

## BRIDEGROOM MATINS

Bridegroom Matins is a service specific to the first four evenings of Holy Week and commemorates the last days in the earthly life of the Lord. Incorporated into these services is the theme of the first three days of Holy Week especially including the last teachings of Christ to his disciples.

**Christ the Bridegroom** is the central figure in the parable of the ten Virgins (Matthew 25: 1-13); Christ is the divine Bridegroom of the Church as described in the Book of Isaiah (chapter 54), as well as the primary image of Bridegroom Matins. The title is suggestive of his divine presence and watchfulness ("Behold the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night...") during Holy Week and his selfless love for his Bride, the Church. The Christ of the Passion is the divine Bridegroom of the Church. The imagery connotes the final union of the Lover and the beloved. The title Bridegroom also suggests the Parousia. In the patristic tradition, the aforementioned parable is related to the Second Coming; and is associated with the need for spiritual vigilance and preparedness, by which we are enabled to keep the divine commandments and receive the blessings of the age to come.

The mood of the services is to experience sorrow and to feel Christ's voluntary submission to identify with His passions and reminds the responsibility of the Christians to become partakers in His redeeming work. The main emphasis of the Bridegroom Service is *metanoia* and each service has its own particular theme on repentance and watchfulness.

## Palm Sunday Evening



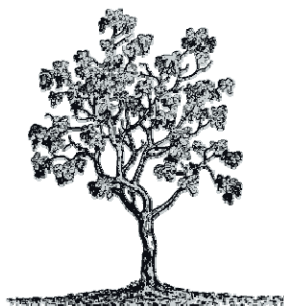
During Palm Sunday Evening service, emphasis is on the picture of Christ as the coming of the Son of God to propose to the Gentile Bride - the Church.

Christ is depicted in his triumphal entry as the Son of Man coming to propose and buy back mankind with his blood - the bride price. The Thursday evening brings in the climax where the cup of salvation is left on the table at the Passover meal - the last supper - on for anyone who would willingly be part of his Bride. This was the traditional mode of proposal in the Jewish tradition.

## Holy Monday evening



On Holy Monday, **Joseph, the son of Jacob the Patriarch**, is commemorated and is portrayed as a prototype of Christ. Joseph was betrayed by his brothers, thrown into a pit and sold into slavery by them. In the same way, the Lord was rejected, betrayed by his own, and sold into the slavery of death and like Joseph forgave and spared his brothers during the famine when they came to him, so too, Jesus Christ offers himself as a sacrifice and forgives all those who come to him in faith.



The Gospel reading for the day is of the Barren Fig Tree, which Christ cursed and withered because it bore no fruit. The fig tree is representative of those who have heard God's word, but who fail to bear the fruits of faith. Originally the withering of the fig tree was a testimony against those Jews who rejected God's word and his Messiah. It is also a warning to all people, in all times, of the importance of not only hearing the God's word, but putting it into action.



Cursing of the fig tree  
Matthew 21:18-19; Mark 11:12-14



Cleansing the temple  
Mat. 21:12-17; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:45-48

**Holy Tuesday evening**



On Holy Tuesday, the Parable of the Ten Virgins is read. It tells the story of the

five virgins who filled their lamps in preparation for receiving the bridegroom while the other five allowed their lamps to go out and hence were shut out of the marriage feast. This parable is a warning that Christians must always be prepared to receive the Lord when he comes again.

### **Holy Wednesday evening**

Wednesday before Easter is sometimes known as "Spy Wednesday", as a reference to the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot, indicating that it is the day that Judas Iscariot first conspired with the Sanhedrin to betray Jesus for thirty silver coins.



## **CHRIST THE PASSOVER SYMBOLISM**



Exodus 12

The symbolism of the Sacrifice of Jesus to that of the Sacrifice of the Passover lamb so that all those who took refuge under the blood of the lamb was passed over by the angel of death is clear. The entry of Jesus was at the same time prescribed for the lambs to be brought into the city and was through the same gate. Jesus probably followed the sacrificial lambs on the colt. The lamb was chosen on the 10th of Nissan. Just as the lamb was to be kept close to the family within their homes, Jesus was in the open with the people in Jerusalem, before he was taken for sacrifice. Then on the 14th day of Nissan the Lamb was slaughtered and its blood was put on the lintels.

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
FOR  
PALM SUNDAY EVENING

## ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY EVENING

L: Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**P: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

L: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of thy Glory. Hosanna in the highest.

**P: Blessed is he that has come and is to come in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### KAUMA

*(All kaumas are to be repeated after the priest with prostration)*

O Lord Jesus Christ,-- who by His own trial and condemnation -- wiped out the condemnation against us,-- on the day of our judgement -- remember not our sins against us.

