, my spirit comes to you without shame.

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**Islam**

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful. Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has created us and made us into tribes and nations That we may know each other, not that we may despise each other. If the enemy incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust God, for the Lord is the one that heareth and knoweth all things. And the servants of God, Most gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them, we say "PEACE."

**When Beginning a Meal**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Oh Allah! Bless (the food) You provided us and save us from the punishment of the hellfire. In the name of Allah.

**When Faced By Hardship**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Oh Allah! There is nothing easy except what You make easy, and You make the difficult easy if it be Your will.

**When Finishing a Meal**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Praise be to Allah who has fed us and given us drink, and made us Muslims.

**When Mounting a Means of Transportation (Horse, Car, Train, Plane, Etc.)**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Glory to Him who has subjected these to our (use), for we could never have accomplished this (by ourselves). And to our Lord, surely must we turn back!

**When Retiring to Sleep**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

In Your name, oh Lord, I lay my side (to sleep). And by (Your leave) I raise it up. So if You take away my soul (during sleep), forgive it, and if You send it back (after sleep), protect it even as You protect Your pious servants.

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**When Returning from a Journey**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Repeat the previous *duaa'* and add to it:

We are returners, repentants, worshippers, and thankful to our Lord.

**When Setting Out On A Journey**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Oh Allah! It is with Your help that I struggle, move, and walk. Oh Allah! I beg of You in this journey, virtue, piety, and deeds which are acceptable to You. Oh Allah! Make our journey easy for us and shorten for us its distance. Oh Allah! You are the companion in the journey and the guardian-protector of the household. Oh Allah! I seek refuge in You from the difficulties of this journey, and from disagreeable sights and from unpleasant return to (my) wealth, household, and children.

**When Waking Up**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Praise be to Allah who gave us life after death and unto Him will be the return.

**Jainism**

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Peace and Universal Love is the essence of the Gospel preached by all Enlightened Ones. The Lord has preached that equanimity is the dharma. Forgive all creatures, and let all creatures forgive me. Unto all have I amity, and unto none enmity. Know that violence is the root cause of all miseries in the world. Violence, in fact, is the knot of bondage. "Do not injure any living being." This is the eternal, perennial, and unalterable way of spiritual life. A weapon, however powerful it may be, can always be superseded by a superior one; but no weapon can, however,

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**Judaism**

**Deep is Your Love For Us**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Deep is Your love for us, O Eternal our God, and great is Your compassion. Our Maker and Sovereign, our ancestors trusted You, and You taught them the laws of life: be gracious now to us, and teach us.

Have compassion upon us, O Source of mercy, and guide us to know and understand, learn and teach, observe and uphold with love all the teachings of Your Torah.

Enlighten us with Your Teaching, help us to hold fast to Your Mitzvot, and unite our hearts to love and revere Your name. Then shall we never be shamed, for we shall put our trust in You, the great, holy, and awesome One. We shall rejoice and be glad in Your salvation, for You, O God, are the Author of many deliverances. In love You have chosen us and drawn us near to You to serve You in faithfulness and to proclaim Your unity.

Blessed is the Eternal Who in love has chosen the people Israel for service.

**Praise be the Eternal Our God**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Praised be the Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, whose word brings the evening dusk. You open the gates of dawn with wisdom, change the day's divisions with understanding, set the succession of seasons and arrange the stars in the sky according to Your will. You create day and night, rolling light away from darkness and darkness away from light. Eternal God, Your rule shall embrace us forever. Praised are You, God, for each evening's dusk.

**Who is Like You, Eternal One**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Who is like You, Eternal One, among the gods that are worshipped? Who is like You, Majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

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*Native American*

**Great Spirit Prayer**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Oh Great Spirit whose voice in the wind I hear, And whose breath gives life to all in the world,  
Hear me. Before you I come, one of your many children. Small and weak am I, Your strength  
and wisdom I need. Make me walk in beauty. Make my heart respect all You have made.  
My ears to hear Your voice. Make me wise that I may know all You have taught my people,  
The lessons You have hidden in every rock. I seek strength, not to be superior to my brother.  
Make me able to fight my greatest enemy, myself. Make me ready to stand before You with  
clean and straight eyes. When life fades, as the fading sunset, may our spirits stand before You  
without shame.

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

Almighty God, the Great Thumb we cannot evade to tie any knot; the Roaring Thunder that  
splits mighty trees: the all-seeing Lord up on high who sees even the footprints of an antelope on  
a rock mass here on Earth. You are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call. You  
are the cornerstone of peace.

*Sikhism*

**Prayer for Peace**

**Author Unknown (indianchild.com)**

God adjudges us according to our deeds, not the coat that we wear: that Truth is above  
everything, but higher still is truthful living. Know that we attaineth God when we loveth, and  
only victory endures in consequences of which no one is defeated.

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## Readings

### General

#### **Black and Gold Boxes**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

I have in my hands two boxes Which God gave me to hold

He said, "Put all your sorrows in the black, And all your joys in the gold."

I heeded his words, and in the two boxes both my joys and sorrows I store

But though the gold became heavier each day The black was as light as before.

With curiosity, I opened the black I wanted to find out why

And I saw, in the base of the box, a hole Which my sorrows had fallen out by.

I showed the hole to God, and mused aloud, "I wonder where my sorrows could be."

He smiled a gentle smile at me. "My child, they're all here with me."

I asked, "God, why give me the boxes, "Why the gold, and the black with the hole?"

"My child, the gold is for you to count your blessings, the black is for you to let go."

#### **Blind Men and the Elephant, The**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

There is an analogy to how differently we each understand or experience God in a classic story about three blind men and the elephant. As each of the three blind men are trying to understand exactly what the elephant is like, but experiencing different parts of the same thing.

The first blind man is feeling all over the leg of the elephant and says to the others, "It is like a strong tree." But, the second is holding the trunk, explaining, "It is like an ever changing vine."

Still, the third blind man is running his hands across the large body of the elephant, exclaiming, "No, it is endless, like a wide mountain."

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**Finding God Within and Without**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

How do I find You God?

God is Love.

If you have ever loved, if you have ever been loved,  
You have experienced God from within and without

God is Truth.

If you have ever told the truth, if you have ever discovered Truth,  
You have experienced God from within and without

God is Beauty.

If you have ever helped to create something beautiful, if you have ever witnessed beauty in  
any of its myriad forms,  
You have experienced God from within and without

God is Good.

If you have ever done or thought something good, if you have ever recognized goodness in  
or through another,  
You have experienced God from within and without

All of those experiences, those gifts, of Love, Truth, Beauty and Goodness  
were directly from God through you or to you.

Glad to Meet You God. let's hang out together.



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**God?**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

The little child whispered, "God, speak to me"  
And a meadowlark sang. But the child did not hear.

So the child yelled, "God, speak to me!"  
And the thunder rolled across the sky but the child did not listen.

The child looked around and said, "God let me see you"  
And a star shone brightly but the child did not notice.

And the child shouted, "God show me a miracle!"  
And a life was born but the child did not know.

So the child cried out in despair, "Touch me God, and let me know you are there!"  
Whereupon God reached down And touched the child.  
But the child brushed the butterfly away And walked away unknowingly.

**Let Go and Let God**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

As children bring their broken toys, with tears for us to mend,  
I brought my broken dreams to God, because He is my friend.  
But, then instead of leaving Him, in peace to work alone,  
I hung around and tried to help, with ways that were my own.  
At last, I snatched them back again and cried, "How can you be so slow?"  
"My child." He said, "What could I do? You never did let go."

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**On My Honor**

**Dr. Carroll Osburn (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Leader: ON MY HONOR

Almighty God, Keep us always mindful that our honor is a possession to be cherished as dearly as life itself. Endow us with firmness of purpose and uncommon integrity that will enable us to fulfill those responsibilities with which we are charged. Make us ever conscious of the trust others have placed in us as Scouts.

Leader: TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD

Creator of the universe, how often we forget the true source of life's joys and pleasures. How often, too, have we failed to remember the origin of the inward strength which has enabled us to be aware of Your continual presence in our daily lives. Help us to understand the more meaningful rewards of service in Your name.

Leader: AND MY COUNTRY

We thank Thee, Almighty God, for the privilege of living in a country such as the United States of America. Keep foremost in our minds that the freedoms which we enjoy were bought through unselfish sacrifices of those who have gone before us. As the strength of a country is in her people, let us never avoid our responsibility to maintain this nation as a beacon of hope and freedom to all mankind.

Leader: AND TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW

Heavenly Father, accept the heartfelt thanks of us Scouts and Scouters for such men of vision and leadership as Robert Baden-Powell, William Boyce, James West, and Waite Phillips, who donated this Philmont Scout Ranch to the Boy Scouts of America. Keep always before us the ideals which they set forth and grant us the courage to live by them when others may not. Allow us never to forget that our actions may be the examples others choose to follow.

Leader: TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES

Grant us forgiveness, Patient Lord, when we place the insignificant wants in our lives above the necessities in others' lives. Teach us to recognize and understand the problems facing others and prepare us for each day's task of helping others.

