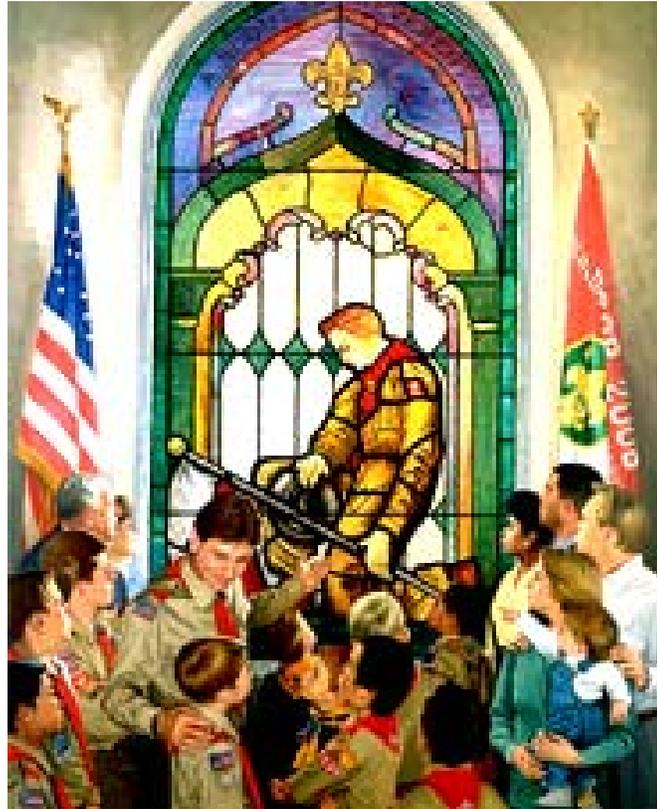


Chaplains Aide Program



BSA Clinton Valley Council Chaplain Aide Handbook

Chaplains Aide Program

FOREWARD

This inter-faith handbook is designed to assist Troop Chaplain Aides in fulfilling the important shepherding function they have among their fellow scouts. Several sources have been used to put this handbook together including:

- ❖ A publication authored by Daniel J. Feidt, a student of the Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity, published in 1997,
- ❖ A Troop Chaplain and Chaplain Aide handbook authored by Richard Landerschier, Clinton Valley Council Religious Relations, in November 2001,
- ❖ A 1987 Chaplain's Aide Guide Book, published in 1987, by John P. Fischer, Scout Chaplain and member of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting,
- ❖ and various other sources of material.

INTRODUCTION

A Scout is reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

The Scout Oath starts with a duty to God:

***On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law:
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.***

The Scout Law ends with a Scout is Reverent:

***A Scout is Trustworthy,
Loyal,
Helpful,
Friendly,
Courteous,
Kind,
Obedient,
Cheerful,
Thrifty
Brave,
Clean,
And Reverent.***

Baden Powell's Thought's

Lord Baden Powell's Thoughts About the Scouts' Own Service

- For an open Troop, or for Troops in camp, I think the Scouts' Own should be open to all denominations, and carried on in such a manner as to offend none.
- There should not be any special form, but it should abound in the right spirit, and should be conducted not from any ecclesiastical point of view, but from that of the boy. Everything likely to make an artificial atmosphere should be avoided.
- We do not want a kind of imposed Church parade, but a voluntary uplifting of their hearts by the boys in thanksgiving for the joys of life, and a desire on their part to seek inspiration and strength for greater love and service for others.
- A Scouts' Own should have as big an effect on the boys as any service in church, if in conducting the Scouts' Own we remember that boys are not grown men, and if we go by the pace of the youngest and most uneducated of those present. Boredom is not reverence, nor will it breed religion.
- To interest the boys, the Scout's Own must be a cheery and varied function.
- Short hymns (three verses are as a rule quite enough-never four); understandable prayers; a good address from a man who really understands boys (a homily "talk" rather than an address), which grips the boys, and in which they may laugh or applaud as the spirit moves them, so that they take a real interest in what is said. If a man cannot make his point to keen boys in ten minutes he ought to be shot! If he has not got them keen, it would be better not to hold a Scouts' Own at all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Baden Powell" followed by a flourish.

Written by Baden Powell
B.-P.'S OUTLOOK November 1928

Chaplains Aide Program

Welcome and Introduction:

GOALS of Training Session

The goal of the Troop Chaplain Aide training is to enable the Scout to understand and fulfill the purpose of his duties, utilizing his gifts and talents to the best of his abilities.



The Office of Troop Chaplain Aide

The Chaplain Aide is an approved youth leadership position in Boy Scout troops. The Scout accepting this position of Troop Chaplain Aide helps foster spirituality and Religious values in the lives of his fellow Scouts. This leadership role helps to ensure that each Scout makes his relationship with God as part of his daily activities. Through the duties of this position, the Troop Chaplain Aide will help the Scouts to:

- ❖ Make the twelfth point of the Scout Law more meaningful to himself and his fellow Scout's life.
- ❖ Have a greater understanding of and greater appreciation for all religions.
- ❖ Have the opportunity to work with members of the ordained ministry, thereby gaining insight into the religious life.

Job Description: The Chaplain Aide works with the Troop Chaplain to meet the religious needs of Scouts in the troop. He also works to promote the religious awards program.

Reports to: the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader.

Chaplain Aide duties:

- ❖ Assists the troop chaplain with religious services at troop activities
- ❖ Tells Scouts about the religious emblem program for their faith
- ❖ Makes sure religious holidays are considered during troop program planning
- ❖ Helps plan for religious observance in troop activities
- ❖ Sets a good example
- ❖ Enthusiastically wears the Scout uniform correctly
- ❖ Lives by the Scout Oath and Law
- ❖ Shows Scout spirit

Chaplains Aide Program

Being a Role Model:

Be a role model by living the Scout Oath and Law in your everyday life. Show Scout Spirit in everything you say and do.

Be a role model by wearing your uniform correctly. This means that you will wear all of the parts of the troop uniform, shirttail tucked in, with all required badges in their correct locations.

Be a role model by being an active Scout. Be on-time for meetings and activities. You must call the Senior Patrol Leader or Scoutmaster if you are not going to be at a meeting or if you suddenly have to miss an outing. You also need to make sure that someone will assume your responsibilities.

Be a role model by always planning appropriate religious services during troop outings. Be aware and sensitive to the various faiths represented among the Scouts of your troop. Arrange with the Senior Patrol Leader for a time to be set aside for the troop prayer service.

Be a role model by being faithful in the worship life of your own congregation and in prayer.

Be a role model by encouraging troop members to strengthen their own relationships with God through personal prayer and devotion and participation in religious activities appropriate to their faith

Be a role model by helping the troop chaplain (or other designated adult) plan and conduct an annual Scout-oriented religious observance, Preferably during Scout Week in February.

Be a role model by presenting an overview of the religious emblems program at troop meetings at least once per year. Learn about the various Religious Awards Programs for the faiths in your troop and promote them to your fellow scouts.

Be a role model by helping the troop chaplain (or other designated adult) recognize troop members who receive their religious emblems, perhaps during a troop court of honor (note: most religious emblems are conferred during a service at the Scout's place of worship, but the achievement should also be recognized at a significant troop event.)

Be a role model by giving the opening prayer (invocation) and closing prayer (benediction) at troop meetings, Courts of Honor, and other special ceremonies.

Be a role model by saying grace before all meals and reminding your fellow scouts to also say grace before meals.

Be a role model by maintaining a troop religious emblems progress chart.

Chaplains Aide Program

Being Sensitive to All Scouts:

“The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God.” Article IX Section 1, Charter and Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America

The BSA does not define what constitutes belief in God or practice of religion. Religious instruction is a responsibility of parents or the religious institution to which a member may belong.

Scouts are expected to accept the religious principles stated in the Scout Oath and Law: These commitments involve:

1. Belief in God.
2. Reverence toward God.
3. Fulfillment of religious duties.
4. Respect for beliefs of others.

BSA membership believes that the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law are central to the BSA goal of teaching the values of self-reliance, courage, integrity, and consideration of others.

