

THE PRESENT WORD

ADULT BIBLE LESSONS

W O R S H I P L E A F L E T S

The Lord's Prayer is used in most sessions. Refer to this page when so indicated.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray (*select a version of the 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

THE PRESENT WORD

ADULT BIBLE LESSONS

W O R S H I P L E A F L E T S

CAIN AND ABEL OFFER SACRIFICES

*Responses are in **bold**.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 126:3

God has done great things for us;

Therefore we rejoice in the Lord.

We offer our gifts of praise and prayer.

We worship the Lord with our hearts, hands, and voices.

MORNING HYMN

Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

“Though I May Speak” (*GtG*, #693)

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 4:1–16

4:1 Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have produced a man with the help of the LORD.”

²Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. ³In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

⁸Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let us go out to the field.” And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” He said, “I do

not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” ¹⁰And the LORD said, “What have you done? Listen, your brother’s blood is crying out to me from the ground! ¹¹And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹²When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” ¹³Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear! ¹⁴Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. ¹⁶Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

BIBLE STUDY

To be led using the Participant’s Book, p. 2, and Leader’s Guide, p. 3.

PRAYER

CWP-A2, pp. 203–4, adapted

(Individual prayers of thanksgiving and intercession may be offered. There may be silent prayer.)

Holy Mystery, we seek you.
We want to choose you.
But your voice is drowned out
in the busyness of our lives.

Still our hearts.

Calm our minds.

Let us rest in your presence, we pray.

We offer prayers for this earth
on which we live out our lives.
You have given us Eden,
a garden of abundance and beauty.
We have not been careful stewards.
But every act of conservation
is a choice toward a future with hope.

Lead us to care for your creation as you do.

Hear our prayers for our choices.
We do not always make these with level heads and centered hearts.

May our choices be thoughtful, deliberate, hopeful, and kind.

May these reflect our hopes for a better tomorrow.

May we always feel we have the agency to choose—
for our faith journeys,
for our life choices,
for our hopes and dreams.

Lead us to walk with you in the ways we live our lives.

God of all, in your great love
you have called us children
and have promised to hear us when we cry to you.
We pray for those we know in need of your healing,
your peace, your comfort, and your courage.

**Bring us to wholeness
and away from despair.**

Lead us into supportive community
and away from isolation.
Guide us in our lives and our actions
that we may offer your forgiveness to a hurting world.

**In all these prayers we turn to you,
the author of our lives and the healer of the world. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Read the Lord's Prayer found on page iii.

DISMISSAL

See what love God has given us,
that we should be called children of God,
and that is what we are. **Amen.**

1 John 3:1