



Old Catholic Apostolic Church

in the United States

St. Adalbert Home Oratory

A Divine Office of Peace

A Service of Peace

This service may be performed by those in Minor Orders. The hymns should be relevant and easy to sing unaccompanied. The hymns can be spoken if preferred.

[PROCESSIONAL HYMN]

INTROIT

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

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Your sight, O God, our rock and our redeemer.

LCC CONFITEOR

Leader: O LORD, You created us to be immortal and made us to be an image of Your own eternity; yet often we forget the glory of our heritage and wander from the path which leads to righteousness. But You, O LORD, made us for Yourself and our hearts are ever restless till they find their rest in You. Look with the eyes of Your love upon our manifold imperfections and pardon all our shortcomings, that we may be filled with the brightness of the everlasting light and become the unspotted mirror of Your power and the image of Your goodness; through Christ our LORD.

Congregation: Amen.

PRAYERS

Of Adoration

Leader: We adore You, O ever-living God, and render praise unto You for having spread out the heavens and established the earth. Your glory is revealed in the heavens above and Your majesty

is manifested throughout the earth. You are God and no one else, and so in awe and wonder we bow our heads and magnify You, the Eternal, the Holy One, the Ever Blest.

Congregation: Amen.

Of Confession

Together: Before the wonders of life, O God, we acknowledge our failures to see and to revere; before the sanctities of life we are ashamed of our disrespects and indignities; before the gifts of life we own that we have made choices for lesser goods, and here today seek the gifts of the spirit. Before the heroisms of life may we be enlarged to new devotions. Amen.

Of Thanksgiving

Leader: O God, whose never-failing love orders all things, we praise You, we glorify You, and we thank You for all that You are and all that You do, both by day and by night. We thank You for reason and for conscience; for nurture and for guidance; for all the gifts of nature and of grace; for forbearance and long-suffering, and Your tender mercies which never fail; for all good things received, and for Your promises of hope and salvation in this time and in times to come. For all these, and for all other mercies known or unknown, remembered or forgotten, we give thanks unto You now and for evermore.

Congregation: Amen.

Of World Unity

Leader: Grant us, O God, a vision of our world, fair as she might be, fair as she should be: a world of justice, where none shall prey on others; a world of plenty, where vice and poverty and inequality shall cease to fester; a world of sisterhood and brotherhood, where all success shall be founded on service, and honour shall be given to nobleness alone; a world of peace, where order shall not rest on force, but on the love of all for the world, the great mother of the common life and

common weal. Hear Thou the silent prayers of all our hearts as we pledge our time, strength, talent, and thought to speed the day of her coming beauty and righteousness.

Congregation: Amen.

THE COLLECTS

Leader: Almighty God, unto Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from Whom secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our LORD.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto Thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey Thy commandments, and also that by Thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Congregation: Amen.

[OPTIONAL LITANY OF PEACE – page 10]

[OPTIONAL HYMN]

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrew Bible Passage (CEV)

Isaiah 2 : 2-5

Reader: In the future, the mountain with the LORD's temple will be the highest of all. It will reach above the hills;

every nation will rush to it.
Many people will come and say,
"Let's go to the mountain
of the LORD God of Jacob
and worship in his temple."
The LORD will teach us his Law
from Jerusalem,
and we will obey him.
He will settle arguments
between nations.
They will pound their swords
and their spears
into rakes and shovels;
they will never make war
or attack one another.
People of Israel, let's live
by the light of the LORD.

Reader: The word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Epistle (CEV)

Romans 12 : 9-21

Reader: Be sincere in your love for others. Hate everything that is evil and hold tight to everything that is good. Love each other as brothers and sisters and honor others more than you do yourself. Never give up. Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the LORD. Let your hope make you glad. Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying. Take care of God's needy people and welcome strangers into your home.

Ask God to bless everyone who mistreats you. Ask him to bless them and not to curse them. When others are happy, be happy with them, and when they are sad, be sad. Be friendly with everyone. Don't be proud and feel that you know more than others. Make friends with ordinary people. Don't mistreat someone who has mistreated you. But try to earn

the respect of others, and do your best to live at peace with everyone.

Dear friends, don't try to get even. Let God take revenge. In the Scriptures the LORD says, "I am the one to take revenge and pay them back."

The Scriptures also say, "If your enemies are hungry, give them something to eat. And if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. This will be the same as piling burning coals on their heads."

Don't let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good.