As a Chaplain Aide, you need to be sensitive to the personal, family, or social situations that may require special care. Knowing the faiths of your fellow scouts can help you prepare a religious service that does not offend any of your fellow scouts, yet meets the duties of your office.

As you consider weekend services, keep in mind that some religions have specific requirements that cannot be fulfilled through an interfaith service, and other arrangements might be necessary for Scout of those faiths. Any scripture readings, prayers, hymns, and other parts of an interfaith service must be considerate of the beliefs of all those present.

Chaplains Aide Program

Promotion of Religious Emblems

The Chaplain Aide is in an ideal position to promote the religious emblems program and encourage Scouts to complete the requirements for the emblem of their faith. Many troops include Scouts of various faiths; therefore, a basic knowledge of the emblems is helpful. Since procedures vary among different faiths, the Duty to God brochure, No. 05-897C, is a helpful reference.

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed the following religious emblems programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved of these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer the programs. Check with your local council service center or contact the religious organization directly to obtain the curriculum booklets. In addition, call your local Boy Scout service center or the council religious relationships committee for help in identifying ways to promote the religious emblems program and emblem recipient recognition ceremonies.

Religious Emblem Annual Overview

Suggested Troop Presentation:

Preparation:

- ❖ Have a copy of the various Religious Emblems Handbooks in the library for the religions in your troop.
- ❖ Display poster of the various Religious Emblems Awards.
- ❖ Be familiar with the materials to be presented.
- ❖ Have all troop members who have earned a religious award wear their medals.

Introduction:

- ❖ Introduce yourself.
- ❖ Explain importance of working on Religious Emblem Award.

Religious Emblem Program:

- ❖ Show poster and give examples of various awards.
- ❖ If any scouts have already earned awards, have them cover the process they used to earn award.
- ❖ Show handbook for religions represented in troop and cover some basic requirements.
- ❖ Present list of counselors (obtained from Scoutmaster, Chaplain, or by contacting the Clinton Valley Council office).
- ❖ Encourage scouts to sign-up for their particular awards.
- ❖ Set an example by signing up yourself, if you have not already earned your award.

Chaplains Aide Program

Maintaining Troop Records:

The Chaplain Aide should maintain troop records which may include the following information:

- ❖ The various religions represented in the troop.
- ❖ The status of religious emblems earned in scouting, including cub scout awards.
- ❖ The history of when religious awards presented at troop functions.
- ❖ Copies of special religious ceremonies.
- ❖ Pictures from Scout Sunday recognitions.
- ❖ History of scouts earning Scout Sunday patches.

Example of Earned Emblem Record

Scout Name	Religious Emblem Earned	Date Earned	Date of Award Presentation

Example of Emblem In Progress Record

Scout Name	Religious Emblem In Progress	Counselor's Name	Date Scout Started

Example of Current Scout Religions Record

Scout Name	Jewish (List Type)	Muslim/Buddhist/Hindu/Islamic (List Type)	Christian (List Type)	Other (List Type)

Example Counselor List for Religious Emblem Program

Religious Emblem	Counselor Name	Phone Number	Address	e-mail address

Chaplains Aide Program

Music and Prayer in Troop Functions

MUSIC

The mood of worship is always enhanced through music. Singing adds to the involvement and raises the level of participation of the worshippers. Instrumental accompaniment (guitars, taped music, etc.) is helpful, but not necessary. Place the songs at the opening and closing of the religious service, and in between readings or stories. There are many hymns or songs that would be appropriate. Here are some suggestions:

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Pass It On
Kum Ba Yah
We Are One in the Spirit
Blowing in the Wind
Seek Ye First
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
Amazing Grace
I Am the Resurrection (Christian)
Peace is Flowing Like a River
Michael Row the Boat Ashore
Go Tell it on the Mountain
America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)
Scout Vespers
On Eagles Wings
God Bless America
On My Honor
America the Beautiful
God Bless the USA

Chaplains Aide Program

PRAYER

Prayers are an important part of a scout's duty to God. Prayers should be said before all meals and at weekend religious services. Prayers can be in various forms including:

- ❖ Readings by individual scouts
- ❖ Recited prayers by the group (example: Philmont Grace)
- ❖ Responsive prayers
- ❖ Inspirational stories
- ❖ Sung prayers

Remember to be sensitive to the needs of the entire troop when selecting prayers and songs for a religious service.

Guidelines for Leading Scout Worship Services

- Clothing:** Wear a Scout uniform or acceptable outdoor clothing if on a weekend campout.
- Length of Service:** 15-45 Minutes
- Weather:** Services are held regardless of weather - try to get under cover if wet weather, but dress appropriately.
- Delay of Service:** Due to the outdoor nature of the camping program, schedules may change.

“Religion can be both steering wheel and brake; it can guide you along the right road and stop you at the wrong one.”

- Source Braude's Source Book for Speakers & Writers by Jacob M. Braude, 1968, Prentice-Hall, Inc.

Chaplains Aide Program

Religious Service Planning Sheet

Call to Worship

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Prayer (In Unison)

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Hymn - Song

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Responsive Reading (In Unison)

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Scripture Reading or Inspirational Reading

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Offertory Prayer

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Meditation

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Silent Prayer

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Hymn - Song

What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Closing

(Benediction)
What: _____
Who will lead: _____

Chaplains Aide Program

Worship Aids

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, For he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! Psalm 106: 1

The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth. Psalm 145: 18

They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40: 31

Lord, stay with us as we come together; let all the earth keep silence in your presence.

Dear Lord, bless all those everywhere who contribute to shape the hearts, minds, and bodies of young people. Let us remember what they have taught and apply it daily. When facing deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy. If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal. Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevails, let us be Helpful. In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be Courteous. Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind. Though lawbreaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be Obedient. While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful. In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be Thrifty. When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be Brave. As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be Clean. While witnessing impiety and irreligion, let us remember to be Reverent. In short, in a world that has for generation after generation lamented the lack of good examples, let us, as Scouts, stand out, grow up, and be real adults. Amen

The Lord is in his holy temple: Let all the earth keep silent before him. The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the father in spirit and truth. Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our rock and redeemer.

An American Indian call to worship

O Great Spirit! Watch over us as we begin this day. Protect us as we live in your care. Give us bounty and hold us from harm. We are your children and wish only to please you. We hold our Mother Earth close to our hearts and wish her goodness. We thank you for your love.

Chaplains Aide Program

Invocations

May the time be not too distant, O God, when all your children will understand that they are brothers and sisters, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before you. Then shall your kingdom be established on earth, and the word of your prophet shall be fulfilled: "The Lord will reign forever and ever."

--From the Jewish Service of the Heart

Dear Lord, bless all those everywhere who contribute to shape the hearts, minds, and bodies of young people. Let us remember what they have taught and apply it daily.

When facing deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy. If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal. Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevail, let us be Helpful. In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be Courteous. Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind. Though lawbreaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be Obedient. While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful. In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be Thrifty. When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be Brave. As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be Clean. While witnessing impiety and irreligion, let us remember to be Reverent.

A Prayer of Thanks

We thank You, O God, for this day, for morning sun and evening star: for flowering of trees and flowing of streams, for life-giving rains and cooling breeze; for the earth's patient turning, the changing of seasons, the cycle of growth and decay, of life and death. When our eyes behold the beauty and grandeur of your world, we see the wisdom, power and goodness of its Creator. We awake and, behold! It is a great day!

An Opening from Hebrews 10:22-25

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching

Chaplains Aide Program

Offertory Prayers

Bless us, O God, and these gifts which we bring. Use them to further the Scouting ministry. Amen.

May these gifts which we bring be merely an extension of our daily duty to you, O God. Amen.

The Kyrie

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord,

Scouts: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord,

Scouts: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this holy assembly, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord,

Scouts: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Scouts: Amen.

