

# Prayer of Discernment

**"Where your treasure is, there  
will your heart be also."  
Matthew 6:21**

## INVOCATION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of Life, have mercy on us. Reveal yourself in all things, to all things, and through all things. Grant us the gift of becoming a community of the incarnation, mystery of Word made flesh, who sees and celebrates Good News in hard places. Give us the tongue of a teacher to sustain the weary with the Word, and free leaders from all walks of life to love their city and seek its peace with the Gospel of Jesus.

## PRESENCE

You are Emmanuel—the God who is with us. Nothing can separate us from your love. Ease the fear that binds us and blinds us, keeping us from the truth that sets us free. Give us the courage and compassion to see things as they are: filled with your delight, moving in us and through us and, most joyfully, between us.

***Where is God's presence clearly visible, or particularly needed, or hard to see? Be specific.***

## GRATITUDE

Lord and giver of life, giver of all good gifts, we recognize that your presence is the substance of all we hope for. Therefore, the deepest gratitude we can offer is our own joy, even when clothed in sorrow.

***For what can you give thanks? Even if there's nothing but the desire to give thanks, name that desire.***

## REFLECTION

Loving One, meet us face to face, and let us discover ourselves again in you. Free us from the voices of accusation and expectation. Free us from the attachments that enslave us. Recreate us in your desire, and reacquaint us with our own desires—especially the ones that have been forgotten or denied.

***Reflect on your day, your week. Where did you experience consolation or desolation? Integration or disintegration? What is making your heart come alive? From whom are you borrowing your desires, and are they bringing you life?***

## RESOLVE

As beloved ones who are forgiven and free, we freely forgive those who have done us harm. We eagerly loose the chains of injustice that hold us captive, and we ask for the grace to will and to do your good pleasure.

***How is God's Spirit leading you? What specific steps are you being prompted to take? What concretely can you resolve to do?***

## BENEDICTION

The spirit of the Lord is upon us because She has anointed us to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. We pray this in the name of the Father who is for us, the Son who is with us, and the Spirit who unites us all in the never-ending dance of love.

Amen.