Leader: TO KEEP MYSELF PHYSICALLY STRONG, MENTALLY AWAKE, AND MORALLY STRAIGHT

God of our ancestors, let us never forget that our bodies and minds are but temporary gifts from Thee. Help us to preserve, strengthen and use them for the betterment of our world. May our thoughts and actions be directed toward more meaningful service in Your name. Amen

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**Proverbs 3:13 – 26**

**Bible (netwoods.com)**

Happy is the man who finds wisdom,  
And the man who gets understanding,  
For the gain from it is better than gain from silver,  
And its profit is better than gold.

She is more precious than jewels,  
And nothing you desire can compare with her.  
Long life is in her right hand;  
In her left hand are riches and honor.

Her ways are ways of pleasantness,  
And all her paths are peace.  
She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;  
Those who hold her fast are called happy.

The Lord by wisdom founded the earth;  
By understanding he established the heavens;  
By His knowledge the deeps broke forth,  
And the clouds drop down the dew.

My son, keep sound wisdom and discretion;  
Let them not escape from your sight,  
And they will be life for your soul  
And adornment for your neck.

Then you will surely walk on your way securely  
And your foot will not stumble.  
If you sit down, you will not be afraid;  
When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Do not be afraid of sudden panic, or of the ruin  
of the wicked, when it comes;  
For the Lord will be your confidence and  
will keep your foot from being caught.

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**Scout Beatitudes**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught to see beauty in all things around them for their world will be a place of grace and wonder.

Blessed are the Scouts who are led with patience and understanding for they will learn the strength of endurance and the gift of tolerance.

Blessed are the Scouts who are provided a home where family members dwell in harmony and close communion for they shall become the peacemakers of the world.

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught the value and power of truth for they shall search for knowledge and use it with wisdom and discernment.

Blessed are the Scouts who are guided by those with faith in a loving God for they will find Him early and will walk with Him through life.

Blessed are the Scouts who are loved and know that they are loved for they shall sow seeds of love in the world and reap joy for themselves and others.

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**Teach Me To Pray**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

Please teach me, Lord ... I want to know exactly how to pray.

I need some words. Which ones are right? Please tell me what to say.

I've bowed my head. I have knelt down, But ... should I be upright?

I've closed my eyes, I've raised my hands, or ... should I fold them tight?

Do I stand up? Should I sit down? Dear Lord ... what do you like?

Are lights turned on? Or are they off? Maybe ... candle light?

Wear my glasses? Take them off? Be at my desk or table?

Should I whisper? Speak out loud?

Do I quote the Bible? What do you think about the time?

Do You prefer the dawn?

Should I pray fast, or keep it slow? Better short ... or long?

I'm new at this what are the rules? I want to do it right.

How do I know You'll even hear?

That I am in Your sight?

And while I sat there quietly, waiting for some sign, I heard a gentle voice say,

"Oh, dearest child of mine ... do you think I really care about the time of day, or whether you are standing up, or kneeling when you pray?"

"I don't care about your posture, or about the place you choose; just open up your soul to me, I have no other rules.

Tell me what is in your heart, and tell me what you seek; tell me of your sorrows, and of those things that made you weak"

"Speak to me in private about what concerns you most; I know about your good deeds ... You have no need to boast.

My child, you don't need lessons, just talk to me each day; tell me anything you want, dear child, Anyone can pray."

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**We Learned It All in Kindergarten**

**Robert Fulgham (netwoods.com)**

Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox. These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some, and draw and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap in the afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together.

Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up, and nobody really knows why, but we are all like that. Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup - they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you ever learned, the biggest word of all:

LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The golden rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living. Think of what a better life it would be if we all had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations always to put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

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*Christianity*

**Footprints**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

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## God Is Like...

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results:

- God is like BAYER ASPIRIN -- He works miracles.
- God is like a FORD -- He's got a better idea.
- God is like COKE -- He's the real thing.
- God is like HALLMARK CARDS -- He cares enough to send His very best.
- God is like TIDE -- He gets the stains out that others leave behind.
- God is like GENERAL ELECTRIC -- He brings good things to life.
- God is like SEARS -- He has everything.
- God is like ALKA-SELTZER -- Try him, you'll like Him.
- God is like SCOTCH TAPE -- You can't see him, but you know He's there.
- God is like DELTA -- He's ready when you are.
- God is like ALLSTATE -- You're in good hands with Him.
- God is like VO-5 Hair Spray -- He holds through all kinds of weather.
- God is like DIAL SOAP -- Aren't you glad you have Him. Don't you wish everybody did.
- God is like the U.S. POST OFFICE -- Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

## Psalm 8

**Bible (netwoods.com)**

**All            O Lord, our Lord, How excellent is thy name in all of the earth!**

Leader        Who hast set thy glory upon the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou established strength. Because of thine adversaries, That thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

**All            When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, The moon and the stars which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou are mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him?**

Leader        For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, And crownest him with glory and honor. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands. Thou hast put all things under his feet.

**All            All sheep and oxen, Yea, and the beast of the field; The fowl of the air and the fish of the sea, Whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas, Oh Lord, our Lord, How excellent is thy name in all the earth.**



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**Psalm 46**

**Bible (netwoods.com)**

Leader God is our refuge and strength,

**All A very present help in trouble.**

Leader Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

**All And though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea.**

Leader Though it's waters rage and foam,

**All The Lord of hosts is with us.**

Leader The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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## **Scout Law in the Bible**

### **Author Unknown (naums.org)**

A Scout is Trustworthy - Exodus 20:16

Thou Shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

A Scout is Loyal - Luke 16:10

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

A Scout is Helpful - Deuteronomy 15:11

For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

A Scout is Friendly - Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

A Scout is Courteous - Ephesians 4:29

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

A Scout is Kind - Proverbs 12:10

A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

A Scout is Obedient - Ephesians 6:1-3

6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

6:2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

6:3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

A Scout is Cheerful - Proverbs 15:13

A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

A Scout is Thrifty - Proverbs 6:6-8

6:6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

6:7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

6:8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

A Scout is Brave - Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

A Scout is Clean - Psalm 24:3-5

24:3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?

24:4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

24:5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

A Scout is Reverent - Mark 12:30

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

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## **That's God**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

Have you ever been just sitting there and all of a sudden you feel like doing something nice for someone you care for? THAT'S GOD. . . He talks to you through the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever been down and out and nobody seems to be around for you to talk to? THAT'S GOD . . . He wants you to talk to Him.

Have you ever been thinking about somebody that you haven't seen in a long time and then next thing you know... you see them or receive a phone call from them? THAT'S GOD. . . There ! is no such thing as "coincidence. "

Have you ever received something wonderful that you didn't even ask for? Like money in the mail, a debt that had mysteriously been cleared, or a coupon to a department store where you had just seen something you wanted, but couldn't afford? THAT'S GOD. . . He knows the desires of your heart. . .

Have you ever been in a situation and you had no clue how it is going to get better, but now as you look back on it, you got through it? THAT'S GOD. . . He passes us through tribulation to see a brighter day.

## **The Secret**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

One day, one friend asked another, "How is it that you are always so happy? You have so much energy, and you never seem to get down."

With her eyes smiling, she said, "I know the Secret!"

"What secret is that?"

To which she replied, "I'll tell you all about it, but you have to promise to share the Secret with others."

"The Secret is this:

I have learned there is little I can do in my life that will make me truly happy. I must depend on God to make me happy and to meet my needs. When a need arises in my life, I have to trust God to supply according to HIS riches. I have learned most of the time I don't need half of what I think I do. He has never let me down. Since I learned that 'Secret', I am happy."

The questioner's first thought was, "That's too simple!" But upon reflecting over her own life she recalled how she thought a bigger house would make her happy, but it didn't! She thought a better paying job would make her happy, but it hadn't. When did she realize her greatest happiness? Sitting on the floor with her grandchildren, playing games, eating pizza or reading a story, a simple gift from God.

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**Judaism**

**Psalm 84:5**

**Bible (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Blessed are they who dwell in Your house;  
They shall praise You forever.

**Psalm 144:15**

**Bible (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Blessed the people who are so favored;  
Blessed the people whose God is the Lord.

**Psalm 145**

**Bible (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

I glorify You, my God, my Sovereign; I praise You throughout all time.  
Every day do I praise You, exalting Your glory forever.  
Great is Adonai, and praiseworthy;  
His greatness exceeds definition.  
One generation lauds Your works to another, declaring Your mighty deeds.  
They tell of Your wonders, and of Your glorious splendor.  
They speak of Your greatness, and of Your awesome power.  
They recall Your goodness; they sing of Your faithfulness.  
Gracious and compassionate is Adonai;  
patient, and abounding in love.  
Adonai is good to all; His compassion embraces all.  
All of Your creatures shall praise You;  
the faithful shall repeatedly bless You.  
They shall describe Your glorious sovereignty, declaring Your power.  
And people will know of Your might, the splendor of Your dominion.

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## Reverent Scouts

### Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)

Leader The Torah is a tree of life to them that hold fast to it.

**All Because a Scout is reverent, a Scout strives to be true to God, to study the Torah, and to live according to its commands.**

Leader Seek the peace of the city and pray unto God for it; for in the peace of it shall you have peace.

**All Because a Scout is reverent, a Scout is loyal to America and its ideals of religious liberty to all.**

Leader All Jews are mindful of the well-being of one another.