Scripture Suggestions

The Beatitudes - Matthew 5: 1-12

The salt of the earth. The light of the world. - Matthew 5: 13-16

Anxiety - Matthew 6: 25-34

The Parable of the Sower - Matthew 13: 1-9

The Parable of the Lost Sheep - Matthew 18: 10-14

The Great Commandment - Matthew 22: 34-40

The Good Samaritan - Luke 10: 25-37

The Prodigal Son - Luke 15: 11-32

The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes - John 6: 1-14

The Good Shepherd - John 10: 11-18

Faith, Hope, and Love - 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Chaplains Aide Program

Scout Prayers

A PRAYER FOR THE BOY SCOUTS

O Lord, we thank you for the work of Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who in his dedication and wisdom founded the World Scouting Movement. We thank you for the efforts of those thousands of men and women who have brought Scouting to millions of boys the world over. We rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Movement -- To do our best -- to do our duty -- to God -- and to our Country. We ask you, O Lord, to give us the strength and courage --

A Scout Prayer

Lord, We are thankful for the life of General Robert Baden-Powell and his work in starting the Scouting movement. We are grateful that Scouting has given millions of youth a vision of what life at its best can mean.

Grant blessings to all Scouts around the world and help them to be true to the Scout Oath and Law. Keep them always mindful of a Scout's duty to God.

Increase the number of adults who offer their lives as Scout leaders. Let no one who wishes to be a member of Scouting miss the opportunity to join. Watch over all Scout leaders and inspire them to always lead by walking in your footsteps.

Grant that Scouting may help to raise up in our world generations of citizens who will live by standards of honor and duty. May they be able to save humanity from hate and greed, and lay the foundations for a world in which all people are held to be brothers or sisters.

In the name of the great Master of All Scouts we pray, Amen.

PRAYER FOR SCOUTING

Fulfill, O Lord, the great purpose for which the Boy Scout movement was created. Watch over the spirit of Scouting; sustain and strengthen the body of its organization; exalt its ideals; refine its aims; bless its undertakings; and guide its leadership.

Give every member of the Boy Scouts of America the grace to keep the promise made in the Scout Oath and to live according to the Scout Law. Teach us to speak and do the truth, so that honor of our word may be trusted by everyone.

Help us to do our best with all opportunities for serving thee and one another. May the jobs of friendship and fellowship in Scouting abound and multiply. Grant that the inspiration of this training experience may lift every one of us to higher levels of service and citizenship.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to say as we pray -----
The Lord's Prayer.

Chaplains Aide Program

Scout is Helpful -- The Unknown Scout

Years ago in London during a heavy fog, an American businessman by the name of William D. Boyce was looking for a building which he was unable to find. As he stood on a street corner, uncertain which way to go, a boy came up and asked, "May I be of service to you?" The American told him the address he was seeking, and the boy led him to the desired place.

Boyce offered the boy a shilling, but to his surprise the young stranger replied, "No, Sir, I am a Scout, and Scouts do not accept tips for courtesies." The man was so impressed by the boy's kindness that after returning to America he started the movement, which led to the organizing of the Boy Scouts of America.

The name of the London Scout is unknown, but the result of his good turn will live forever. A boy can never tell what may happen as the result of a single deed of helpfulness.

Closing Prayers

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip – He who watches over you will not slumber;
indeed, He who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you – the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm – He will watch over your life;
the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore

Chaplains Aide Program

Benedictions

Now unto him who is able to keep from falling and to be present you
Without blemish before the presence of his glory with rejoicing, to the
only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty,
dominion, and authority, before all time and now forever. Amen.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

May the Great Master of all Scouts be with you until we meet again.

May the blessing of the eternal God be upon us,
and upon our work and worship;
His Light to guide us,
His presence to strengthen us,
His love to unite us;
Now and always, Amen.

An Indian Benediction

O Great Spirit, Bless us from the north with the cool winds that calm our passions. Bless us from the east with the winds that bring and renew life. Bless us from the south with the warm wet winds that invite growth. Bless us from the west with the winds that lead us through this life to the next. Fill the sky so that we might sense your presence. And bless us from mother earth from which we've come and to whom we shall return.

Simple Blessing

May you walk in Peace, Live with Love,
Work with Joy, and May Your God go with you.

Chaplains Aide Program

A SCOUTER'S PRAYER

"Build me a Scout, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory...

Build me a Scout whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a Scout who himself is the foundation stone of knowledge...

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail...

Build me a Scout whose heart will be clear, whose goals will be high. A Scout who will master himself before he seeks to master others, one who will march into the future, yet never forget the past...

And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true wisdom, and the meekness of true strength...

Then I, a Scouter who knew him, will dare to whisper, 'I have not lived in vain.'"

A Scout's Prayer

We have hiked along life's pathway, our packs upon our backs,
We have pitched our tents and rested here and there along the tracks.
We have used our compass wisely to guide us on our way
And hope to reach the campsite of our Great Chief Scout some day.

We have tried to be trustworthy - Kept our honor high and clean,
We have been as loyal as any to our Country and our Queen.
We have done our best at all times - Kept our Promise - been prepared,
And hope our good deeds please Him when at last our souls are bared.

We have lightened others' burdens, with our smiles along the way,
We have kept our hand in God's hand, Walked beside Him day by day.
And when our span of life runs out, we'll make this gentle plea -
May we sit around His Campfire at the Final Jamboree.

Chaplains Aide Program

An Indian Version Of The Lord's Prayer

"Great Spirit, whose tepee is the sky and whose hunting ground is the earth,
Mighty and fearful are you called.
Ruler over storms, over men and birds and beasts,
Have your way over all,
Over earth ways as over skyways.
Find us this day our meat and corn,
we may be strong and brave.
put aside from us our wicked ways as we put aside the bad
works of them who do us wrong.
And let us not have such troubles as lead us into crooked roads,
But keep us from all evil,
For yours is all that is the earth and the sky;
the streams, the hills and the valleys, the stars, the moon,
and the sun, and all that live and breathe.
Wonderful, shining, mighty Spirit."
Arthur F. Giere

AN AMERICAN INDIAN PRAYER

O' Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds,
and whose breath gives life to all the world,
Hear me ! I am small and weak, I need your
strength and wisdom.

Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever
behold the red and purple sunset.

Make my hands respect the things you have made
and my ears sharp to hear your voice.
Make me wise so that I may understand the
things you have taught my people.
Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in
every leaf and rock.

I seek strength, not to be greater than my
brother, but to fight my greatest enemy--
Make me always ready to come to you with clean
hands and straight eyes.

So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my
spirit may come to you without shame.
Written by Chief Yellow Lark, Sioux, 1887

Chaplains Aide Program The 23rd Psalm (Indian Version)

The Great Father above is a shepherd chief, and I am his, and with him I want not. He throws out a rope, and the name of the rope is love. He draws me, and He draws me, and He draws me to where the grass is green and the water is not dangerous, and I eat and lie down satisfied.

Sometimes my heart is very weak and falls down, but He lifts it up again and draws me into a good road. His name is wonderful. Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be longer, it may be a long, long time, He will draw me into a place between mountains. It is dark there, but I will not draw back.

I will not be afraid, for it is in there between the mountains that the Shepherd will meet me; and the hunger I have felt in my heart all through this life will be satisfied.

Sometime he makes the love rope into a whip, but afterwards He gives me a staff that I may lean on. He spreads a table before me with all kinds of food. He puts his hand upon my head-all "tired" is gone. My cup He fills until it runs over. What I tell you is true. I lie not. These roads that are away ahead will stay with me through life, and afterwards I will go to live in the BIG TEPEE, and sit down with the SHEPHERD CHIEF forever.

Camper's Prayer

God of the mountains and hills, make me tall and strong.
Tall enough and strong enough to right some wrong.
God of the stars, make me steadfast and sure.
God of every lake and stream, flow through my life and make it clean.