Or

O Messiah, who saved us from our inequities through Your suffering, accept our worship and have mercy on us

*(After three prostrations)*

*(Repeat after the Leader)*

**All. Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ. Glory be to your Father--and worship to the Holy Spirit. May your blessings and mercies --be with us sinners. May the doors of the heavenly Jerusalem be opened--and our prayers heard before your throne of grace. Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ, --praise be to you, our eternal refuge. May your blessings be on us.**

OR

**Kar-tha---sthu-thi-ni-na-ku---tha-tha---nu-ba-hu-ma-nam**

**(Lord, all praises to you and to the Father all honor)**

**Vi-shu-dha---ru-hay-ku---pu-kazh-cha---va-nda-nam**

**(To the Holy Spirit all adoration and glory)**

**Pa-pi-ka-la-kun-na---nin-nu-de-adi-ya-ril**

**(We your servants who are sinners)**

**Anu-gra---ham-kru-pa-yum---cho-ri-ngee---da-na-me-nee**

**(beg for your mercy and grant us blessing and your grace)**

**Mee-lul---la-ye-ru-sa-lem---va-thil-thu-ran-ni-ttu**

**(Open the doors of the Heavenly Jersualem)**

**Msi-ha---sim-ha-sa-ne---prar-tha-na-etha-na-mee**

**(and hear our humble prayers before your throne of grace)**

**Sthu-thi-en---kar-tha-vee---sthu-thi-en-kar-tha-vee**

**(Glory to you of Lord, Glory to you)**

**Ni-thya---sa-ra-na-vu-me---sthu-thi-thee---ba-rek-mar**

**(Our eternal refuge, we glorify you, Bless us of Lord)**

### **Lords Prayer**

**L: Our Father in heaven..**

**P: Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

L. O Lord Our God, make us worthy to be delivered from our death through your death. Help us to suffer with you in your suffering for us. Help us to be like you in your humiliation for us. Help us to glorify in your cross and to be healed by your strips. Our Lord God, Help us to rejoice in your resurrection that change our sorrows to happiness.

**P. Amen**

## **Psalm of Confession**

### **Psalms 51**

**L:** Have mercy on me O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**P:** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**

**L:** For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.

**P:** **Against You, You only have I sinned, and done that which is evil in Your sight.**

**L:** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**P:** **Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.**

**L:** Create in me a clean heart O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

**P:** **Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

**L:** Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**P:** **O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Your praise.**

**L:** Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**P:** **As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.**

### **ENIYANA**

**L.** The one who of His own will came for suffering and saved the world through your cross. O Lord....

**P. Have Mercy on us.**

**L.** He who fulfilled mysteries, examples and parables in himself. O Lord...

**P. Have Mercy on us.**

**L.** The one who revealed early His suffering in Jerusalem to the disciples. O Lord...

**P. Have Mercy on us.**

**L.** The one who is Lord of all, by His own will chose to become human. O



Lord...

**P. Have Mercy on us.**

L. O Lord who became the sacrifice of justice and reconciled the world with the Father. O Lord...

**P. Have Mercy on us.**

## **Psalms**

L. I look to the heaven call upon you , answer unto me, O Lord

**P. O Lord, I am crying unto you. I proclaimed that you are my hope and inheritance in the land of the living.**

L. Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I have promised in Your name that I will obey your decrees.

**P. Lord, I have humbled myself. Make me come alive according to Your promises. Lord, please favor the words of my mouth and teach me your righteousness.**

L. All nations! Praise the Lord for His grace has strengthened us. He is truly our Lord forever.

**P. You are worthy of praise- Barekmor**

L. Glory be to the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit

**P. As it was in the beginning, so now, and for ever more. Amen.**

**PROMEON**

L. Let us pray to the Lord for His grace and Mercy

P. Merciful Lord have mercy and bless us.

L. Help us O Lord continually to offer to you our praise, honor, glory and majesty.

L. We give praise, honor and glory to the God who is omnipotent but incarnated as man of His Own will to redeem us from death and suffering. Through his suffering he tore up our condemnation and purchased a life without suffering for us and reconciled us with the heavenly hosts. You are worthy of praise adoration during this time of prayerful worship and all the days of our lives

**P. Amen.**

### **Sedera**

O Lord who is abound in love, and who died and suffered for your people, we your people proclaim with joy and gladness.

O Holy passion, come in peace, the one who redeemed us from our sinful thoughts.

O Holy passion, come in peace, the one who redeemed us and saved us. O

Holy passion, come in peace, the one who opened the treasures of spiritual wealth.

