

A HOME PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAY MORNING

MARCH 29, 2020

ALL

Blessed is our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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 forever. Amen.

Orhnyal Der mer Heesoos Kreesdos. Amen.

Hayr mer vor hergeens yes. Soorp yegheetsee anoon ko. Yegestseh arkayootyoon ko.

Yegheetseen gamk ko vorbes hergeens yev hergree. Uz-hats mer hanabazort door mez aysor. Yev togh mez uzbardees mer vorbes yev mek toghoomk merots bardabanats. Yev mee daneer uzmez ee portsootyoon. Ayl purgya uzmez ee chareh.

Zee ko eh arkayootyoon yev zorootyoon yev park haveedyans. Amen.

Leader

Lord, if you open my lips my mouth will sing your praise.

ALL

Blessed is God.

ALL

Psalm 150

Praise God in his holy place • Praise him in his powerful heavenly realm.

Praise him in his strength • Praise him in his awesome greatness.

Praise him with a voice of praise • Praise him with psalms and hymns.

Praise him with joy • Praise him in delight.

Praise him with affectionate words • Exalt him with resounding speech.

Praise him with a thankful voice • Every living thing praise the Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

SOORP ASDVADZ

Սուրբ Աստուած

Սուրբ Աստ-ուած, սուրբ եւ հղ-գօր, սուրբ եւ աւ - մահ,
soorp asd - vadz soorp yev hu - zor soorp yev an - mah

4
որ յար-եար ի մե - ռե - լոց. ո - դոր - մեա մեզ:
vor har - yar ee me - re - lots vo - ghor - mya mez

1.2.
ն - դոր - մեա մեզ:
vo - ghor - mya mez

6
ն - դոր - մեա մեզ:
vo - ghor - mya mez

Leader

Let us all say together: Lord have mercy.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For peace in the whole world and the stability of the holy church let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For all holy and orthodox bishops, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For the life of our Catholicos, His Holiness Karekin the Second and for the salvation of his soul, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For teachers, priests, deacons, altar servers and all those consecrated to serve the church, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For devout rulers and God-loving leaders, for military commanders and their forces, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

That the almighty Lord will make them prevail in all wars against hostile powers. Let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For our people, old and young, who are in captivity or who are unjustly exploited, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For all who are traveling, that they may reach their good destinations safe and sound, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For the sick and all who suffer; for their speedy recovery, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For seasonable weather, gentle rains and abundant crops, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

For those who make pilgrimage vows and bring gifts to the holy church, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

And for those who have been betrayed into to the hands of lawless people for the sake of the name of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Free them, Lord, and have mercy on them.

Leader

For the souls of the deceased who have fallen asleep in Christ with right and true faith, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Remember them, Lord, and have mercy on them.

Leader

That the Lord God will save us from the enemy, seen and unseen, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

ALL

We hold as intercessors St. Mary the Mother of God, the glorified and blessed ever-holy Virgin; St. John the Baptizer; St. Stephen the first martyr; the holy apostles and prophets; the valiant and triumphant holy martyrs; and the great confessor of Christ, our patriarch, St. Gregory, the illuminator of the Armenian people.

Leader

Remember also all the saints and with them, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Remember them, Lord, and have mercy on them.

Leader

To lead us peacefully and faithfully through this morning of light and the coming day, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

For an angel of peace to guard us, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

To wipe out and to forgive our transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

The great and mighty power of the holy cross to help us, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

That our young people may joyfully serve the holy church, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

That the teachers, students, and graduates of our seminaries remain firm in their calling, proclaiming the Gospel and doing God's will, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Grant it, Lord.

Leader

And also, for our true and holy faith, together, let us ask the Lord.

ALL

Lord have mercy.

Leader

Let us commit ourselves and one another to the almighty Lord God.

ALL

We commit ourselves to you, Lord.

Leader

Have mercy on us, Lord our God, as befits your great mercy. Let us all say together.

ALL

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

ALL

Prayer

Dispel the pain and heal the sickness of Your people, Lord our God, and grant to all perfect health by the sign of You all-conquering Cross through which You removed the weakness of mankind and condemned the enemy of our life and salvation. You are our life and salvation, beneficent and all merciful God, who alone can forgive us our sins and remove diseases and sickness from us, to whom are known our need and necessities. Bestower of gifts, grant Your bounteous mercy on Your creatures according to their individual needs, through whom Your Holy Trinity is always glorified, and praised, now and forever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

READER: *The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 22:34-23:39*

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put your enemies under your feet'? If David thus calls him Lord, How is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

Then said Jesus to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; so practice and observe whatever they tell you, but not what they do; for they preach, but do not practice. They bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brethren. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called masters, for you have one master, the Christ. He who is greatest among you shall be your servant; whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, Hypocrites! because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither enter yourselves, nor allow those who would enter to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you traverse sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.

“Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If any one swears by the temple, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? And you say, ‘If any one swears by the altar, it is nothing; but if any one swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? So he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it; and he who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it; and he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law, justice and mercy and faith; these you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of extortion and rapacity. You blind Pharisees! first cleanse the inside of the cup and of the plate, that the outside also may be clean.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but within you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, ‘If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.’ Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

ALL

Glory to You, O Lord Our God!

ALL

(Prayer of Healing)

Blessed are you, Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, Physician of our souls and bodies. You came down from your heavenly realm to heal every sickness and infirmity. Before your endless mercy our sins melt away, demons flee, transgressions are erased, infirmities are cured, wounds are healed, corruption is cleansed, sadness recedes, sighs retreat, darkness flees, the fog of the unknown departs, darkness lifts, the night passes, panic is banished, evil is destroyed, and despair is exiled.

We beseech You in these times of trial and tribulation, when the entire world is shaken by the devastating pandemic, to pour out upon us your healing grace so that from the depths of our souls we may be healed, strengthened and purified. You, Son of God and Son of humanity, died on the cross for our salvation. Through your suffering, you showed us how trial and affliction might bring us closer to You. You are our rock and refuge, our comfort and hope, our joy and salvation. You healed people with sickness and affliction through Your loving care and compassion.

Now we ask you, Lord, to dispel the pain and heal the sickness of your children all around the world and to grant to all perfect health and protection under the sign of your all-conquering Holy Cross. Give us your peace and strengthen our faith in you, Lord, so that we can overcome our fears and doubts, when anxiety becomes the order of the day. Bless all those who have put themselves in harm's way in service to us. Hold in your loving embrace those who have perished and grant peace to their loved ones. In the midst of the uncertainty we echo in faith the words of King David, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging".

Trusting in Your infinite love and compassion we exalt and praise Your Holy Name with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

ALL (recite the Lord's Prayer):

Hayr Mer... / Our Father...

Prepared by St. James Armenian Church of Evanston, IL