God of the trees and woods, keep me fresh and pure.
God of the rain, wash from my life all dirt and stain.
Pure and strong let me remain.

God of the seed and soil, plant in my heart Thy love.
God of the darkness and day, through shadows or light, be my stay.
Guide Thou my way.

God of the radiant sun, light Thou my life.
God of the glorious dawn, make each day a fresh start.
God of the evening peace and quiet, keep me free from fear and strive.
God of the carefree birds, sing in my heart.

God of the surging waves and sea, wide horizons give to me.
Help me to see the world as Thou would have it be.
God of the lovely rose, make me lovely, too.
God of the morning dew, each day my faith renew.
God of all growing things, keep me growing, too.

– *George Earle Owen* –

Chaplains Aide Program

Responsive Readings

The Boy Scout Promise: A Responsive Reading

Leader: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart. (Deuteronomy 6:5)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to do my duty to God.**

Leader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. (Psalms 33:12)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to do my duty to my country.**

Leader: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. (Romans 13:9)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to help other people.**

Leader: My son, forget not My law; but let thine heart keep My commandments. (Proverbs 3:1)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to obey the Scout Law.**

Leader: Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the ways that I command you. (Jeremiah 7:23)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to keep myself physically strong.**

Leader: A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (Proverbs 24:5)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to keep myself mentally awake.**

Leader: Thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:18)

Scouts: **I promise to do my best to keep myself morally straight.**

Leader: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your path. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Psalm 23

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd;

Group: **I have everything I need.**

Leader: He lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.

Group: **He gives me new strength.**

Leader: he guides me in the right paths, as he has promised.

Group: **Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me.**

Leader: Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me.

Group: **You prepare a banquet for me, where all my enemies can see me; you welcome me as an honored guest and fill my cup to the brim.**

All: **I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life; and your house will be my home as long as I live.**

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The Scout Law: A Responsive Reading

Leader: The Scout Law is a guiding light to millions of boys and men throughout the world today, but the principles of the law have been brought to us from ancient days. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbors. Exodus 20:13)

Scouts: A Scout is Trustworthy.

Leader: He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much; and he that is unjust in the least, is also unjust in much. (Luke 16:10)

Scouts: A Scout is Loyal.

Leader: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. (Leviticus 19:18) Thou shalt surely open thy hand unto thy poor and needy brother in thy land. (Deuteronomy 15:11)

Scouts: A Scout is Helpful.

Leader: Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another. (Romans 12:10) Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity. (Psalms 133:1)

Scouts: A Scout is Friendly.

Leader: Let no bad word pass your lips, but only such speech as is good for edification. As occasion may require, use words that are gracious and a means of grace to those that hear them. Ephesians 4:29)

Scouts: A Scout is Courteous.

Leader: A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast. (Proverbs 12:10)

Scouts: A Scout is Kind.

Leader: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor thy father and thy mother, which is the first commandment with promise; that is may be well with thee and thou mayest live only on the earth. Ephesians 6:1-3)

Scouts: A Scout is Obedient.

Leader: A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but a sad heart breaks the spirit. For the hapless, every day is hard, but a cheerful heart is an unending feast. (Proverbs 15:13)

Scouts: A Scout is Cheerful.

Leader: Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise; which, having no chief, overseer or ruler, provides her bread in the summer and gathers her food in the harvest. (Proverbs 6:6)

Scouts: A Scout is Thrifty.

Leader: Be strong, be brave, fear not, be not terrified of them, for it is the eternal, your God, who goes with you. He will never fail nor forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Scouts: A Scout is Brave.

Leader: Who shall ascend unto the mountain of the Lord, and who shall stand in His holy place? He that has clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity nor sworn

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deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. (Psalms 24:3)

Scouts **A Scout is Clean.**

Leader: And thou shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength; this is the first commandment. (Mark 12:30)

Scouts: **A Scout is Reverent. He is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others.**

The Scout Law Litany

S) *A Scouts Honor is to be trusted.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for fearless honest, that knowing neither "but" nor "if" we may be known as trustworthy men.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout is loyal to the Queen, his country, his Scouters, his parents, his employers, and to those under him.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for every knightly virtue, that no ignoble quest or untrue thing may dim the splendor of our loyalties.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout's duty is to be useful and helpful to others.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for happy diligence, that as apprentices of Him who served mankind, we may master the virtue of helpfulness.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout is a friend to all, and a brother to every other Scout.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for friendly hearts, that neither class nor creed, nor color, nor accident of birth may blind us to claims of brotherhood.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout is courteous.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for simple courtesy, that being strong we may uphold the weak, and being men, may yet be gentlemen.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout is a friend to animals.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for all the speechless subjects of God's kingdom, that we may be humble to learn the lessons they can teach us, and eager to befriend them.

A) *Make us good Scouts, Lord.*

S) *A Scout obeys orders of his parents, Patrol Leader and Scoutmaster without question.*

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L) We pray Thee, Lord, for vigorous free obedience, that being masters of ourselves, we may be willing servants of authority.

A) Make us good Scouts, Lord.

S) *A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for joyful humor that we may not run before the gale, but beat into the wind with hearts held high, and gay and gallant constancy.

A) Make us good Scouts, Lord.

S) *A Scout is thrifty.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for generous thrift, that we may save the gifts of God and yet be set on giving more than getting.

A) Make us good Scouts, Lord.

S) *A Scout is clean in thought, word and deed.*

L) We pray Thee, Lord, for Thy presence in our hearts, that all befouling things may drop away from us as dead desires.

A) Make us good Scouts, Lord.

L) Truly our Law is founded as a house upon a rock. It is rooted in the principles of God. Let us then with pride and purpose renew our Scout Promise.

A) The Scout Promise. (Make the Scout sigh and repeat) I Promise to do my best, to love and serve God, My Queen, my country and my fellow men, And to live by the Scout Law.

----- A) All S) A Scout L) Leader -----

The Scout Oath

Leader: Our honor is a quality we possess because of our dignity as human beings and children of GOD. Our 'best' means to give all we have. It means to keep striving to do what we know is right, and in the Oath it means we will try to be good Scouts by fulfilling our Scout duties as expressed in the Scout Law.

Congregation: ON MY HONOR I WILL DO MY BEST.

Leader: Our duty to GOD and country means chiefly two things: obedience and loyalty. The duties we owe to the House of GOD, to our country, to parents, to one another, and to ourselves come from some command of GOD. The Scout Law sums up all the qualities a Scout should have and without which he can not be a good Scout.

Congregation: TO DO MY DUTY TO GOD AND MY COUNTRY AND TO OBEY THE SCOUT LAW.

Leader: Our Lord told us that love of our neighbor was like the first law of love of GOD. The first children of GOD were known by the love they had for one another. Real human

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charity or love prompts us to want to help others at all times. Our Scout training will give us skills and knowledge that will put us in a better position to do this.

Congregation: TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE AT ALL TIMES.

Leader: Scouting offers us many opportunities to grow strong physically. To be alert and ready requires us to give special care to those gifts of soul - intellect and will - that make us unto GOD. 'Morally straight' means we must try to know what is right and true, and to love what is good and choose it.

Congregation: TO KEEP MYSELF PHYSICALLY STRONG, MENTALLY AWAKE, AND MORALLY STRAIGHT.

The Boy Scout Law I

Leader "The person who is dishonest shall not live in My house; the person who is untruthful shall not stand before My eyes." Psalms 101:7

People: A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY

Leader: And Ruth said: "Do not beg me to leave you or to return from following after you, for where you go I will go; and where you stay, I will stay." Ruth 1:16

People: A SCOUT IS LOYAL,

Leader: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" Leviticus 19:18

People: A SCOUT IS HELPFUL

Leader: "Can two walk together unless they agree?"