O Holy and saving passion, come in peace, who cleansed our filth and made us holy and guided us in the righteous path.

O Holy passion, who became the weapon for our salvation and treasure of holiness, come in peace .

O Holy and redeeming passion, who destroyed the plans of Satan, and paid the ransom for us, come in peace.

O Holy and redeeming passion, who is celebrated as King by all nations, come in peace.

O Holy and saving passion, who healed our pains and deceases, and rescued us

from the turmoil of sin to a safe shore of peace, come in peace.

O Holy and redeeming passion, who reconciled the whole creation with the father, come in peace.

O Holy and saving passion, who gave us equal place with the heavenly hosts, come in peace.

O Jesus Christ, who by His own will choose to suffer for us, we pray: Make us worthy to bear insult by partaking in your suffering and celebrate victory in your crucifixion and to be worthy to be with you in your wedding feast and to enter the bridal chamber.

We give Glory and honor to you and your Father and to the Holy Spirit.

P. Amen

### KUKAYA

Aaridathil pokendu njaan - Easow naatha

Paaril nee ozhinjenikkarum - thunayilleythumey

(Where shall I go Oh Lord Jesus, there is none other to whom we could go for help)

Cherunnadiyan - thiru kripaasanathil

Karunyatthaal - karalalinjeedanamay

( I,your servant come to your throne of grace. By your great mercy, be gracious unto me)

Paaram njaanuzhalunnayyo - paapakoopatthil

Bharatthaal njarangi vanneedenein - ninkaleikkeepaathakan

(I struggle within the well of sinfulness. I come to you carrying the load crying

out to you as a sinner.)

Halleluiah thunachaitheedanamei  
(Praise to you oh God, Help me)

### SUBHAHA

Naadha! neeyallatharu - llenikkanguyarey -  
Bhoovil njaanaagrahiccheeduvaan - veroruvanam illay  
(Lord, I have none other than you in this world to desire, none whosoever)

Athi sundaran nee - manusha vargatthil  
Pathinnayirathay kkalathi sreshtan neeyei  
(You are the most handsome among all of the humankind, greatest among  
thousands and thousands)

Mahatwantthil thaatha saman nee - ennathinaal njangalum  
Dhuthanmaaram sthuthi ennum ninney -

Halleluiah - sthuthi ennum ninakey  
Naatha anugrahicchengalay thunakkenamay.  
(Since you are like the Father in all glory, we along with all the hosts of angels  
praise you. Praise you O God. Praise is always due to you. Bless and help us O  
Lord.)

### Yethra

Prayer: Lord hear the humble prayers of your holy church. Jesus let it be  
pleasing to you the prayers of your sheep, who bow down before your suffering,

and wounds, and who is proud of our salvation through your cross. Jesus raise the horn of your church to glorify you, the Father and the Holy Spirit.

P. Amen

Njangal kai etta nin - kashta - tha vinayam  
Karthave vazhtha petta thaa - ka (Response)

## LESSONS

Isa:5,  
Heb 5:12-6: 20

## SUTHARA

O Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us, help us to be partakers with your suffering, humiliation, humility and to celebrate in the victory of the cross.

Make us worthy to be guests in your bridal chamber and servers in your wedding feast. All glory and Honor to you and your Father and to the Holy Spirit

AMEN

## Madrasa Chant Song

1. Than divya baliyaal - marmangalellaam

Thikacchavanaam naatha - sthuthi ninekkennum

Musay nibiyanmaar - kuricchoru marmam

Thirumeniyil - baliyaal - niravetty nee

(You, who by your divine sacrifice have fulfilled all the mysteries we praise you.

Those mysteries which were written by Moses and all the Prophets have been fulfilled by you by your sacrifice.)

2. Kazhutha mel erry - dharsippaan vanna  
Avakaasi thaane - nnarinjillethum;  
Oossaana cholly - sthuthy chooru janatthey  
Dhweshicchavar vilakkee - amartheedunnu

(We did not know that the one who came upon a colt to see was really the heir. They objected with hate and stopped those masses who praised you with Hosannah)

- 3 Oosaana paadi - sthuthikkum, baalarey  
Amartheeduvaan thannodu - yaajikkunnu.  
Adangeedil silakal attahazichheedumen  
Aruleedum thiru vaakkarulunnu.

(They asked you to stop those children who were praising you singing hosannah. You have answered that if they do not, these stones will cry out and praise you.)

4. Swajanatthey thedi - vannoru naatha  
Swajanatthaal thwajikka - pettallo nee  
Thaathantey thoppil - phalam vaangan vanna  
Suthaney yoodar thalli - skeeppaayiletty.

