

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in May, 2023

Introduction

Leader At his Ascension into heaven, Jesus sends us out to all nations to bring others to his Way of Life. Are we ready and willing to be his ambassadors wherever we live?

Opening Prayer

All Jesus, you promised to be with us “until the end of the age.” Strengthen our resolve to trust in you as we live lives that show our joy and commitment to your Way. We ask this through Jesus in the power of his Spirit. Amen.

Word of God Matthew 28:16-20

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Matthew *(After the reading pause for silent reflection)*

Optional Discuss these questions in two’s or three’s. *The reading is on the reverse side*

- 1 What are some ways you deal with doubts about your faith that bring you closer to God?
2. How does Jesus’ promise—“I will be with you always”—strengthen you?

Response (Taken from Matthew 28:16-20)

Side 1 “When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.”

Side 2 Take our doubt and transform it to deeper faith.

Side 1 “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

Side 2 Lord, use your power through my efforts to spread your goodness everywhere.

Side 1 “Behold I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Side 2 This is Jesus’ promise that we can rest in throughout our lives.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

All Loving God, Jesus has asked us to spread your plan for us throughout the world. We thank you for his presence with us always so that we can deepen our resolve to do as he has commanded. We pray with confidence through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.
When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.

Then Jesus approached and said to them,
“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”