People: A SCOUT IS FRIENDLY

Leader: "Honor your Father and your Mother." Exodus 20:12

People: A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS

Leader: "Withhold not good from the person to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it" Proverbs 3:27

People: A SCOUT IS KIND

Leader: "Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to the words of knowledge." Proverbs 23:12

People: A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT

Leader: "A glad heart is good medicine." Proverbs 17:22

People: A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL

Leader: "Precious treasure remains in a wise person's dwelling, but a foolish person uses it up." Proverbs 20:12

People: A SCOUT IS THRIFTY

Leader: "Be strong and of good courage." First Chronicles 28:20

People: A SCOUT IS BRAVE

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Leader: "Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place?
'Me person who has clean hands and a pure heart. Psalms 24:3-4

People: A SCOUT IS CLEAN

Leader: "It has been told to you what is good, and what the Lord requires of you; Only to do
justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

People: A SCOUT IS REVERENT

The Boy Scout Law II

A Responsive Reading based on the Twelve Points of the [Boy] Scout Law

A Scout is Trustworthy

**No one who practices deceit shall remain in my house; no one who utters lies shall
continue in my presence. Psalm 101:7**

A Scout is Loyal

**It is a loyal thing you do when you render any service to the friends, even though they
are strangers to you. 3 John 1:5**

A Scout is Helpful

**In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must help the weak,
remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give
than to receive.' Acts 20:35**

A Scout is Friendly

**Some friends play at friendship, but a true friend sticks close than one's nearest kin.
Proverbs 18:24**

A Scout is Courteous

**Remind them to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show
courtesy to everyone. Titus 3:2**

A Scout is Kind

**Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has
forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32**

A Scout is Obedient

**So, Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother
treasured all these things in her heart. Luke 2:51**

A Scout is Cheerful

**In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.
John 16:33**

A Scout is Thrifty

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Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it. Proverbs 21:20

A Scout is Brave

Be strong and of good courage. 1 Chronicles 28:20

A Scout is Clean

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts. Psalm 24:3

A Scout is Reverent

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

The Boy Scout Law III

Leader: A true and worthy person recognizes his obligations and does them without being watched or compelled.

People: A SCOUT IS TRUSTWORTHY.

Leader: We owe much too many - to home, school, community, nation, and to God.

People: A SCOUT IS LOYAL.

Leader: The good Samaritan showed the spirit of doing a Good Turn.

People: A SCOUT IS HELPFUL.

Leader: Courtesy is the mark of all faiths. It is shown in thoughtful acts and kindly respect for everyone.

People: A SCOUT IS COURTEOUS.

Leader: Kindliness is the way people show respect for others.

People: A SCOUT IS KIND.

Leader: Life is filled with things that we must do whether we like them or not. One of the marks of growing up is our readiness to accept responsibilities willingly.

People: A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT.

Leader: Our moods make our days. If we are grouchy, our day is gloomy. If we are happy, our day is always happier.

People: A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL.

Leader: The world offers many gifts. a wise person uses them with care.

People: A SCOUT IS THRIFTY.

Leader: To each of us comes danger, difficult tasks, and temptations. In choice of courage or cowardice, may we be brave.

People: A SCOUT IS BRAVE.

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Leader: Cleanliness is next to Godliness. To have a clean body, a clean mind, and a clean record is a rewarding achievement.

People: **A SCOUT IS CLEAN.**

Leader: Character is determined by the things we worship. If we respect ourselves and our brothers and sisters, and see them as gifts of the goodness of God, we live on a high plane.

People: **A SCOUT IS REVERENT.**

ALL: GIVE US CLEAN HANDS, CLEAN WORDS, AND CLEAN THOUGHTS, O GOD. TEACH US TO WORK HARD AND PLAY FAIRLY. FORGIVE US WHEN WE ARE UNKIND AND HELP US TO HELP OTHERS. SEND US STRENGTH TO DO A GOOD TURN EACH DAY AND SO LIVE AFTER THY WILL.

A Scout Is Reverent Responsive Reading

To Be Read Responsively

"The Bible is a tree of life to them that hold fast to it."

Because a Scout is reverent - he strives to be true to God, to study the Torah, and to live according to its commands.

"Seek the peace of the city and pray unto the Lord for it; for in the peace thereof shall you have peace."

Because a Scout is reverent - he is loyal to America and its ideals of religious liberty for all.

"All men should be mindful of the well-being of one another."

Because a Scout is reverent - he is loyal to his people, and is ready to help his fellow men everywhere.

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land."

Because a Scout is reverent - he is a devoted and loyal son to his parents.

"Oh, how good it is, and how pleasant, for brothers to dwell together in unity."

Because a Scout is reverent - he strives to be a good Scout, a good person, and a good American at all times.

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Ephesians 6:11-12 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places

The Scout Beatitudes

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught to see beauty in all things around them...for their world will be a place of grace and wonder.

Blessed are the Scouts who are led with patience and understanding... for they will learn the strength of endurance and the gift of tolerance.

Blessed are the Scouts who are provided a home where family members dwell in harmony and close communion...for they shall become the peacemakers of the world.

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught the value and power of truth...for they shall search for knowledge and use it with wisdom and discernment.

Blessed are the Scouts who are guided by those with faith in a loving God...for they will find Him early and will walk with Him through life.

Blessed are the Scouts who are loved and know that they are loved...for they shall sow seeds of love in the world and reap joy for themselves and others.

A Scout Leader's Wish

Deep reflection on my role causes me to pause. Can I remember? Can I be the leader I want to be?

Let me exhibit the qualities of those who I have admired, and shun the qualities of those I did not.

Let me create a safe haven for all who come to our troop.

Let me be as respectful of others and their ideas as I was when I saw an American Flag being ceremoniously retired by flame.

Let me have the humility to seek help from those more knowledgeable than I.

Let me remember, that in a Scout's eyes, what I do speaks louder than what I say.

Let me have the patience to let the Scouts lead, fail and succeed.

Let me have the grace to praise the Scouts for the troop's successes and accept the blame for its failures.

Let me have the perception and caring to seek out the troubled youth, the homesick camper, and the lonely Scout.

Let me have the creativity to help provide fun, spirit and knowledge.

Let me have the attentiveness to listen and respond completely,

Let me have enough time for deep reflection.

Let me have the necessary qualities and skill to instill the true meaning of the Scout Law, Oath,

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Motto, and Slogan.

Let me remember, but not be burdened by, the responsibilities of my position.
And please, Oh Lord, help me to watch over the Scouts under my care.

The Golden Principle

Blessed are those who prefer others before themselves. Baha'i Faith

Hurt not others in ways that you would you yourself would find hurtful. Buddhism

This is the sum of all duty: treat others as you yourself would be treated. Hinduism

No one of you is a believer until you desire for another that which you desire for yourself.
Islam

In happiness and suffering, in joy and grief, regard all creatures as you would regard your own self. Jainism

What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. Judaism

Be not estranged from another, for God dwells in every heart. Sikhism

Human nature is good only when it does not do unto another whatever is not good for its own good for its own self. Zoroastrianism

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Christianity

A Scouting Benediction

Dear God, thank you for the opportunity to be here in your garden. Give us the strength to endure, the wisdom to enjoy each moment, and the courage to push ourselves further than we have ever before. Bless our troop and our leaders as we journey through Boy Scouting. Amen.

An Ancient Prayer

Give us, Lord, a bit o' sun a bit o' work and a bit o' fun;
give us all in tho' struggle and splutter our daily bread and a bit o' butter.
Give us health, our keep to make an' a bit to spare for poor folks sake;
give us sense, for we're some of us duffers, an' a heart to feel for all that suffers.
Give us, too, a bit of a song, an' a tale, and a book to help us along,

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an' give us our share o' sorrow's lesson that we may prove how grief's a blessing.

Give us, Lord, a chance to be our goodly best, brave, wise and free,
our goodly best for ourselves and others till all men learn to live as brothers.

Amen.

[Found on the wall of an old Inn in Lancashire, England]

A Parent's Prayer

I pray that I may let my child live his own life and not
the one I wish I had lived. Therefore, guard me against
burdening him with doing what I failed to do.

