

The Season of Epiphany: Forgiveness from Daily Prayer for all Seasons

*As we pause to feed our bodies in the middle of the day,
we pause also to feed our souls by vowing again to live faithfully.*

- Opening** The Savior of the nations has come,
to light our way and heal our wounds.
- Prayer** Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life, which you have made known to us in your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- Praise** *Psalm 27:1, 5-6, 10-11*
God is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?
God is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
One thing have I asked of you, O God;
one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life,
To behold your fair beauty, O God,
and to seek you in your temple.
Hearken to my voice, O Most High, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.
You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."
Your face, O God, will I seek.
- Scripture** On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. *Matthew 2:11-12*
- Meditation** The wise men cannot return to their own country by the same way they used to come to Bethlehem. While they cannot go the same route because of Herod, we cannot go the same way once we have met Christ. We emerge from our encounter with Christ as changed people. We cannot follow the same path as before. Like the wise men, we must seek out Christ, but we will always leave as transformed people. *Richard Meux Benson*
- Where do we seek transformation? Where do we need to offer another way to someone else?*
- Confession** Holy One, we encounter you in our lives and try to follow faithfully,
but so often we get lost or turn away.
We try to love our neighbors and ourselves,
And even, by your grace, to love our enemies, but we fail.
We take the wrong path and stray from the way of your love.
Forgive us, Lord, and guide us back to you.

Absolution We turn to you, God of Love, and we accept your grace.
We accept your pardon.
We accept the gift of a new path, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers Among the lowly you were born.
Lord Jesus, save us.
The wise and powerful bowed down before you.
Lord Jesus, teach us.
You have come to lead us to holiness.
Lord Jesus, guide us.
You ask us to call on you, and so we offer these prayers:

Here, we invite your prayers and intercessions.

Lord's Prayer

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer Jesus, you revealed yourself to the world so that all people might look to you and be saved: may we know the wholeness that you bring. Be our light in the darkness that we may not stumble, and lift us up again if we fall; all this we ask in your name. Amen.

Going Out The Savior of the nations has come,
to light our way and heal our wounds.