

“O Church, Arise”

O church, arise and put your armor on; Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong, In the strength that God has
given.

With shield of faith and belt of truth, We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!" Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul, But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole, We will fight with faith
and valor.

When faced with trials on ev'ry side, We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet, As the Son of God is
stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away, And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day, Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride, Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize, Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way, Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day, When, with Christ, we stand in
glory.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

*Your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

PRAYER SERVICE

Praying for Spiritual Power

Call to Prayer Scripture Reading Ephesians 3:14-19

“In the Presence”

In the presence of Your infinite might, I'm so small and frail and weak
When I see Your power and wisdom, Lord, I have no words left to speak
And I cry holy, holy, holy God, how awesome is Your name!
Holy, holy, holy God, how majestic is Your reign!
And I am changed in the presence of a holy God.

In the presence of a holy God, there's new meaning now to grace
You took all my sins upon Yourself, I can only stand amazed
And I cry holy, holy, holy God, how awesome is Your name!
Holy, holy, holy God, how majestic is Your reign!
And I am changed in the presence of a holy God.

In the power of Your glory, all my crowns lie in the dust
You are righteous in Your judgments, Lord, You are faithful true and just
And I cry holy, holy, holy God, how awesome is Your name!
Holy, holy, holy God, how majestic is Your reign!
And I cry holy, holy, holy God, how awesome is Your name!
Holy, holy, holy God, how majestic is Your reign!
And I am changed in the presence of a holy God.

Pray for God's People to Be Empowered for Change (3:14-17a)

*“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every
family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches
of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through
his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts
through faith”*

- Thank God for the riches of his glory by which we receive every spiritual blessing (cf. Eph 1:3).
- Confess that we too often take for granted his salvation.
- Pray for God's people to be strengthened with God's power though his Spirit.
- Pray that God's strengthening power will transform our inner being.
- Pray that God's strengthening power will transform our inner being to such a degree that the risen Christ may genuinely take up residence within us, and transform us into a house that *in every way* reflects his own character.

Pray for God's People to Comprehend Christ's Love (3:17b-19)

"[I pray] that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

- Pray that we would desire to know more of the breadth and length and height and depth of Christ's love.
- Pray for us to receive power to be strengthened to better understand the limitless love of Christ.
- Pray that knowing better and appreciating more the love of Christ will allow us to be "filled with all the fullness of God" (i.e. spiritual maturity).

"The Look"

I saw one hanging on a tree in agony and blood,
 Who fixed his loving eyes on me, as near his cross I stood.
 And never till my dying breath will I forget that look.
 It seemed to charge me with His death, though not a word He spoke.

My conscience felt and owned the guilt, and plunged me in despair.
 I saw my sins his blood had spilt, and helped to nail him there.
 But with a second look he said, "I freely all forgive.
 This blood is for your ransom paid. I died that you might live."

"The Look" (continued)

Forever etched upon my mind, is the look of him who died,
 The Lamb I crucified.
 And now, my life will sing the praise of pure atoning grace,
 That looked on me and gladly took my place.

Thus while his death my sin displays for all the world to view,
 Such is the mystery of grace; it seals my pardon, too.
 With pleasing grief and mournful joy, my spirit is now filled,
 That I should such a life destroy, yet live by him I killed.

Forever etched upon my mind, is the look of him who died,
 The Lamb I crucified.
 And now, my life will sing the praise of pure atoning grace,
 That looked on me and gladly took my place.

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Pray for God's People to Glorify Their Heavenly Father (3:20-21)

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

- Praise God for his power and generosity to display it in our lives.
- Pray with the *immediate* goal of us receiving what we ask for, and the *ultimate* goal of God being glorified.
- Pray that we pray in such a way that God is glorified in the asking and the answering (i.e. that we pray with the right motives).
- Pray that we would pray in such a way that there would be glory to God: 1) in the church as we more and more obey God and makes him the center of our existence, and 2) in Christ, as he is lifted up in the church, in thought, word, and deed.