

A PRAYER CELEBRATION

God calls us to journey. God's call is an invitation which is a call of love. God promises that we are not journeying alone. As we journey, we are to place our trust in God, in ourselves and in others with whom we journey.

Opening Prayer

Our creator God
As we journey, help us to experience the strength of your love
And receive the wisdom of your word,

Increase our longing for Christ our saviour
and give us the strength to grow in love,

That the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading

EXODUS 2: 23-25; 20: 1-2

“During this long period the king of Egypt died. The sons of Israel, groaning in their slavery, cried out for help and from the depths of their slavery their cry came up to God. God heard their groaning and he called to mind his covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God looked down upon the sons of Israel and he knew....

Then God spoke all these words. He said ‘I am Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery’.”

Psalm 136: 4-6, 7-9, 25-26, Litany of Thanksgiving

Pray aloud together

Response

Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

He alone performs great marvels

His love is everlasting!

His wisdom made the heavens

His love is everlasting!

He set the earth on the waters

His love is everlasting!

Response

He made the great lights

His love is everlasting!

The sun to govern the day

His love is everlasting!

Moon and stars to govern the night,

His love is everlasting!

Response

He provides for all living creatures,

His love is everlasting!

Give thanks to the God in Heaven

His love is everlasting!

Response

Gospel John 21: 18

'I tell you most solemnly,
When you were young
You put on your belt
And walked where you liked.
But when you grow old
You will stretch out your hands,
And somebody else will put a belt round you
And take you where you would rather not go.'

Prayers of the Faithful

Response:

Lord guide us and our families as we journey through life.

1. Lord, we ask you to journey with us in life.
Response

2. Lord, you ask us to travel and find you.
Response

3. Lord, you ask us to travel and find ourselves in you.
Response

4. Lord , you ask us to walk with others in community.
Response

Reflection

May we as family believe in a compassionate and loving God who walks with us.

May we as family live and celebrate, knowing we are people of faith bringing about the kingdom of God who walks with us.

May we as family ensure that the word of God is nurtured and lived out through the love and support of our family.

May we as family sense the movement of the Holy Spirit directing, challenging and affirming our life, encouraging us to live in wholeness by dwelling in God's presence.

May we as family search for and create a place where safety and security of home is found and made sacred.

May we as family invite and reach out to others, acknowledging that they hold the presence of God within.

May we as family nourish each other with love and respect, developing in each other a sense of self worth and dignity.

May we as family grieve and grow through times of pain and suffering, knowing that the love of God is always there.

Concluding Prayer

Lord,

Grant peace and blessings to your people.

May we as family nourish each other with love and respect and help us to live life to the full with our sisters and brothers of God's family.