Help me to see his missteps today in perspective
against the long road he must travel, and grant me the
grace to be patient when his pace seems to be slow.
Give me the wisdom to know when to smile at the small
mischief's of his age and when to show firmness
against the impulses he fears and cannot handle.

Help me to hear the anguish in his heart through the din
of angry words or across the gulf of brooding silence;
and, having heard, grant me the ability to bridge the
gap between us with understanding.

I pray that I may raise my voice more in joy at what he is
than in vexation at what he is not, so that each day he
may grow in sureness of himself.

Help me to regard him with genuine affection so that he
will feel affection for others. Then give me strength, O
Lord, to free him so he can move strongly on his way.

Sample Interfaith Prayers and Benedictions

1. For health, strength, and daily food, we give you thanks, o Lord.
2. For this and all your mercies, Lord, make us truly grateful.
3. For food, health, and friendship, we give you thanks, o Lord.
4. Come, O Lord, be our guest and bless what you have bestowed on us.
5. Gracious giver of all good, we thank you for food and rest. Grant all we say or do pleases you.
6. Lord, bless our Scouting leaders who spend so much of their time and energy to help us grow up well. Guide them in their work, give them patience and wisdom, and reward them in this life and the next. Amen.
7. As our campfire fades, we thank you for the joys and blessings of this day. We lift our minds and hearts to you in gratitude for life, happiness, and the Scouting movement. Lord, protect our camp this night. May we rise refreshed and ready to serve you. Amen.

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Solemn Prayer

O Lord, this solemn prayer comes from deep desire, May my life be as pure as candle fire.

Let my every breath dispel the world's gloom; Let my spirit glow so brightly that darkness meets its doom. May my life enhance my country's glory as the flower enhances the garden's splendid revelry. May I be as faithfully drawn to learning as the moth is drawn to the candle's burning. May my life be devoted to serving the needy And to loving a sorrowful, ever suffering humanity. Lead me away from the path of temptation. O Lord, let truth alone be my destination.

Climbing The Mountain

Afar in our dry southwestern country is an Indian village, and in the offing is a high mountain, towering up out of the desert. It is considered a great feat to climb this mountain. So that all the boys of the village were eager to attempt it. One day the Chief said; "Now boys you may all go today and try to climb the mountain. Start right after breakfast, and go each of you as far as you can. Then when you are tired, come back; but let each one bring me a twig from the place where he turned." Away they went full of hope each feeling that he surely could reach the top. But soon a fat, pudgy boy came slowly back, and in his hand he held out to the Chief a leaf of cactus. The Chief smiled and said, "My boy, you did not reach the foot of the mountain, you did not even get across the desert."

Later, a second boy returned. He carried a twig of sagebrush. "Well," said the Chief, "You reached the mountain's foot but you did not clime upward." The next had a cottonwood spray. "Good", said the Chief, "You got up as far as the springs." Another came later with some buckthorn. The Chief smiled when he saw it and spoke thus: "You were climbing; you were up to the first slide rock." Late in the afternoon, one arrived with a cedar spray, and the old man said, "Well done. You went half way up." An hour afterward, one came with a switch of pine. To him the Chief said, "Good, you went to the third belt; you made it three quarters of the climb." The sun was low when the last returned. He was a tall, splendid boy of noble character. His hand was empty as he approached the Chief, but his countenance was radiant, and he said: "My father, there were no trees where I got to; there were no twigs, but I saw the shining sea." Now the old man's face glowed, too, as he said aloud and almost sang: "I knew it. When I looked on your face, I knew it. You have been to the top. You need no twigs for token. It is written in your eyes, and rings in your voice. My boy, you have felt the uplift, you have seen the glory of the mountain." Scouts, keep this in mind, then: the badges that we offer for attainment are not "prizes." Prizes are things of value taken by violence from their rightful owners. These are merely tokens of what you have done or where you have been. They are mere twigs from the trail to show how far you got in climbing the mountain.

From Woodland Tales, by Ernest Thompson Seton

The Story of "Taps"

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It all began in 1862, during the Civil War, when a Union Army Captain named Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing, in Virginia. The Confederate army was on the other side of a narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moan of a single soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field, in no-man's land between the picket lines. Something made him particularly want to help this soldier. Not knowing if he was a Union or Confederate, the Captain decided to risk his own life and bring the stricken man back to the Union lines for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the sporadic gunfire, Captain Ellicombe reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him towards his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier and what is more, the soldier was already dead. The Captain lit a lantern.

Suddenly, he caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he finally saw the face of the soldier and realized it was his own son!

The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the son had enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. The request was denied. However, in deference to his rank and heroism in rescuing the soldier, the Captain's superiors did allow him a token gesture. He had asked if he could have a group of Union Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son during the funeral. This was the request that was turned down, since the soldier was a Confederate. Out of respect for the father, the Captain's superiors said he could have one and only one musician.

The Captain chose a bugle, the simplest of all musical instruments. He requested the bugler to play a few musical notes composed by his musical son that he had found on a scrap of paper inside the pocket of his dead son's uniform. This modest request was granted. Those few notes were the haunting melody we know as "Taps," the tune that is now used at all military funerals.

A Scouting Benediction

Wood and water ... wind and tree,
Wisdom ... Strength ... and courtesy,
Scouting's spirit go with thee.

A Zulu Farewell

Go well and safely, go well and safely, Go well and safely, the Lord be ever with you.
Stay well and safely, stays well and safely, Stay well and safely, the Lord be ever with you.

A SCOUTER'S THANKSGIVING PRAYER

With reverence in our hearts, We, You're many children of many beliefs,
United in common purpose, Gather to offer this our humble prayer,

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In Thanksgiving:

As Scouters we are thankful for:

The many gifts and talents given to our fellow Scouters, and to ourselves;
The freedom we have to join together and as a team accomplish more than
any of us could alone;

The opportunity to be of service to young people, parents, other Scouters
and our community;

Our joy at seeing so many young people become excited as they grow and are
able to meet challenges;

Being reminded by their ceremonies and legends that he who serves his
fellows, is of his fellows greatest;

And most importantly we are thankful for the gift of knowing that our
prayers are heard.

We each in own way take this moment to silently add our own thanksgivings
. . . (pause)

With thanks in our hearts we offer our prayers and ask that You, the Great
Scoutmaster of All Scouts, be with each of us until we meet again. AMEN

By Michael F. Bowman

Native American Prayer

Morning star wake us, filled with joy to new days of growing to man from boy.
Sun, with your power, give us light that we can tell wrong and do what's right. South
wind, we ask, in your gentle way Blow us the willingness to obey.
North winds, we ask, live up to thy name; Send us the strength to always be same.
East wind, we ask, with your breath so snappy, Fill us with knowledge of how to be
happy. West wind, we ask, blow all that is fair To us, that we may always be square.
Moon, that fills the night with red light, guard us well while we sleep in the night.
Akela, please guide us in every way; we'll follow your trail in work or play.

PRAYERS FOR SCOUTING OCCASIONS

The act of prayer is a personal and private thing. Please accept these prayers as food for thought and inspiration.

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For a Scout;

Jesus of Nazareth was a model of love for parents, respect for elders, and obedience. Grant me, O. Lord, the grace to study Your example, and to imitate You; so that I may grow with the years, in grace and love for You, for you are the Lord forever and ever. Amen.

For a Patrol Leader;

Lord, I have the responsibility of being leader of my patrol ask You for your help in getting to know them and in being sensitive to their needs. I realize that my attitudes and my good example are more important than my skills. Help me to be fair, kind and generous to all. Grant my patrol a happy spirit; bless all our projects and help us to make constructive progress, so that our training will fit us for real service now and in the future. Amen.

For a Patrol Leaders Council;

Almighty God, we raise our minds and hearts to You at the beginning of our meeting. We ask Your blessing on all we do and say. May the resolutions passed be for the honor and glory of God and the good progress of scouting. May this meeting help us toward the better fulfillment of the Oath and Law, so that the Scouts and we entrusted to our care may grow in fidelity to our country and in the knowledge and love of you Lord God. Amen.