**All Because a Scout is reverent, a Scout is loyal to the Jewish people and is ready to help other Jews everywhere.**

Leader Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the land.

**All Because a Scout is reverent, a Scout is a devoted and loyal son or daughter.**

Leader Oh, how good it is, and how pleasant, for friends to dwell together in unity.

**All Because a Scout is reverent, he or she strives to be a good Scout, a good Jew, and a good American at all times.**

## Psalm 145

### Bible (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)

I glorify You, my God, my Sovereign; I praise You throughout all time.

Every day do I praise You, exalting Your glory forever.

Great is Adonai, and praiseworthy;

His greatness exceeds definition.

One generation lauds Your works to another, declaring Your mighty deeds.

They tell of Your wonders, and of Your glorious splendor.

They speak of Your greatness, and of Your awesome power.

They recall Your goodness; they sing of Your faithfulness.

Gracious and compassionate is Adonai;

patient, and abounding in love.

Adonai is good to all; His compassion embraces all.

All of Your creatures shall praise You;

the faithful shall repeatedly bless You.

They shall describe Your glorious sovereignty, declaring Your power.

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And people will know of Your might, the splendor of Your dominion.  
Your sovereignty is everlasting. Your dominion endures for all generations.  
Adonai supports all who stumble, and raises all who are bowed down.  
All eyes look hopefully to You, to receive their food in due time.  
You open Your hand, and Your favor sustains all the living.  
In all His paths Adonai is faithful; in all His deeds He is  
loving.  
Adonai is near to all who call, to all who call upon Him in truth.  
God fulfills the desire of those who revere Him;  
God hears their cry and delivers them.  
All who love Adonai He preserves, but all the wicked He destroys.  
My mouth shall praise Adonai. Let all flesh praise God's name throughout all time.

**You Shall Love Adonai**

**Bible (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

You shall love Adonai your God with all your mind, with all your strength, with all your being.  
Set these words which I command you this day upon your heart. Teach them faithfully to your children; speak of them in your home and on your way, **when** you lie down and when you rise up.  
Bind them as a sign upon your hand; let them be a symbol before your eyes; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house, and on your gates.

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## Stories

### General

#### **Acorns and Pumpkins**

##### **Author Unknown (More Sower's Seeds)**

An old poem describes a woman walking through a meadow, meditating on nature. While strolling about, she came upon a field of golden pumpkins. In the corner of the field stood a majestic, huge oak tree.

She sat under the oak tree musing on the strange twists in nature which put tiny acorns on huge branches and huge pumpkins on tiny vines. She thought to herself, "God blundered with Creation! He should have put the small acorns on the tiny vines and the large pumpkins on the huge branches."

Nodding off, the woman stretched out under the oak tree for a nap. A few minutes after falling asleep she was awakened by a tiny acorn bouncing off her nose. Chuckling to herself, she rubbed her nose and thought, "Maybe God was right after all!"

#### **God's Power in Action**

##### **Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

God has a way of allowing us to be in the right place at the right time.

I was walking down a dimly lit street late one evening when I heard muffled screams coming from behind a clump of bushes. Alarmed, I slowed down to listen, and panicked when I realized that what I was hearing were the unmistakable sounds of a struggle: heavy grunting, frantic scuffling, and tearing of fabric.

Only yards from where I stood, a woman was being attacked. Should I get involved? I was frightened for my own safety, and cursed myself for having suddenly decided to take a new route home that night. What if I became another statistic? Shouldn't I just run to the nearest phone and call the police?

Although it seemed an eternity, the deliberations in my head had taken only seconds, but already the girl's cries were growing weaker. I knew I had to act fast. How could I walk away from this? No, I finally resolved, I could not turn my back on the fate of this unknown woman, even if it meant risking my own life.

I am not a brave man, nor am I athletic. I don't know where I found the moral courage and physical strength -- but once I had finally resolved to help the girl, I became strangely transformed. I ran behind the bushes and pulled the assailant off the woman. Grappling, we fell to the ground, where we wrestled for a few minutes until the attacker jumped up and escaped.

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Panting hard, I scrambled upright and approached the girl, who was crouched behind a tree, sobbing. In the darkness, I could barely see her outline, but I could certainly sense her trembling shock. Not wanting to frighten her further, I at first spoke to her from a distance. "It's okay," I said soothingly. "The man ran away. You're safe now." There was a long pause and then I heard the words, uttered in wonder, in amazement. "Dad, is that you?" And then, from behind the tree, out stepped my youngest daughter, Katherine.

## **Keep God First**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

There once was a man who had nothing for his family to eat. He had an old shotgun and three bullets. So, he decided that he would go out and kill something for dinner.

As he went down the road, he saw a rabbit and he shot at the rabbit and missed it. Then he saw a squirrel and fired a shot at the squirrel and missed it. As he went further, he saw a wild turkey in the tree and he had only one bullet, but a voice came to him and said "pray first, aim high and stay focused ."

However, at the same time, he saw a deer which was a better kill. He brought the gun down and aimed at the deer. But, then he saw a rattle snake between his legs about to bite him, so he naturally brought the gun down further to shoot the rattle snake.

Still, the voice said again to him, "I said 'pray, aim high and stay focused.'"

So, the man decided to listen to the voice. He prayed, then aimed the gun high up in the tree and shot the wild turkey. The bullet bounced off the turkey and killed the deer. The handle fell off the gun and hit the snake in the head and killed it.

And, when the gun had gone off, it knocked him into a pond. When he stood to look around, he had fish in all his pockets, a dead deer and a turkey to eat.

The snake (Satan) was dead simply because the man listened to God.

- Pray first before you do anything, aim and shoot high in your goals, and stay focused on God. Pass this on in order that someone else might be blessed.
- Never let others discourage you concerning your past. The past is exactly that - " the past." Live every day one day at a time. And remember that only God knows our future and that he will not put you through any more than you can bear.
- Do not look to man for your blessings but look to the Lord. He can open doors for you that only He is able to do. Doors that you will not slip through but doors that only He has prepared in advance for you in your favor. Wait, and be still, be patient: keep God first and everything else will follow.



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## **King Canute on the Seashore**

**James Baldwin** (*The Book of Virtues*)

Long ago, England was ruled by a king named Canute. Like many leaders and men of power, Canute was surrounded by people who were always praising him. Every time he walked into a room, the flattery began.

"You are the greatest man that ever lived," one would say.

"O king, there can never be another as mighty as you," another would insist.

"Your highness, there is nothing you cannot do," someone would smile.

"Great Canute, you are the monarch of all," another would sing. "Nothing in this world dares to disobey you."

The king was a man of sense, and he grew tired of hearing such foolish speeches.

One day he was walking by the seashore, and his officers and courtiers were with him, praising him as usual. Canute decided to teach them a lesson.

"So you say I am the greatest man in the world?" he asked them.

"O king," they cried, "there never has been anyone as mighty as you, and there never be anyone so great, ever again!"

"And you say all things obey me?" Canute asked.

"Absolutely!" they said. "The world bows before you, and gives you honor."

"I see," the king answered. "In that case, bring me my chair, and we will go down to the water."

"At once, your majesty!" They scrambled to carry his royal chair over the sands.

"Bring it closer to the sea," Canute called. "Put it right here, right at the water's edge." He sat down and surveyed the ocean before him. "I notice the tide is coming in. Do you think it will stop if I give the command?"

His officers were puzzled, but they did not dare say no. "Give the order, O great king, and it will obey," one of them assured him.

"Very well. Sea," cried Canute, "I command you to come no further! Waves, stop your rolling! Surf, stop your pounding! Do not dare touch my feet!"

He waited a moment, quietly, and a tiny wave rushed up the sand and lapped at his feet.

"How dare you!" Canute shouted. "Ocean, turn back now! I have ordered you to retreat before me, and now you must obey! Go back!"

And in answer another wave swept forward and curled around the king's feet. The tide came in, just as it always did. The water rose higher and higher. It came up around the king's chair, and wet not only his feet, but also his robe. His officers stood before him, alarmed, and wondering whether he was not mad.

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"Well, my friends," Canute said, "it seems I do not have quite so much power as you would have me believe. Perhaps you have learned something today. Perhaps now you will remember there is only one King who is all-powerful, and it is he who rules the sea, and holds the ocean in the hollow of his hand. I suggest you reserve your praises for him."

The royal officers and courtiers hung their heads and looked foolish. And some say Canute took off his crown soon afterward, and never wore it again.

## **No God**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

A college student was in a philosophy class, where there was a class discussion about whether or not God exists, The professor had the following logic:

"Has anyone in this class heard God?" Nobody spoke.

"Has anyone in this class touched God?" Again, nobody spoke.

"Has anyone in this class seen God?" When nobody spoke for the third time, he simply stated, "Then there is no God."

The student did not like the sound of this at all, and asked for permission to speak. The professor granted it, and the student stood up and asked the following questions of his classmates:

"Has anyone in this class heard our professor's brain?" Silence.

"Has anyone in this class touched our professor's brain?"

Absolute silence.

"Has anyone in this class seen our professor's brain?" When nobody in the class dared to speak, the student concluded, "Then, according to our professor's logic, it must be true that our professor has no brain!"