Reader: The word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Gospel (CEV)

Matt 5 : 38-48

Leader: You know you have been taught, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I tell you not to try to get even with a person who has done something to you. When someone slaps your right cheek, turn and let that person slap your other cheek. If someone sues you for your shirt, give up your coat as well. If a soldier forces you to carry his pack one kilometer, carry it two kilometers. When people ask you for something, give it to them. When they want to borrow money, lend it to them.

You have heard people say, "Love your neighbors and hate your enemies." But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for anyone who mistreats you. Then you will be acting like your Father in heaven. He makes the sun rise on both good and bad people. And He sends rain for the ones who do right and for the ones who do wrong. If you love only those people who love you, will God reward you for this? Even tax collectors love their friends. If you greet only your friends,

what's so great about this? Don't even unbelievers do that?
But you must always act like your Father in heaven.

Leader: The gospel of the LORD.

Congregation: Praise to you, LORD Jesus Christ. "There is nothing hidden that will not be made public. There is no secret that will not be well known."

[OPTIONAL HYMN]

LCC ACT OF FAITH

Together: We believe that God is love and power and truth and light; that perfect justice rules the world; that all His children shall one day reach his feet, however far they stray. We hold the fatherhood of God, the family of humankind; we know that we do serve Him best when we serve one another. So shall His blessing rest on us and peace for evermore. Amen.

THE PSALMS

Psalm 46 (CEV)

Reader: God is our mighty fortress, always ready to help in times of trouble.

Congregation: And so, we won't be afraid! Let the earth tremble and the mountains tumble into the deepest sea.

Reader: Let the ocean roar and foam, and its raging waves shake the mountains.

Congregation: A river and its streams bring joy to the city, which is the sacred home of God Most High.

Reader: God is in that city, and it won't be shaken.

Congregation: He will help it at dawn. Nations rage! Kingdoms fall! But at the voice of God the earth itself melts.

Reader: The LORD All-Powerful is with us. The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Congregation: Come! See the fearsome things the LORD has done on earth.

Reader: God brings wars to an end all over the world. He breaks the arrows, shatters the spears, and burns the shields.

Congregation: Our God says, "Calm down, and learn that I am God! All nations on earth will honor me."

Reader: The LORD All-Powerful is with us.

Congregation: The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Reader: (+) Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end.

Congregation: Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: We pray for those known to us who have need of prayer.
For...
For...
And for...

Leader

God, You made us.
God, You saved us.
God, You called us.
God, You empowered us.
God, You encouraged us.
God, You sent Your prophets.

Congregation

We exist.
For we had fallen.
We are here.
We can do.
We can serve.
We will listen. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Together: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

[A Hail Mary may be said.]

THE BLESSING

Leader: (+) The blessings of the LORD Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, be with everyone today and every day. Amen.

[RECESSIONAL HYMN]

Please pray for your families, work, and neighborhood. Please also pray for the OCAC.

THE LITANY FOR WORLD PEACE

Litany for World Peace, Presbyterian Church USA

Adapted by Christine Longhurst

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/litany-for-world-peace.html>

Leader: Remember, O LORD, the people of this world divided into many nations, religions, and tongues. Deliver us from every evil that stands in the way of Your saving purpose, and fulfill the promise of peace on earth among those with whom You are well pleased; through Jesus Christ.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: From the curse of war and the human sin that causes war,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From pride that turns its back on You, and from unbelief that will not bow to You,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From national vanity that poses as patriotism, and from loud-mouthed boasting and blind self-worship that admit no guilt,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From self-righteousness that will not compromise, and from selfishness that glories in the oppression of others,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From the lust for property or power that drives humanity to kill,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From trusting in the weapons of war, and mistrusting the councils of peace,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From hearing, believing, and speaking lies about other nations and religions,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From groundless suspicions and fears that stand in the way of reconciliation,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: From words and deeds that encourage discord, prejudice, and hatred; from everything that prevents the human family from fulfilling Your promise of peace,

Congregation: O LORD, deliver us.

Leader: LORD of Israel, and God of all the nations: we pray for Your children across the whole earth, of every land and race, that they may be strong to do Your will. We pray especially for the church in the world,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For the United Nations,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For international federations and alliances promoting cooperation among peoples,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For world leaders, and for departments of state, ambassadors, diplomats, and statesmen,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For those in military service, that they may live for the establishment of peace and justice,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For all who in any way work or pray to further the cause of peace and goodwill,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For civilians in every land,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For those who declare themselves enemies, that at last they may find reconciliation,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: For that which is hidden to be revealed, for everything that is secret to come to light,

Congregation: Give us your peace, O LORD.

Leader: Eternal God: Use us, even in our ignorance and weakness, to bring about Your holy will on earth. Hurry the day when people shall live together in Your love; for Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

Congregation: Amen.