For the Troop's Chaplain;

God, bless our troop chaplain whose teachings show the trail we Scouts must blaze to have God's love and mercy every day. Fill his heart with good council and fill our hearts with compassion, cooperation and obedience to our chaplain for he teaches Your way and understanding to us. We ask this in your name Lord. Amen.

Prayer for our Troop Leaders;

Dear Lord, bless my leaders who spend a lot of time and energy to help me grow and understand. Guide them in their work; give them patience and wisdom, and reward them in this life and in the next. Amen

For My Religious Obligation;

O God, who comes with the dawn, with light and love and cheer, grant me to know with burning heart that Thou art always near. Shine on the way in which I walk, upon the folk I meet; and grant that friendliness and joy may make each day complete. Amen.

Prayer at Troop Meeting;

May the Holy Spirit be always with us, especially as we meet together today. Inspire us in our deliberations, training, and Scout spirit. May our resolutions and decisions be wise and practical and that our actions will be pleasing in your eyes. Keep us safe in all our actions that we do, in your name Lord we pray. Amen.

At The Start of a Journey;

O God, creator of heaven and earth, protector of all who trust in You, be with us on this journey; be our guardian and guide along the way. May no harm come to us, no difficulty be too great to overcome. Bless us with good weather; may all go well with us and may we reach our destination safely. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

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At The Opening of Camp;

The Lord our God walks in the midst of our camp. Almighty God, who for forty years desired no other dwelling place than the holy tent of the people of Israel; make dwelling in the midst of Your Scouts and keep from this camp all that is harmful to soul and body. In the Blessed name of you Lord. Amen.

At The Closing of Camp;

We thank You, Father, for all the graces we have received during this camp. We have lived together, sharing the joys and sorrows, the work and the play. Thank You, for the progress made, the lessons learned, the friendships that have been formed and depend, and the kindness that has been shown. Striking camp and going home reminds us that we are on the move to eternity. May we be prepared when one day You will call us to our eternal resting place in heaven. We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen.

At The Closing of Campfire;

As the light of this campfire fades, we thank you Lord, for the joys and blessings of this day. As the embers cool and the smoke dies down we lift up our minds and hearts to You in gratitude for life, our youth, our happiness, and our Scouting. Beneath the stars we will sleep and take our rest. Lord, protect our camp this night; may we rise refreshed and ready to serve You with generosity tomorrow. We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen.

Prayer for Families;

Lord, God, who has blessed all families through the fellowship of Your family; grant that Your love may warm our families and keep us together in peace, joy, and harmony so that strife and hatred may yield to faithfulness, unity, and charity. We ask this in Your Name. Amen.

In Thanks for God's World;

God, our Father and creator, we thank You for the beauty of the earth, sea and sky; for the dawn and the sunset, for the months and seasons of the year. Thank you for the gift of life, for our powers of mind and body, for our homes and families and for the joy and happiness of our youth. All these things should help us to know You and love You better. May we never abuse the gifts of creation, but rather use them all for your honor and glory and the salvation of our souls. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

For Scouts Everywhere;

God, our Father, bless us and all Scouts everywhere. We thank you for all the blessings granted to us in the past and we ask your continuing help in days to come. We thank you for health bestowed, for opportunities given, for help received, and for all the happiness we enjoy. Forgive all that has been displeasing in your sight; deepen our repentance for all that has gone wrong; strengthen our good intentions, and may your Holy Spirit shield and direct us in all our ways. Through the Holy Spirit of our Lord. Amen.

For a Day When Nothing Went Well;

Lord, You know how hard it is for us to be cheerful in the face of difficulties. Everything seemed to go wrong today. You know how hard we tried, how much we failed, we offer you these failures; we unite them all to your own trials and disappointments. With your help we shall do better tomorrow. In your name Lord we pray. Amen.

Dear God, sometimes I'm confused and upset. I don't know which way to turn. Sometimes I'm afraid. Sometimes I feel alone. I'm knocking on the door God. I'm asking for Your help. I need your help. I

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especially need your help with these things, which have been bothering me today: (say what's bothering you)_____. There are others around me who need your help also. We are knocking on your door. Amen.

For Times That Are Going Well;

God, I thank you for all the things that I am able to do. I especially thank you that I am able to _____ . Forgive me when I fail to use your gifts in order to help others. Remind me that each thing I am able to do can be used to share your love. Thank you for making it possible for me to share your gifts. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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For Offering of Self;

Lord Jesus, We give you our hands to do your work; we give you our feet to go your way. We give you our eyes to see as you do; We give you our tongues to speak your words; we give you our minds that you may think in us; we give you our hearts that you may love in us, your Father, and all mankind. We give you ourselves that you may grow in us, so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who works and live and pray in us. Amen.

A Prayer for Harmony; (Saint Frances)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; Where there is hatred, let us sow love, where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness joy. O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer; (Christian)

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 those that 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer; (Catholic)

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. Amen.

A Scout's Prayer;

Dear Jesus, teach us to be generous, teach us to serve you as you deserve; to give and not count the cost; to fight and not heed the wounds; to toil and not seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, except that of knowing that we do your will. Jesus, we give our hearts entirely; fill them with your grace and teach us to be like you. We will do our best to follow your example and with the help of Mary, to grow in goodness. Jesus, you loved your home in Nazareth, be with us in our home. Teach us to be obedient, kind, and unselfish to our mothers and fathers, and to all that share our home. As we advance along the trail, greater things are expected of us. Help us, Jesus, always to give good example to those who are younger than we are. Weather we lead or whatever we follow, help us to draw people nearer to you, the source of all good happiness. Amen.

Dear Jesus, perfect model of obedience, truthfulness, honesty, and all that a Scout should be, make me obedient, and honest. Be with us always, at home, at school, and at play. Keep us true to you. Let us count on you as our dearest friend. Amen.

Lord Jesus, give us thankful hearts; keep us from grumbling and bad temper, especially in our homes. Keep us cheerful when things go wrong or when our plans get upset. Help us to grow in love and understanding of other people. Jesus, you know how hard it is for us to do right; Help us to fight against all wrong. Help us to be brave when we feel afraid; to be cheerful when we are disappointed; to be pleasant when we feel bad temper. Help us to tell the truth, even when it will get us into trouble. In your name Lord we pray. Amen.

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O Lord, we thank you for the work of Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who in his dedication and wisdom founded the World Scouting Movement. We thank you for the efforts of those thousands of men and women who have brought Scouting to millions of boys the world over. We rededicate ourselves to the principles of our Movement -- To do our best -- to do our duty -- to God -- and to our Country. We ask you, O Lord, to give us the strength and courage -

For The Sick;

Lord, thank you for our good health. However, we pray for name who is ill, and we ask You to help him bear his sickness with patience and courage. Make him well again, so that he may take up a full and active life once more in the community. We ask You, Father, to ease the pain and burden of all who are sick- of all those who are incurable- of all those who are neglected and uncared for. We ask You especially to help those who do not believe in You and who can see no meaning in their suffering. Amen.

A Prayer of Thanks;

For each new morning with its light, Father, we thank Thee, For rest and shelter of night, Father, we thank thee, For health and food, for love and friends, For everything Thy goodness sends, Father in heaven, we thank thee. Amen.

For an Eagle Scout;

Eternal Father, direct my course through life by a well-informed conscience Eagle Scout. Grant that on my honor I may do my best to do my duty to You. My whole life should always point toward You. Let Your will be to me a compass to direct me and give me the grace to fulfill every duty and one day to share in Your eternal happiness in heaven. I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bible Is My Compass;

Dear Lord, teach me how to use the Bible as my guide on the journey of life. As the compass points to the north and enables the traveler to chart a straight course, so may the Bible point out the trail that thou dost wish me to follow. May it be "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Keep me in the way of truth and right. Let me never be lead astray. Save me from wandering aimlessly through life without knowing where I am going. May I remember the words of the prophet, that thou art willing to direct us in all our ways. Through the study of the Bible, guide me into thy presence. May I come to know thee as thou hast revealed thyself in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. More than anything else, O God, I need thee. Without thee I am in danger of being lost. Grant that I may remember to use my compass. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER From the Qoran

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. Praise belongs to God, the Lord of all being, the All-merciful, the All-compassionate, the Master of the Day of Doom. Thee only we serve; to Thee alone we pray for succour. Guide us in the straight path, the path of those whom Thou hast blessed, not of those against whom Thou art wrathful, nor of those who are astray.