## **Song of the Sea, The**

**M. Stanley Bubien (inspirationalstories.com)**

I'm not sure why I decided to bring James, my six year old son, to the beach this morning after Church---we usually got donuts instead. Maybe because this was the first clear day in a week; or maybe we were both lonely and needed a song.

"Dad," James began as we leaned against the railing separating us from the pile of boulders forming the breakwater, "I got a question."

A wave crashed in with a thump, sending spray across my face. Inhaling the freshly-salted air, I listened as the hissing foam boiled about briefly before slowly draining out again. Thousands upon thousands of cobble stones were displaced by the flow, and they rolled with the water, clapping against each other like a distant cheering crowd. It raised in pitch until another wave thudded against the shore.

"What's your question, James?"

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"I can't hear God, Dad. How do I hear God?"

I gazed down the stretch of beach skirting Highway 101. This expanse, usually covered with brilliant, fine-grained sand, had been stripped clear by recent storms, leaving only a confusion of cobbles and driftwood. Yet even buried and littered with flotsam, this remained my place of peace---for here, the song of the sea provided solace through the year since my wife's death.

"You want to hear God?" I asked as the cobbles clattered again.

James nodded and I leaned close. "Then," I whispered into his ear, "you have to really, really listen."

Another wave broke against the boulders, and I saw James inhale the salty spray.

## **Sneeze, The**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

They walked in tandem, each of the ninety-three students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With rich maroon gowns flowing and the traditional caps, they looked almost as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and moms freely brushed away tears.

This class would not pray during the commencements --- not by choice but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it. The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling.

They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families. The speeches were nice, but they were routine... until the final speech received a standing ovation. A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, and then he delivered his speech... an astounding SNEEZE!

The rest of the students rose immediately to their feet, and in unison they said, "GOD BLESS YOU."

The audience exploded into applause. The graduating class found a unique way to invoke God's blessing on their future .... with or without the court's approval.

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Christian

**Be Still With God**

**Nancy B. Gibbs (inspirationalstories.com)**

All day long I had been very busy; picking up trash, cleaning bathrooms and scrubbing floors. My grown children were coming home for the weekend. I went grocery shopping and prepared for a barbecue supper, complete with ribs and chicken. I wanted everything to be perfect.

Suddenly, it dawned on me that I was dog-tired. I simply couldn't work as long as I could when I was younger. "I've got to rest for a minute," I told my husband, Roy, as I collapsed into my favorite rocking chair. Music was playing, my dog and cat were chasing each other and the telephone rang.

A scripture from Psalm 46 popped into my mind. "Be still, and know that I am God." I realized that I hadn't spent much time in prayer that day. *Was I too busy to even utter a simple word of thanks to God?* Suddenly, the thought of my beautiful patio came to mind. I can be quiet out there, I thought. I longed for a few minutes alone with God.

Roy and I had invested a great deal of time and work in the patio that spring. The flowers and hanging baskets were breathtaking. It was definitely a heavenly place of rest and tranquility. *If I can't be still with God in that environment, I can't be still with Him anywhere*, I thought. While Roy was talking on the telephone, I slipped out the backdoor and sat down on my favorite patio chair. I closed my eyes and began to pray, counting my many blessings.

A bird flew by me, chirping and singing. It interrupted my thoughts. It landed on the bird feeder and began eating dinner as I watched. After a few minutes it flew away, singing another song.

I closed my eyes again. A gust of wind blew, which caused my wind chimes to dance. They made a joyful sound, but again I lost my concentration on God. I squirmed and wiggled in my chair. I looked up toward the blue sky and saw the clouds moving slowly toward the horizon. The wind died down. My wind chimes finally became quiet.

Again, I bowed in prayer. "Honk, honk," I heard. I almost jumped out of my skin. A neighbor was driving down the street. He waved at me and smiled. I waved back, happy that he cared. I quickly tried once again to settle down, repeating the familiar verse in my mind. *Be still and know that I am God.*

"I'm trying God. I really am," I whispered. "But you've got to help me here."

The backdoor opened. My husband walked outside. "I love you," he said. "I was wondering where you were." I chuckled, as he came over and kissed me, then turned around and went back inside.

"Where's the quiet time?" I asked God. My heart fluttered. There was no pain, only a beat that interrupted me yet again. This is impossible, I thought. There's no time to be still and to know that God is with me. There's too much going on in the world and entirely too much activity all around me.

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Then it suddenly dawned on me. God was speaking to me the entire time I was attempting to be still. I remembered the music playing as I'd begun my quiet time. He sent a sparrow to lighten my life with song. He sent a gentle breeze. He sent a neighbor to let me know that I had a friend. He sent my sweetheart to offer sincere sentiments of love. He caused my heart to flutter to remind me of life. While I was trying to count my blessings, God was busy multiplying them.

I laughed to realize that the "interruptions" of my quiet time with God were special blessings He'd sent to show me He was with me the entire time.

### **Cross, The**

**Author Unknown (inspirationalstories.com)**

A young man was at the end of his road , seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer.

"Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room.

Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief and said, "Thank you Lord," and he did as he was told.

Upon entering the other room, he saw many crosses; some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall.

"I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered. The Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."

When life's problems seem overwhelming, it helps to look around and see what other people are coping with. You may consider yourself far more fortunate than you imagined.

### **YOUR CROSS**

Whatever your cross Whatever your pain  
There will always be sunshine After the rain

Perhaps you may stumble Perhaps even fall  
But God's always there To help you through it all

### **Wemmick Story, The**

**Max Lucado (*You Are Special*)**

The Wemmicks were small wooden people. These little wooden people were carved by a woodworker named "Eli." Eli's workshop sat on a hill overlooking the Wemmick Village. Every one of the Wemmicks were different. Some had big noses, others had large eyes. Some were tall and others were short. Some wore hats, others wore coats. But all were made by the same carver and all lived in the same village.

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All day long, every day, the Wemmicks did the same thing. They gave each other stickers. Each Wemmick had a box of golden star stickers and a box of dull gray dot stickers. Up and down the streets all over the city, people could be seen sticking gold stars or gray dots onto each other. The pretty ones, those with smooth wood and fine paint, always got shiny gold stars! But if the wood was rough or the paint was chipped, the Wemmicks gave dull gray dots. The talented ones got stars, too. Some could lift big sticks high above their heads or jump over tall boxes. Still others knew big words or could sing very pretty songs. Everyone gave them shiny gold stars! Some Wemmicks had stars all over them! Every time they got a star it made them feel so good that they did something else and got another star.

There were many other Wemmicks though that could do very little. They got dull gray dots! There was one little Wemmick and his name was "Punchinello." He tried to jump high like the others, but he always fell. And when he fell, the others would gather 'round and give him dull gray dots. Sometimes when he fell, it would scar his wood, so the people would give him more gray dots. He would try to explain why he fell and, in doing so, he would say something really silly. Then the Wemmicks would give him some more dots!!!

After a while, Punchinello had so many dots that he didn't want to go outside. He was afraid he would do something dumb such as forget his hat or step in the water, and then people would give him more dull gray dots. In fact, he had so many gray dots that some people would come up and just give him one without any reason! "He deserves lots of dots," they would say. The wooden people would agree with one another. "He's not a good wooden person," they would say. After a while Punchinello believed them. "I am not a good Wemmick!" he would say. The few times he went outside, he hung around other Wemmicks who had a lot of gray dots. At least he felt better around them.

One day, Punchinello met a Wemmick who was unlike any he'd ever met. She had no dull gray dots and did not have any shiny golden stars either. She was a wooden Wemmick and her name was "Lucia." It wasn't that people didn't try to give her stickers; it's just that the stickers didn't stick to her!!! Some admired Lucia for having no dots, so they would run up and give her a star. But it would fall off. Some would look down on her for having no stars, so they would give her a dot. But they would not stick either!!!

"That's the way I want to be!" thought Punchinello. "I don't want anyone's marks!" So he asked the "stickerless" Wemmick how she did it. "It's easy," Lucia replied. "Every day I go see Eli." Punchinello asked, "Eli? Who is Eli?" She replied "Yes, Eli, He is the woodcarver. I sit in His workshop and spend time with Him." He asked Lucia, "Why do you do that?" Lucia told him, "Why don't you find out for yourself? Go up the hill and visit with Him. He's there!" And with that, the sweet little Wemmick named Lucia turned and skipped away.

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"But He won't want to see me!" Punchinello cried out to her. Lucia didn't hear him, as she was too far away. So Punchinello went home. He sat near a window and watched the wooden people as they scurried around giving each other gold stars and gray dots. "It's just not right," he muttered to himself. Then he resolved to go see Eli after all. Punchinello walked up the narrow path to the top of the hill and stepped into the big Woodcarver Shop. His little wooden eyes widened at the size of everything. The stool was as tall as he was. He had to stretch on his tippy-toes to see the top of the workbench. A hammer was as long as his arm. Punchinello swallowed hard and thought to himself, "I'm not staying here!" and he turned to leave. Then he heard his name. "Punchinello?" said this voice, so deep and strong. Just then Punchinello stopped. The voice said, "Punchinello, oh how good it is of you to come! Let me have a look at you."

