

 Prayers Anchored in the
Gospel of John
John 3:18-19

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

* Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

* The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus on God.

Book of Alternative Services, p.353

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John 3:18-19 (NIV)

- *¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.
- *¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

- * This is a time when you will want to reflect (pray) on some part of the passage so that you and God are communicating.
- * It can be a time for questions to God or to put into words some of the stirrings in your heart.

“As far as it lies in the power of the physician, he has come to heal the sick. Whoever does not observe his orders destroys himself.... Why would he be called the Saviour of the world unless he saves the world?”

Augustine, *Tractates on the Gospel of John 12.12* (Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture, 126-27)

* **Meditation**

- * Meditate on Christ, the Great Physician, the Light that he came into the world to bring our healing and salvation.
- * What does it mean to believe in him? To believe in the name of God's one and only Son? To receive and joyfully follow his commands?
- * In what ways have you loved darkness? How have you preferred your own self-diagnosis or that of the world and refused to observe the Great Physician's orders? Where do you see the signs of death or disease in your heart and life?

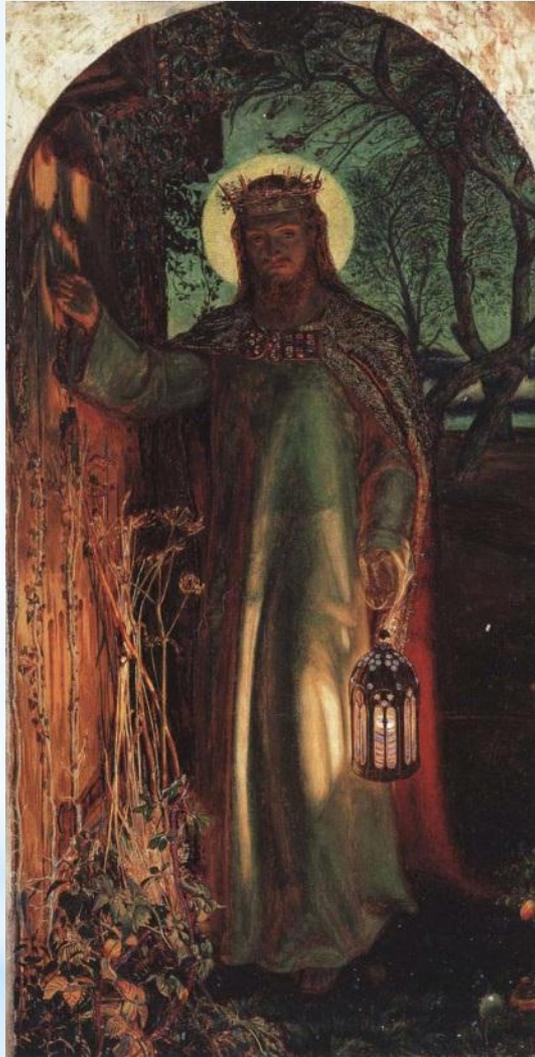
Andrew Kirk

* **Meditation**

“Seek the Lord while he wills to be found,
Call upon him when he draws near;
Let the wicked forsake their ways,
and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them return to the Lord,
and he will have compassion,
And to our God, for he will richly pardon.”

Isaiah 55:6,7

 **Response**



* Thank God for the free, extravagant gift of life and adoption.

* Prayer



* “O God, the Lord of all, your Son commanded us to love our enemies and to pray for them. Lead us from prejudice to truth; deliver us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and enable us to stand before you, reconciled through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.”

* Prayer

Book of Alternative Services, p.681

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To him who loves us
and has freed us from our sins by his blood,
and has made us to be a kingdom
and priests to serve his God and Father,
to him be glory and power for ever and ever!

Amen.

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 **Blessing**