(O lord, who came seeking your own people, you have been discarded by your own people.

O son of the Father , who came to seek the fruits in your father's estate, you have been rejected by the jews and gave you to be killed on the cross.)

5. Thaathante geyham - thaskara grahamaa  
Kandathinaal thanayan - jwaliccheedunnu.

Vyaaparam cheythoru janatthey saasi-  
Chirakkiya sakthi - avaranjilla.

(When the Son saw that His Father's house has been converted into a house of thieves you became very angry.

The power that was shown in driving out the merchants was not understood by those people.)

6. Thaatha mudrayin - rasmi nin mukhatthil  
Vilasunnathu kaanmaan - kannavarkilla.  
Vedatthin marmam - theliyaathirippaan  
Bodhatthin kankal - irulaakki saataan.

(They did not have the eyes to see the light of the seal of the Father on your face. Satan had darkened the eyes of the minds of the people so that they may not see the mysteries of the Word of God.)

7. Swasthatha elkaan - otteirey njanangal  
Chuttum koodi tthankal - nilavilikkunnu.  
Rogam, paapam - ellaam chumappaan vanna  
Pinayaali ivarkku sukham nalkunnu,

(Many a crowd gathered together around you to receive rest and cried out to you for rest.

You who came to carry away all the sickness and sin of humankind gave them healing.)

8. Kannaal kandidate - kaanaatthavarum  
Cheviyaal kettittum grahikkatthavarum  
Oolley thiricchariyaan - manasillaattha  
Vallaattha njaname nnaruleedunnu.

(You have said that these are the people, who had seen with their eyes but could

not see, heard with their ears but could not understand, and unwilling to understand the inner truths.)

9. Evaril ninnu than thottam edutthu  
Thakka phalatthey koduttheadunna  
njaathikaley iniyum elpicchidumenn  
Arulunnu naathan - avar kelkavey

(In their hearing the Lord announced that, he will take away the estate and give it to the gentiles henceforth, who will give abundant fruits)

10. Ee perunaalinavaney - kola cheyvaanai  
Saapametta koottam aalojikunnu  
Thakkan nokkeeduvaan - ororuvaneyum  
Yoodaayeyum thedi - odeedunnu.

(The accursed people plotted to kill him during the festival.  
They began to look for opportunities and run searching for Judas.)

11. Naaykal chutti - chennai valanju  
Cheeri paanjedune - nnurachoru vaakyam  
Thanmel niravettu - nnatharinju naathan  
Sahikkunnu dheerkha - kshamayaalivarey

(Realizing that the words of the prophets that, "the dogs rounded up and the foxes surrounded him" was being fulfilled in him he suffered them with a long long suffering.)

12. Paapa kara neekkaan - vannoru naatha  
Njangaley kopaagni kkaay orukkaruthey  
Ninnalayamaakki - suddhi cheythengaley  
Bali ninakkarpippaan - orukeedanamey.

(O Lord who came to remove the stain of sin, do not prepare us for the fire of



the anger.

We who come to you and take refuge in you may refine us and prepare us to give the sacrifices of praise to you.)

### Bathed Hasa Chant Song (p 53 Malayalam Kramam)

1. Njangalkkai Ettanin- Kashtatha thaazhcha  
Karthave vaazhtha pettathaaka.
2. Oosaana cholli – Janangala ninakku  
Devaalaye nee Kareriya neram  
Vyaaparikale- Kandathil ninnudan  
Aattiyirakki - sudham chaithapol-  
Nin visudhalayamakkuka njangale
3. Ninmaranathaal - Nin srushtikale  
Uyarppichone – Amarthya nadhaa  
Manassode kashtatha- maranamettu nee  
Ninmurivathinaal- Aadaaminte  
Kadacheettine- Keeriyavan Nee
4. Sathya pithaave Vachanam Mahathvam  
Vatsana suthane –Keertiyum vaazhvum  
Visudhaathmaave- Sthothram pukazhcha  
Nithya mundaaka- Thava kashtathayaal  
Divya balathaal Kaakkanam njangale