Punchinello slowly turned around and looked at the large bearded craftsman and said, "Sir, you know my name?" "Of course I do. I made you," Eli said. All of a sudden, Eli stooped down and picked little Punchinello up and set him on the workbench. "Hmmmmm," the Maker spoke thoughtfully as he inspected the gray circles all over him, "Looks like you've been given some bad marks." Punchinello explained, "Oh, Eli, I didn't mean to; really I didn't!!! I really tried hard not to." The Maker said, "Oh, you don't have to defend yourself to me, my child. I don't care what the other Wemmicks think." Punchinello asked, "Really? You don't?" Then Eli said, "No and you shouldn't either. Who are they to give stars or dots? They are Wemmicks just like you. What they think really doesn't matter at all, Punchinello. All that matters is what I think. And I think you are pretty special." Punchinello laughed, "Oh, me special? How can I be special? I can't walk fast. I can't jump. My paint is peeling. I make silly mistakes all the time and I am not a beautiful Wemmick like some of the others. How could I matter to you?" Eli looked at Punchinello and put his hands on those little wooden shoulders of his and spoke very slowly, "Because Punchinello... you are mine. That's why you matter to me." Punchinello had never had anyone look at him like this before or say anything so nice, much less his Maker! He didn't know what to say!

"Punchinello, every day I've been waiting and hoping you would come to see me," Eli explained. Punchinello looked up at him and said, "I came because I met a sweet Wemmick girl who had no marks." Eli said, "I know. Lucia told me about you." So Punchinello asked, "Why don't the stickers stay on Lucia?" Eli said, "Because she has decided that what I think is more important than what anyone else thinks. The stickers only stick if you let them." Punchinello looked puzzled and said, "What?" Eli said, "Yes, the stickers only stick if they matter to you. The more you trust My love, the less you will care about those stickers." But Punchinello said, "I'm not sure I really understand. What you are saying?" The maker said, "You will, but it will take some time. You've got a lot of marks. So for now, just come to see me every day and let me remind you how much I care about you." Eli lifted Punchinello off the bench and set him on the floor. "Now remember," Eli said as the Wemmick walked out the door. "You ARE special because I made you, and I don't make mistakes."

Punchinello didn't stop, but in his heart he thought, "I think He really means it." And each time he remembered what Eli told him and each time he went to visit and talk with Eli, one of Punchinello's dots would fall off. They kept falling off and soon they were all gone!!!

So like Punchinello, we must remember one thing: "Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart." (I Samuel 16:7)

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**Jewish**

**Elimelech and the Blessing**

**Jeffery Kanter, (Jewish Magazine)**

*A Bracha*, (a blessing), what is a blessing?

We Jewish people have been making blessings for thousands of years. But what is a blessing. Are we giving a blessing to G-d for what he has given us?

When we give a blessing to a friend, it's like wishing that good things should happen to him. Is this the same towards G-d? Can we do such a thing? What is it that G-d lacks, that our blessing can do something?

To answer these questions, there is a famous story about Rabbi Elimelech, the Rabbi of Lesinsk who lived about two hundred years ago. Another Rabbi came to visit Rabbi Elimelech, who was known far and wide for being a *Tzaddik* (a pure and righteous man).

As they sat together conversing, the visiting Rabbi, who was a distinguished scholar, yet did not achieve the level of holiness and saintliness that Rabbi Elimelech had reached.

"Tell me, Rabbi Elimelech, we both are scholars, well versed in the Jewish law. Yet you have reached a level of saintliness and holiness far beyond me. Explain to me, please, what is the difference between us? What is it that you possess that I don't?"

Rabbi Elimelech pointed to the bowl of fruit, set before them on the table. "When you want to eat an apple, do you make a blessing to G-d?"

"Certainly I do!" the visiting Rabbi answered.

"Ah, that's the difference. You see, when I want to make a blessing to G-d, I eat an apple. When you want to eat an apple you first make a blessing. That is the difference."

What this story is coming to tell us is that blessing is a method that we can use to become close to the creator of the world. True, it thanks him for His goodness. But it can also bring us to a higher level of consciousness in being aware of G-d.

The visiting Rabbi used the blessing to thank G-d for His goodness, which is quite acceptable and commendable. But Rabbi Elimelech used the blessing in a different way. He used it to get close to G-d. The apple was just a medium for being able to do this.

We too, when the opportunity comes for making a blessing, we can use it to increase our awareness of the Supreme Power of the universe. The more blessings that we make, the more we can increase our awareness.

That's the point of making a blessing. It is like we do something for G-d; we cause him to be with us down here on earth instead of hidden up there in the heavens.



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## Worship Songs

### General

#### **America the Beautiful**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Oh beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties,  
Above the fruited plain.

(Chorus)

America, America. God shed His Grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood,  
From sea to shining sea.

Oh beautiful for patriot dream,  
That sees beyond the years,  
Thine alabaster cities gleam,  
Undimmed by human tears.  
(Repeat Chorus)

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**Be Not Afraid**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.  
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.  
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand  
You shall see the face of God and live.

Antiphon

Be not afraid. I go before you always.  
Come follow me, and I will give you rest.

- 2 If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown.  
If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed.  
If you stand before the pow'r of hell and death is at your side,  
Know that I am with you through it all.
- 3 Blessed are your poor, for the Kingdom shall be theirs.  
Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh.  
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me,  
Blessed, blessed are you!

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**Canticle of the Sun**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Refrain

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy.  
Come, dance in the forest, come play in the field,  
And sing, sing to the glory of the Lord.

- 1 Praise for the sun, the bringer of the day, he carries the light of the Lord in his rays;  
The moon and the stars who light up the way unto your throne.
- 2 Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, the sea's mighty storms, the gentlest breeze;  
They blow where they will, they blow where they please to please the Lord.
- 3 Praise for the rain that waters our field, and blesses our crops so all the earth yields;  
From death unto life her myst'ry revealed springs forth in joy.
- 4 Praise for the fire who gives us his light, the warmth of the sun to brighten our night;  
He dances with joy, his spirit so bright, he sings of you.
- 5 Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, the creatures you made to let your life show;  
The flowers and trees that help us to know the heart of love.
- 6 Praise for our death that makes our life real, the knowledge of loss that helps us to feel;  
The gift of yourself, your presence revealed to lead us home.

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### **Come, Come Ye Saints**

**Text: William Clayton, Music: J. T. White (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Come, come, ye saints, no toil nor labor fear; But with joy, wend your way.  
Though hard to you this journey may appear, Grace shall be as your day.  
'Tis better far for us to strive our useless cares from us to drive;  
Do this, and joy your hearts will swell All is well! All is well!
- 2 Why should we mourn or think our lot is hard? 'Tis not so, all is right.  
Why should we think to earn a great reward, if we now shun the fight?  
Gird up your loins; fresh courage take; Our God will never us forsake,  
And soon we'll have this tale to tell, all is well! All is well!
- 3 We'll find the place which God for us prepared, In His house full of light,  
Where none shall come to hurt or make afraid; there the saints will shine bright.  
We'll make the air with music ring, Shout praises to our God and King;  
Above the rest these words we'll tell, all is well! All is well!
- 4 And should we die before our journey's through, Happy day! All is well!  
We then are free from toil and sorrow, too; with the just we shall dwell!  
But if our lives are spared again to see the saints their rest obtain,  
O how we'll make this chorus swell, all is well! All is well!

### **For the Beauty of the Earth**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth ,over and around us lies,  
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon & stars of light,  
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

### **God Bless America**

**Irving Berlin (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

God Bless America, Land that I love  
Stand beside her, and guide her,  
Through the night with the light from above,

From the mountains, to the prairies,  
To the ocean, White with foam,  
God bless America, My home sweet home.  
God bless America, My home sweet home.

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**Kum Ba Yah**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Oh, Lord Kum Ba Yah

Someone's crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

Someone's singing Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

Someone's praying Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

**Lord is in His Holy Temple, The**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

The Lord is in His holy temple;  
Let all the earth keep silence before Him!  
Keep silence! Keep silence!  
Keep Silence before Him.

**Michael Row the Boat Ashore**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is chilly and cold, Hallelujah  
Chills the body but not the soul, Hallelujah

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**Morning Has Broken**

**Cat Stevens (netwoods.com)**

Morning has broken like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, Praise for the morning,  
Praise for them, springing, fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass,  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
Born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.

**Pass It On**

**Kurt Kaiser**

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;  
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:  
You spread His love to ev'ryone you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring – when all the trees are budding,  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;  
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found,  
You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound;  
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:  
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

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**Philmont Hymn**

**John Westfall (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Silver on the sage, starlit skies above  
Aspen covered hills, country that I love.  
Philmont here's to thee, Scouting paradise  
Out in God's country tonight.

Wind in whispering pines. Eagle soaring high  
Purple mountains rise against an azure sky.  
Philmont here's to thee. Scouting paradise  
Out in God's country tonight.

**Christian**

**Amazing Grace**

**Text: John Newton, Music: James P. Carrell & David S. Clayton (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my Shield and Portion be, as long as life endures.
- 5 Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.
- 6 The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;  
But God, Who called me here below, shall be forever mine.
- 7 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

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**Awesome God**

**Rich Mullins (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Refrain:

Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power, and love. Our God is an awesome God.

Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom, power, and love. Our God is an awesome God.

