

ORDER for BAPTIST MINISTRY

Midday Prayers

Fraturdays, Lent and Passiontide

Celebrating the presence of God

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

*In the midst of the day,
we pause to reflect upon
God's goodness and mercy,
and to commit the day afresh
to his guidance and upholding.*

As we watch and wait
on the way to the cross,
we see you, Lord Christ,
bear its weight and stumble.
As we stand and weep,
our hearts at a loss
as all desert you
and the crowd grumble;
***we give you thanks
for all that you've carried
that we might be free:
our sins, our shame,
our death, our chains;
that we might live
to the glory of your name.***

*A pause to acknowledge
any specific thanks and praise*

Acknowledging our humanity

Forgive our reluctance to
carry the cross,
and bear its reproach;
to seek the spectacular
instead of the ordinary;
to journey among crowds
on the way that is broad,
instead of the narrow
and upward path.

***Grant us more courage and
give us fresh grace
to take up our cross
and follow your way.
We ask this in the name
of the crucified one. Amen***

Listening for the Word

A freely chosen reading or

²⁰Where is the one who is wise?
Where is the scribe? Where is the
debater of this age? Has not God
made foolish the wisdom of the
world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of
God, the world did not know God
through wisdom, God decided,
through the foolishness of our
proclamation, to save those who
believe. ²²For Jews demand signs
and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we
proclaim Christ crucified, a
stumbling block to Jews and
foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to
those who are called, both Jews
and Greeks, Christ the power of God

and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's
foolishness is wiser than human
wisdom, and God's weakness is
stronger than human strength.
1 Corinthians 1:20–25

Bringing our concerns

We pray for those who bear heavy
burdens of guilt, shame or fear ...

those whose burdens are the care of
others in their frailty.....

those whose burden is their own
illness in mind or body....

those who carry demanding
responsibilities in work or
community.....

those who carry the cross for others
as Simon of Cyrene did for you....

We pray for all that the hours to
come will hold, our plans and the
Spirit's interruptions ...

We pray for our world,
church,
members of this Order
and circle of friends and family ...

Continuing to love and serve

***We shoulder afresh the cross
and bear it gladly,
yoked to Jesus Christ,
strengthened by the Spirit,
to the glory of the Father.
And should we stumble,
gently lift our eyes to yours,
set us on our feet once again,
and direct our steps in the ways of
Christ,
Amen.***

(+ In the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit)

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