### Ba Usa of Mar Aprem Chant Song (p 54 Malayalam Kramam)

1. Njangalkkayathi kashtathakal  
Ettoru Naadha Njangale nee  
Anugrahichavayin Pankum nin

- Raajyoharium nalkename.
2. Daivathin Kunjaadaayon -  
Sikshyarumai perumaari  
Paapikaleprathi baliyyayi  
Thathanuthanneyangarppichu  
Thanthaathane thirurakthathaal  
Samyochippippaanum than  
Thirumeniye than Manassode  
Parihaaraartham Kodutha-llo
  3. Kazhuthameleri nee raajane ppol  
Yerusalem theruvil Chennappol  
Kurutholakal Janameduthu Ninne-  
Ethirettavar Hosanapaadi  
Ninnude randaam Varavilengal  
Kaikalil Kurutholakalenti  
Ullaasathodethirelppaan-  
Njangale Yogyara-kke-name
  4. Peedayengalkkai sahichonnum  
Nirappin baliyay theernnonum  
Njangalin Rakshaykkai Thanne  
Ayachoru Thaathannum sthothram  
Parisudhaathmannum Sthuthi Ennum  
Paadaananugrahamarulaname  
Aayiramaayiram Sthuthi Ninakke  
Aayussin Naalaellaam- Aa-me-n

Evening Song (Sayana Namaskaram) (Page 7)

1. Njangal kkulla Karthave  
Njan eha nidra ozhigittu  
Onarvode nin thirumunpil  
Nilpan enikku ni arulaname

(Our Creator, Give me grace to stand before you, without sleeping, awake.)

2. Veendum njan oragunnakil  
Ee adiyam ulla orakkam  
Karthave nin thiru munpil  
Dhosham kuudathakaname

(If I fall asleep again, give your servant the grace to stand before you without blemish)

3. En unarchayil njan chathi pedukil  
Nin kripamochanamEnikkekum  
Nidraya ilum pizha vannakil  
Aardramathe khripa nalkaname

(If in my wakefulness I fall in trap of evilness, give me the grace of redemption.  
If I make a mistake even in my sleep give me grace O gracious One.)

4. Ninnude Kurushin shanthiyathal  
Nallaurakkam eniku ni tha  
Aaka swapnam ashudhiyil ninnu  
Enne ni rakshichhu kollaname

(Give me good sleep under the shadow of your cross in peace. Save me from dreams that are unpleasant and impure.)

Petition

## KAUMA

*(All kaumas are to be repeated after the priest with prostration)*

O Lord Jesus Christ,-- who by His own trial and condemnation -- wiped out the condemnation against us,-- on the day of our judgement -- remember not our sins against us.

Or

O Messiah, who saved us from our inequities through Your suffering, accept our worship and have mercy on us

*(After three prostrations)*

*(Repeat after the Leader)*

**All. Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ. Glory be to your Father--and worship to the Holy Spirit. May your blessings and mercies --be with us sinners. May the doors of the heavenly Jerusalem be opened--and our prayers heard before your throne of grace. Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ, --praise be to you, our eternal refuge. May your blessings be on us.**

OR

**Kar-tha---sthu-thi-ni-na-ku---tha-tha---nu-ba-hu-ma-nam**

**(Lord, all praises to you and to the Father all honor)**

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**(To the Holy Spirit all adoration and glory)**

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**(We your servants who are sinners)**

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**(beg for your mercy and grant us blessing and your grace**

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**(Open the doors of the Heavenly Jersualem)**

**Msi-ha---sim-ha-sa-ne---prar-tha-na-etha-na-mee**

**(and hear our humble prayers before your throne of grace)**

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**(Glory to you of Lord, Glory to you)**

**Ni-thya---sa-ra-na-vu-me---sthu-thi-thee---ba-rek-mar**

**(Our eternal refuge, we glorify you, Bless us of Lord)**

### **Lords Prayer**

**L: Our Father in heaven..**

**P: Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

Gospel Reading Mat. 21: 17-22

Nicene Creed

**L:** Let us affirm our faith in the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in the one true God, the Father Almighty.**

**P:** **Maker of heaven and earth**

**and of all things visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,**

**the only begotten son of God, begotten of the father before all world, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified also for us in the days of Pontius Pilate, suffered and died and was buried. The third day he rose again, ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the father. He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead and of his Kingdom there will be no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord and giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father,**

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets and apostles.**

**We believe in one Holy, catholic and apostolic Church;**

**we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins and**

**look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the new life of the world to come. Amen.**

Sermon

**Hoothama**  
**Closing Prayer**

**L:** O Lord, our God glory be to You, for ever glory be to You. O Lord Christ, in Your compassion and abundant grace, hear our prayers and accept our worship. O Lord God, help us to be eternally cleansed. O Lord may our service be honorable, our worship pleasing, and our petitions acceptable. O Lord, may Your blessings, mercies, help and all your divine gifts come on us and dwell among us forever.

**P: Amen**

**Benediction**

**L:** The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of the triune God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you, among you, protect you from all harm, and make you worthy of His gifts.

**P: Amen**