1. When He rolls up His sleeves He ain't just putting on the ritz  
(Our God is an awesome God)  
There's thunder in His footsteps and lightning in His fists  
(Our God is an awesome God)  
And the Lord wasn't joking when He kicked 'em out of Eden  
It wasn't for no reason That He shed His blood  
His return is very close and so you better be believing that  
Our God is an awesome God  
(Refrain)
2. And when the sky was starless in the void of the night  
(Our God is an awesome God)  
He spoke into the darkness and created the light  
(Our God is an awesome God)  
Judgment and wrath He poured out on Sodom  
Mercy and grace He gave us at the cross  
I hope that we have not too quickly forgotten that  
Our God is an awesome God  
(Refrain)



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## **Battle Hymn of the Republic**

**Text: Julia W. Howe (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;  
His truth is marching on.

Refrain

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

- 2 I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;  
His day is marching on.

(Refrain)

- 3 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet;  
Our God is marching on.

(Refrain)

- 4 In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:  
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free;  
Our God is marching on.

(Refrain)

## **Called to Serve**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Called to serve Him, Heav'nly King of glory, Chosen e'er to witness for his name,  
Far and wide we tell the Father's story. Far and wide his love proclaim.

Chorus:

Onward, ever onward, as we glory in His name;  
Onward, ever onward, as we glory in His name;  
Forward, pressing forward, as a triumph song we sing.  
God our strength will be; press forward ever,  
Called to serve our King.

- 2 Called to know the richness of His blessing, Sons and daughters, children of a King  
Glad of heart, His holy name confessing, Praises unto Him we bring.

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**Church's One Foundation, The**

**Text: Samuel John Stone, Music Samuel S. Wesley (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation by water and the word;  
From Heav'n He cam and sought her to be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
- 2 Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued
- 3 Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is one;  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

**Fairest Lord Jesus**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all Nature! O Thou of God and man the Son!  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor. Thou my souls glory, joy, and crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring.  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host.  
Jesus is brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

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**Glory and Praise to our God**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Antiphon

Glory and praise to our God, who alone gives light to our days.  
Many are the blessings he bears to those who trust in his ways.

- 1 We the daughters and sons of him who built the valleys and plains  
Praise the wonders our God has done in ev'ry heart that sings.
- 2 In his wisdom he strengthens us, like gold that's tested in fire.  
Though the power of sin prevails our God is there to save.
- 3 Ev'ry moment of ev'ry day our God is waiting to save,  
Always ready to seek the lost, to answer those who pray.
- 4 God has watered our barren land and spent his merciful rain.  
Now the rivers of life run full for anyone to drink.

**God of Day and God of Darkness**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

God of day and God of darkness now we stand before the night;  
As the shadows stretch and deepen come and make our darkness bright.  
All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might,  
When the Sun of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant light.

Still the nations curse the darkness, still the rich oppress the poor;  
Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more.  
Come and wake us from our sleeping, so our hearts cannot ignore,  
All your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.

Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true;  
Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.  
Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew,  
Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one in you.

You shall be the path that guides us, you the light that in us burns;  
Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn  
For our hearts shall wander restless till they safe to you return;  
Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.

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**Here I Am, Lord**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

- 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
- 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

**How Great the Wisdom and the Love**

**Eliza R. Snow (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 How great the wisdom and the love that filled the courts on high  
And sent the Savior from above to suffer, bleed, and die!
- 2 He marked the path and led the way, and every point defines  
To light and life and endless day where God's full presence shines.

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**How Great Thou Art**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Oh Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hands have made  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, My Savior, God, to Thee  
How great thou art, how great thou art  
Then sings my soul, My Savior, God, to Thee  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And yearn the brook and feel the gentle breeze.  
(Refrain)

- 3 And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin.  
(Refrain)

When Christ shall come with shouts of adulation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim My God, How great Thou art  
(Refrain)

How great Thou art  
How great Thou art...

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**O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

**Text: Isaac Watts, Music: William Croft (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, our Hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home.
- 2 Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.
- 3 A Thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

**On Eagle's Wings**

**Michael Joncas (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Based upon Isaiah 40:31

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life,  
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my Rock in who I trust!"

Refrain:

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.

- 2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;  
Under His wings you refuge, His faithfulness your shield.  
(Refrain)
- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;  
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.  
(Refrain)
- 4 For to His angels He's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;  
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.  
(Refrain)

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**Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Text: Thomas Ken, Music: Louis Bougeois (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
- 2 From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land be everyone.
- 3 Eternal are thy mercies, Lord, and truth eternal is thy word;  
Thy name shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

**Seek Ye First**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness,  
And all the things shall be added unto you,  
Singing Allelu, Alleluia.
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find;  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,  
Singing Allelu, Alleluia.

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**This is My Father's World**

**Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, Music: Franklin L. Sheppard (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

- 1 This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;  
His hand the wonders wrought.
- 2 This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;  
He speaks to me everywhere.
- 3 This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!  
God reigns; let the earth be glad!
- 4 This is my Father's world, dreaming, I see His face.  
I open my eyes, and in glad surprise cry, "The Lord is in this place."  
This is my Father's world, from the shining courts above,  
The Beloved One, His Only Son,  
Came-a pledge of deathless love.
- 5 This is my Father's world, should my heart be ever sad?  
The lord is King-let the heavens ring. God reigns-let the earth be glad.  
This is my Father's world. Now closer to Heaven bound,  
For dear to God is the earth Christ trod.  
No place but is holy ground.
- 6 This is my Father's world. I walk a desert lone.  
In a bush ablaze to my wondering gaze God makes His glory known.  
This is my Father's world, a wanderer I may roam  
Whate'er my lot, it matters not,  
My heart is still at home.



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**This is the Day**

**Author Unknown (Eagles Soaring High – Philmont)**

Based on Psalm 118:24

This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made.  
Let us rejoice, let us rejoice  
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord had made;  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord hath made

**Judaism**

**Achat Sha'alti**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Achat shaalti me'et hashem Otah Avakesh Shivti b'veit hashem kol yeme chayai Lachazot B'noam Hashem ul'vaker b'heichalo	One thing have I asked from God I will continue to request To sit in the House of God All the days of my life To see the pleasantness of God And to visit in His Temple

**Ani Maamin**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Ani maamin beemuna shlemah B'viat hamashiach V'af al pi sheyitmameha Im kol zeh achake lo B'chol yom sheyavo	I believe with a complete belief In the coming of the Messiah And even though he may tarry I will wait for him, whenever he comes

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**Baruch Hagever**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Baruch hagever asher yivtach Bashem V'haya Hashem mitvacho	Blessed is the person who trusts God And God will always fulfill his trust

**Dror Yikra**

**Sabbath Liturgy (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Dror yikra l'ven im bat V'yintsochem kmo vavat Ne'im shimchem v'lo yushbat Sh'vu venuchu b'yom Shabbat	A day of freedom he shall proclaim For the son and the daughter He shall protect them as his beloved Your names are beautiful, they shall always endure Sit and rest on the Sabbath day

**Ein Kelokenu**

**Author Unknown, Music: R' Shlomo Carlebach**

Words	Meaning
Ein kelokenu, ein kadonenu Ein k'malkenu, ein k'moshienu Mi kelokenu, mi kadonenu Mi k'malkenu, mi k'moshienu Nodeh lelokenu, nodeh ladonenu Nodeh l'malkenu, nodeh l'moshienu Baruch elokenu, baruch adonenu Baruch malkenu, baruch moshienu Ata hu elokenu, ata hu adonenu Ata hu malkenu, ata hu moshienu	There is none like our Lord ... our Master ... Our King ... Our Savior  Who is like Our Lord ...  Give thanks to Our Lord ...  Blessed is Our Lord ...  You are Our Lord ...

**Ets Chayim**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Ets chayim hee lamackazikim bah V'tomcheha m'ushar D'racheha darchei noam V'chol netivoteha shalom	She (The Torah) is a tree of life To those that hold her fast And those that support her Are happy  Her ways are of pleasantness And all her paths are peaceful

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**Hava Nagila**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Hava nagila Ve'nismekha U'ru akhim b'lev same'akh	Let us celebrate and rejoice See our brothers with a glad heart!

**Hine Anochi**

**Author Unknown (greatjewishmusic.com)**

Words	Meaning
Hine anochi sholeyach lachem Et Eliyahu Hanavi Lifnei bo yom Hashem Hagadol V'hanora Vheishiv lev avot al banim V'lev banim al avotam	Behold I will send you Elijah the Prophet Before the great and awesome day of God And he shall turn the hearts of the fathers to their sons And the sons hearts to their fathers

## **Complete Services**

### **General**

#### **Scouts Own Service**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

To be Conducted by Scouts)

#### **OPENING OR CALL TO WORSHIP:**

#### **OPENING PRAYER OR PSALM**

Suggestions:

- Psalm 100:1-3
- Psalm 19:1

#### **SONG OR HYMN:**

Sing an "Uplifting" song –Suggestions:

- God Bless America
- America
- My Country, Tis of Thee

#### **RESPONSIVE READING:**

A Scout should begin reading one or Litany of the responsorial readings followed in kind by the congregation – Suggestions:

- The Scout Law
- Psalm 23
- Psalm 100

#### **SONG OR HYMN**

Sing a "Moderate" Song or Hymn – Suggestions:

- How Great Thou Art
- Johnny Appleseed
- Praise to the Lord, The Almighty
- For the Beauty of the Earth.
- Church in the Wildwood

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**PRAYER**

The Lord's Prayer

**CLOSING SONG OR HYMN**

A silent or "soft" song here – Suggestions:

- Kum Ba Yah
- Day Is Done

**BENEDICTION OR SCOUTMASTER'S MINUTE**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

**DISMISSAL**

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**Interfaith Worship Service**

**Scoutmastership Fundamentals Outdoor Training (netwoods.com)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Lord is in his holy temple;  
Let all the earth keep silence before him.

