Space for God The Blessed

PREPARATION

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Lord gives his people strength. The Lord blesses them with peace. Psalm 29:11

WORSHIP

I will praise you in the great assembly. I will fulfill my vows in the presence of those who worship you.

The poor will eat and be satisfied. All who seek the Lord will praise him. Their hearts will rejoice with everlasting joy.

Psalm 22:25-26

CONFESSION

Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. James 1:14-15

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. James 1:12

MEDITATION - Matthew 5:1-12*

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them. "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

God blesses those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth.

God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.

God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.

God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God. God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

"God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and

say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

 IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

 Read
 Slowly, several times.

 Reflect
 What does the text say?

 Respond
 How does it relate to my life?

 Rest
 I welcome God's healing and renewal.

ANCHORING PRAYER

Father, bless me today.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

Which of these Matthew 5 blessings have I received recently?

What weaknesses in my character do these beatitudes reveal?

WISDOM

There are six things the Lord hates- no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.

Proverbs 6:16-19

TESTIMONY What is God saying to me?

INTERCESSION Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.

BENEDICTION

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying,

"Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

-Amen-Revelation 21:3-4

> SPACE FOR GOD DAILY Be still and quiet before God. Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance. Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. *Lectionary, Year A Scripture Quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007 by Tyndale House Foundation.