**OPENING HYMN**

**God Bless America (Please Stand)**

God bless America,  
Land that I love.  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above.  
From the mountains,  
To the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America,  
My home sweet home!  
God bless America,  
My home sweet home!

**INVOCATION**

**Camper's Prayer (Be Seated)**

**George Earle Owen**

God of the mountains and hills, make me tall and strong; Tall enough and strong enough to right some wrong.

God of the stars, make me steadfast and sure;

God of every lake and stream, flow through my life & make it clean;

Let me do nothing base or mean.

God of the trees and woods, keep me fresh and pure;

God of the rain, wash from my life all dirt and stain;

Pure and strong let me remain.

God of the seed and soil, plant in my heart thy love;

God of the darkness and day, through shadows or light, be my stay. Guide thou my way.

God of the radiant sun, light thou my life;

God of the glorious dawn, make each day a fresh start.

God of the evening peace and quiet, keep me free from fear & strife.

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God of the gay, free birds, sing in my heart.

God of the surging waves and sea, wide horizons give to me;

Help me to see the world as thou would have it be;

God of the lovely rose, make me lovely, too;

God of the morning dew, each day my faith renew.

God of all growing things, keep me growing, too.

**HYMN**

**This Is My Father's World (Please Stand)**

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
All nature sings, and round me rings,  
The music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
His hands the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white  
Declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world, He shines in all that's fair;  
In the rustling grass, I hear Him pass,  
He speaks to me everywhere

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**RESPONSIVE READING**

**Psalm 8 (Be Seated)**

In unison:

O Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent is thy name in all of the earth!

Leader:

Who hast set thy glory upon the heavens.  
Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast thou established strength.  
Because of thine adversaries,  
That thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

Response:

When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,  
The moon and the stars which thou hast ordained;  
What is man, that thou are mindful of him?  
And the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Leader:

For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels,  
And crownest him with glory and honor.  
Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands.  
Thou hast put all things under his feet.

Response:

All sheep and oxen,  
Yea, and the beast of the field;  
The fowl of the air and the fish of the sea,  
Whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas,  
Oh Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent is thy name in all the earth.

**SILENT MEDITATION**

**HYMN**

**For the Beauty of the Earth (Please Stand)**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies,  
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon & stars of light,  
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.



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**MESSAGE**

**“We Learned It All in Kindergarten” (Be Seated)**

**Robert Fulgham**

Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox. These are the things I learned:

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some, and draw and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap in the afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together.

Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up, and nobody really knows why, but we are all like that. Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup - they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you ever learned, the biggest word of all:

LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The golden rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living. Think of what a better life it would be if we all had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations always to put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

**OFFERING**

World Brotherhood Of Scouting

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**BENEDICTION**

**Old Irish Blessing**

May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rain fall soft upon your fields,  
And, until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

**DISMISSAL**

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**Non-Denominational Service**

**Excerpted from Cub Trainers' Wood Badge NE-CS-12, 8/20 - 8/26, 1983 (netwoods.com)**

Worship Service For Worship In The Outdoors

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Psalm 100: 1 - 3**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands.  
Serve the Lord with gladness. Come into His presence with singing.  
Know that the Lord is God. It is He that made us, and we are His;  
We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

**OPENING HYMN**

**Morning Has Broken**

Morning has broken like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, Praise for the morning,  
Praise for them, springing, fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass,  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
Born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.

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**RESPONSIVE READING**

**Canticle of the Sun**

All:

O most high, almighty, good Lord God,  
to you belongs praise, glory, honor and all blessing.

Leader:

Praised be my Lord God with all his creatures,  
and especially, our brother, the sun,  
who brings us the day and who brings us the night;  
fair is he, and shines with a very great splendor;  
O Lord, he signifies You to us.

Response:

Praise be my Lord for our sister the moon, and for the stars,  
which He has set clear and lovely in the heaven.

Leader:

Praised be my Lord for our brother the wind,  
and for the air and clouds, calms, and all weather  
by which you uphold life in all creatures.

Response:

Praised be my Lord for our sister, water,  
who is very serviceable to us, and humble and precious...  
and very clean.

Leader:

Praised be my Lord for our brother, fire,  
through whom you give us light in the darkness;  
he is bright and pleasant and very mighty and strong.

Response:

Praised be my Lord for our mother, the earth,  
which sustains us and keeps us, and brings forth  
grass and diverse fruits and flowers of many colors.

All:

Praise and bless the Lord, and give thanks to Him  
and serve Him with great humility.

**SILENT PRAYER**

**PRAYER**

God, sometimes I hold something small in my hand... a piece of moss or a budding twig,  
and - peering closely at this tiny world - I feel a sudden wonder.

Help me to remember that you made these worlds, and countless others,  
and...in remembering...come closer to you.

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O God, we thank Thee today for the world in which you have placed us;  
for the universe whose vastness is revealed in the blue depths of the sky;  
whose immensities are lit by shining stars beyond the strength of mind to follow.

We thank you for the beauty of our earth, for the sweetness of the flowers,  
the solemnity of the stars, the sound of streams and swelling seas,  
for stretching lands and mighty mountains which rest and satisfy the soul,  
the purity of dawn which calls us to holy dedication,  
and the peace of the evening which speaks of everlasting rest.

Above all, we thank you for the dignity you have bestowed upon every human being  
as the crown of your Creation.

Give us the grace to let the light of your glory shine through us,  
in our action, words and thoughts. Amen.

**OFFERING**

For the World Friendship Fund

**CLOSING HYMN**

**This is My Father's World**

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,  
All nature sings, and 'round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world. I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. The birds their carols raise.  
The morning light, the lily white, declare the Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world. He shines in all that's fair;  
In the trusting grass I hear him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

**BENEDICTION**

**sung to the tune: Edelweiss**

May the Lord, Mighty Lord, bless and keep you forever;  
Grant us peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.  
Lift up your eyes and see His face, and His grace forever.  
May the Lord, Mighty Lord, Bless and keep you forever.

**DISMISSAL**

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**Interfaith Service**

**Author Unknown (netwoods.com)**

**INVOCATION**

Be merciful to me, O God, Be merciful, for I have taken refuge in You.  
In the shadow of Your wings, will I take refuge until this time of trouble has gone by.  
I will call upon the most high God, The God who maintains my cause.  
He will send from heaven and save me;  
He will confound those who trample upon me;  
God will send forth His love and his faithfulness. Amen.

**HYMN**

**America the Beautiful**

Oh beautiful for spacious skies,  
For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties,  
Above the fruited plain.

(Chorus)

America, America. God shed His Grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood,  
From sea to shining sea.

Oh beautiful for patriot dream,  
That sees beyond the years,  
Thine alabaster cities gleam,  
Undimmed by human tears.  
(Repeat Chorus)

**MEDITATION**

Sanctify our campsite with your presence and joy. By the spirit of affection and service unite our Scouting families, that they may show your praise in our land and in all the world.

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**RESPONSIVE READING**

**Psalm 46**

Leader God is our refuge and strength,

**All A very present help in trouble.**

Leader Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

**All And though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea.**

Leader Though it's waters rage and foam,

**All The Lord of hosts is with us.**

Leader The God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**HYMN**

Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Kum Ba Yah my Lord, Kum Ba Yah  
Oh, Lord Kum Ba Yah

Someone's crying Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

Someone's singing Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

Someone's praying Lord, Kum Ba Yah

...

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

For World Friendship Fund

**HYMN**

Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is deep and wide, Hallelujah  
River Jordan is chilly and cold, Hallelujah  
Chills the body but not the soul, Hallelujah

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**SCOUTMASTER MINUTE**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Great Spirit Prayer**

Oh Great Spirit whose voice in the wind I hear, And whose breath gives life to all in the world, Hear me. Before you I come, one of your many children. Small and weak am I, Your strength and wisdom I need. Make me walk in beauty. Make my heart respect all You have made. My ears to hear Your voice. Make me wise that I may know all You have taught my people, The lessons You have hidden in every rock. I seek strength, not to be superior to my brother. Make me able to fight my greatest enemy, myself. Make me ready to stand before You with clean and straight eyes. When life fades, as the fading sunset, may our spirits stand before You without shame.

**DISMISSAL**



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*Native American*

**Gathering in the Sacred Circle**

**Presented at Order of the Arrow – May 16, 2004**

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

Small fire in shell with cedar, tobacco, sage, sweet grass and feather (for **each** smudging team),  
worship handout sheets and colored flags

**SETUP**

Place the flags on the edge of the circle for each direction to represent the Four Winds; East –  
red, South – yellow, West – black (or blue), north – white

Group gathers in a circle. Smudging begins on East side and proceeds sunwise (clockwise)

**SONG**

**Amazing Grace**

WOE'-WASH-TAY WEE'-NEE-HAN A Native Christian favorite (Phonetically)

English

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now am found was blind but now I see.

Lakota

Oh neu nee yahn tay hanl wah oon mah see cha tkah wah nee  
Woe eash tay keen ee yea wah yah wee coh nee was blah kau

Oneida

Ne ne yo da dun ha he le o ha eh ye ya go  
O na ya go nu da la u ji nu we ne ni yo

Cherokee

Oo nay hla hah hee oo way gee ee ga goo yah hey ee  
Nay gwoo jo sah wee oo low say ee gah goo yah ho nuh

**OPENING CEREMONY**

**Prayer to the Four Winds**

Many Native Christians regard the powers of the Four Winds as angelic powers.

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LEADER (YOUTH)

Great Spirit, Grandfather

ALL (While facing center)

Our spirits are one with you. You give us life and strengthen us every day to walk the road you lay before us. Through your power alone we have survived the road of today, the path of evil-filled with destruction, violence and troubles. You who have wisdom which we seek, help us in cleansing ourselves so our generations to come may walk the sacred path again.

LEADER

Spirit of the East

ALL (While facing East)

We turn to you when the sun comes up, from where the power of light and refreshment come. Everything that is born comes up in this direction - the birth of babies, the birth of ideas, and the birth of friendship. Let there be light. Oh Spirit of the East, let the color of the morning sun rising in our life be glory to you

LEADER

Spirit of the South

ALL (While facing South)

Spirit of all that is warm, gentle and refreshing, we ask you to give us this spirit of growth, of fertility, of gentleness. Caress us with a cool breeze when the days are hot. Give us seeds that the flowers, trees, and fruits of the earth may grow. Give us the warmth of good friendships. Oh spirit of the South, send the warmth and the growth of your blessings.

LEADER

Spirit of the West

ALL (While facing West)

Where the sun goes down each day top come up the next, where the thunders and the rain come from, we turn to you in praise and thanksgiving. Guide our steps at the end of the day. Help us teach our children the lessons of the day with the same patience with which you teach us. Fill us with your peace as you wrap us in the Great Mystery of the night.

LEADER

Spirit of the North

ALL (While facing North)

We come to you and ask for the strength and the power to bear what is cold and harsh in life. We come like the buffalo ready to receive the winds that truly can be overwhelming at times. Whatever is cold and uncertain in our life, we ask you to give us the strength and courage.

LEADER

Oh Mother Earth

ALL (While facing Center)

From you all things come and to you all things return. We are your children and today we pray to you in joy. Help us. To our lives give beauty. To our spirits give goodness and truth. To our homes give peace. To our elders give wisdom. AHO!

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**PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE**

LEADER

Great Spirit, we have gathered here this morning to give you thanks. Thank you for the springtime, the time of renewal of your creation. Thank you for bringing back the singing birds, the green grass, the budding trees. Thank you for the thawing waters. Thank you for the warming sun, and the nourishing rains. Great Spirit, we are weak and in need of your help.

(At this time anyone can offer a prayer for anyone in need)

LEADER

Great Spirit, hear our prayers for renewal and strength amongst our people. In all creatures, all plants, and everything around us, let us see the power of your renewal. Help us to appreciate and preserve all that you have created so that the generation to come might be able to gather in this way and appreciate your works.

**FAREWELL WISH**

LEADER

May the Great Spirit make sunshine in your heart!

ALL

As you leave, please greet each other "Good Morning"

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**Troop 23**

**#1 – Treasure**

**Sean Wheeler, Geoff Cowell (Presented 03/21/2004)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Amen

**RESPONSIVE READING**

**On My Honor by Dr. Carroll Osburn, 1997**

**ALL        ON MY HONOR**

Leader        Almighty God, keep us always mindful that our honor is a possession to be cherished as dearly as life itself. Endow us with firmness of purpose and uncommon integrity that will enable us to fulfill those responsibilities with which we are charged. Make us ever conscious of the trust others have placed in us as Scouts.

**ALL        TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD**

Leader        Creator of the universe, how often we forget the true source of life's joys and pleasures. How often, too, have we failed to remember the origin of the inward strength which has enabled us to be aware of Your continual presence in our daily lives. Help us to understand the ore meaningful rewards of service in Your name.

**ALL        AND MY COUNTRY**

Leader        We thank Thee, Almighty god, for the privilege of living in a country such as the United States of America. Keep foremost in our minds that the freedoms which we enjoy were bought through the unselfish sacrifices of those who have gone before us. As the strength of a country is in her people, let us never avoid our responsibility to maintain this nation as a beacon of hope and freedom to all mankind.

**ALL        AND TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW**

Leader        Heavenly Father, accept the heartfelt thanks of us Scouts and Scouters for such men of vision and leadership as Robert Baden-Powell, William Boyce, James West, and Waite Phillips. Keep always before us the ideals which they set forth, and grant us the courage to live by tem when others may not. Allow us never to forget that our actions may be the examples others choose to follow.

**ALL        TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES**

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Leader Grant us forgiveness, Patient Lord, when we place the insignificant want in our lives above the necessities in others' lives. Teach us to recognize and understand the problems facing others and prepare us for each day's task of helping others.

**ALL TO KEEP MYSELF PHYSICALLY STRONG, MENTALLY AWARE, AND MORALLY STRAIGHT**

Leader God of our ancestors, let us never forget that our bodies and minds are but temporary gifts from Thee. Help us to preserve, strengthen, and use them for the betterment of our world. May our thoughts and actions be directed toward more meaningful service in Your name.

**ALL AMEN**

**CHAPLAIN MINUTE**

**A Pirate's Treasure to be had!**

**CLOSING SONG**

**Battle Hymn of the Republic**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;  
His truth is marching on.

Chorus:

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps  
They have built Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;  
His day is marching on.

(Chorus)

We can almost hear the trumpet sound, the Lord's return is near;  
There are still so many people lost, His message they must hear;  
Father give us one more moment, one more day, just one more year -  
With God we're marching on.

(Chorus)

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**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Solemn Prayer**

O Lord, this solemn prayer comes from deep desire,  
May my life be as pure as candle fire.  
Let my every breath dispel the world's gloom,  
Let my spirit glow so brightly that darkness meets its doom.  
May my life enhance my country's glory  
As the flower enhances the garden's splendid revelry.  
May I be as faithfully drawn to learning  
As the moth is drawn to the candle's burning.  
May my life be devoted to serving the needy  
And to loving a sorrowful, ever suffering humanity.  
Lead me away from the path of temptation.  
O Lord, let truth alone be my destination.

**SCOUT BENEDECTION**

May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until we meet again.  
May we run the race at the Scout pace up the trail that leads to Him.

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**#2 – Trustworthy**

**By Sean Wheeler, Geoff Cowell (Presented 04/25/2004)**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

--American Indian Prayer

O Great Spirit! Watch over us as we begin this day. Protect us as we live in your care. Give us bounty and hold us from harm. We are your children and wish only to please you. We hold our Mother Earth close to our hearts and wish her goodness. We thank You for your love.

**RESPONSIVE READING**

Leader: Incline your ear, O Lord; answer me, for I am afflicted and poor. Keep my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you.

**All: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**

Leader: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for to you I call all the day. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**All: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth**

Leader: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in kindness to all who call upon you. Hearken, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my pleading.

**All: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**

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**SONG**

**You Are My All in All (Dennis L. Jernigan)**

Verse All:

You are my strength when I am weak  
You are the treasure that I seek;  
You are my all in all.

Seeking You as a precious jewel,  
Lord, to give up, I'd be a fool;  
You are my all in all.

Chorus All:

Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name!  
Jesus, Lamb of God, Worthy is Your name.

Repeat verse and chorus

**MESSAGE**

**TRUSTWORTHY**

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

**Psalm 121**

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?

**All: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**

Leader: He will not let your foot slip – he who watches over you will not slumber.

**All: Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

Leader: the Lord watches over you – the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**All: the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.**

Leader: the Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life.

**All: the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.**

**SCOUT BENEDECTION**

May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until we meet again.  
May we run the race at the Scout pace up the trail that leads to Him.



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**#4 – Helpful**

**Sean Wheeler, Andrew Hoefert, Geoff Cowell**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Deuteronomy 15:11**

There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land.

**RESPONSIVE READING**

**Matthew 25:35, 36**

Leader: for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Leader: I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Leader: I was a stranger and you invited me in.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Leader: I needed clothes and you clothed me.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Leader: I was sick and you looked after me.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Leader: I was in prison and you came to visit me.

**All: Lord help us to serve others**

Boy Scouts of America  
Troop 23, Mt. Prospect, IL  
Interdenominational Worship Guide

**MESSAGE**

**Being Helpful**

**SONG**

**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

**Music: Ludwig von Beethoven, Text: Henry van Dyke**

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

**SCRIPTURE THOUGHT**

**Acts 20:35**

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

**SCOUT BENEDICTION**

May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until we meet again.

May we run the race at the Scout pace up the trail that leads to Him.