Morning star wake us, filled with joy, to new days of growing to man from boy. Sun, with your power, give us light that we can tell wrong and do what's right. South wind, we ask, in your gentle way Blow us the willingness to obey. North winds, we ask, live up to thy name; Send us the strength to always be game. East wind, we ask, with your breath so snappy, Fill us with knowledge of how to be happy. West wind, we ask, blow all that is fair to us, that we may always be square. Moon, that fills the night with red light,

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guard us well while we sleep in the night. Akela, please guide us in every way; we'll follow your trail in work or play.
Native American

The Great Spirit Prayer

The lone, wild fowl in lofty flight is still with Thee, nor leaves Thy sight. The ends of earth are in Thy hand, the sea's dark deep and no man's land. And I am Thine, I rest in Thee. Great Spirit, come and rest in me.
Amen.

A Baha'i Prayer

I have awakened in Thy shelter, O my God, and it becometh him who awakeneth in that shelter to abide within the sanctuary of Thy protection and the stronghold of Thy defense. Illumine my inner being, O my Lord, even as Thou hast illumined my outer being with the morning light of Thy Favor.

--from the Baha'i Writings

Master of the Universe Prayer

Master of the universe Grant me the ability to be alone; May it be my custom to go outdoors each day among the trees and grass, among all living things. And there may I be alone, and enter into prayer, to talk with the one to whom I belong. May I express there everything in my heart, And may all the foliage of the field (All grasses, trees and plants) May they all awake at my coming, To send the powers of their life into the words of my prayer So that my prayer and speech are made whole Through the life and the spirit of all growing things, Which are made as one by their transcendent source.

--Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav (1772-1811)

A Christian Prayer

Great Spirit, who has blessed the Earth that it should be fruitful and bring forth whatsoever is needful for the life of man, and hast commanded us to work with quietness and eat our own bread; Bless the labors of those who till the fields and grant such seasonable weather that we may gather in the fruits of the earth. --

Adapted from The Book of Common Prayer

A Jewish Prayer

God of the World, I stand before you and before my neighbors - pardoning, forgiving, struggling to be open to all who have hurt and angered me. Be this hurt of body or soul, of honor or property, whether they were forced to hurt me or did so willingly, whether by accident or intent, whether by word or deed

- I forgive them because we are human...I am ready to take upon myself the commandment, Love your neighbor as yourself. - Levi Yitchak of Beditschev

A Buddhist Prayer

May all beings have happiness and the causes of happiness; this is immeasurable loving kindness; May all things be liberated from suffering and the causes of suffering; this is immeasurable compassion; May all beings be free of suffering and always stay happy; this is immeasurable joy; May all things be free of grasping and aversion toward others, and develop faith in the equality of all beings; this is immeasurable equanimity. -The Four Immeasurable Vows, Tantric Buddhism

The Scout Benediction;

And now, May the Great Master of all Scouts be with us until we meet again!

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MEAL GRACES TO BE USED BEFORE MEALS.

FIRST DAY

Breakfast

“Come, O Lord, be our guest and let Thy gifts to us be blessed, for Thy name’s sake we ask it.”
Amen.

Lunch

“Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless us and all these Thy gifts, which we received from thy bountiful goodness, through the name of Our Lord.” Amen.

Dinner

“Lord God, gracious and merciful, we acknowledge Thy bountiful goodness toward us and give Thee thanks for our daily bread so richly provided by Thee. And we ask Thee to continue to bless us with the benedictions of Thy fatherly hands.” Amen.

SECOND DAY

Breakfast

“Gracious giver of all good, we thank You for rest and food. Grant that all we do or say, in your service be, this day.” Amen.

Lunch

“Heavenly Father, help us to see the beautiful things in earth and sky, which are tokens of Your love. Walk with us in the days we spend together here. May the food we eat and all Your blessings help us better to serve You. Amen.

Dinner

“Tireless Guardian of our way, you have kept us well this day. While we thank You, we ask for your continued care, for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the rest at the close of a busy day. Amen.

THIRD DAY

Breakfast

“Heavenly Father, we thank you for your care through the night and for this new day. Help us to be faithful to you in our thoughts, words, and deeds. At the close of this day may we be not ashamed before You. Amen.

Lunch

Our Father in heaven, as this day leads on, let us not forget to honor and serve you. We thank you for these gifts of your bounty. Bless them to our use and our lives to your service. Amen.

Dinner

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Our Father in heaven, Thou has given us all things richly to enjoy. We bring our thanks to you at this evening meal. Bless us as we partake of this food, and keep us mindful of the needs of others. Amen.

FORTH DAY

Breakfast

For health and strength and daily food, we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

Lunch

We thank you, our Lord and maker, for the gift of food and rejoice in the daily call to serve you. Give us strength and bring us anew to the task of building your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dinner

Our Father in heaven, we thank you for this evening meal. As you have been mindful of us, so help us to be mindful of you, that we may know and do your will. everything waits for you full of hope, all the living ask you for food. You open your hand, always in time, and sustain our every moment. Lord bless our table and make it a sign of our belonging to you and to each other. Amen.

FIFTH DAY

Breakfast

Be present at our table, Lord. Be here and everywhere adored; these mercies bless and grant that we may love, and serve, and honor you. Amen.

Lunch

“Bless us, O Lord and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your goodness through Christ our Lord.” Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed. Amen.

Dinner

Lord God, bless this table and let this food we share strengthen us in your service. Bless the cooks, who have prepared it, we thank you for those who share this table and to all those dear to us. To you be praised, both now and forever. Amen.

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Sixth Day

Breakfast

Lord Jesus, whose spirit dwells within us, be with us at this table. Nourish us for the kingdom where you are the first and the last and the living one, forever and ever. Amen.

Lunch

Lord God, we thank you for this meal and praise you for the gift of your spirit, who takes our life and the innermost thoughts of our hearts and transforms us into the likeness of your son, bless this table and nourish us in this meal. Amen.

“Lord God, Heavenly Father, bless us and all these Thy gifts, which we received from thy bountiful goodness, through the name of Our Lord.” Amen.

Dinner

God our strength, we thank you for food, life, and the enduring hope. Bless the food that we are about to eat, bless this time together in love and peace belonging to you and each other, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Lord God, gracious and merciful, we acknowledge Thy bountiful goodness toward us and give Thee thanks for our daily bread so richly provided by Thee. And we ask Thee to continue to bless us with the benedictions of Thy fatherly hands.” Amen.

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GRACE SUITABLE FOR ANY MEAL

1. For health and strength and daily food, we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.
2. For this and all your mercies, Lord, make us duly grateful. Amen.
3. For food and health and friendship, we give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.
4. We thank you, our Heavenly Father, for this food. Bless us as we partake of it that it may strengthen us for your service. Amen.
5. Praised are you, O Lord, who provides all with food. Amen.
6. Dear God, We thank you for the beauty and wonder of your creation, and for all the good gifts we receive from you. Amen.
7. Almighty God, Help us to be worthy of our heritage as citizens of The United States and to be thankful for all our blessings as a free people. Amen.
8. Let us be thankful for the food and drinks we are about to receive before us.
Let us be thankful for the shelter that protects us while we sleep at night.
Let us be thankful for the water that rejuvenates our mind, body & soul.
Let us be thankful for the earth we walk on and the air we breathe.
Let us be thankful for the fire that keeps us warm and gives us light.
Let us be thankful for natural surroundings that give the earth beauty and life.
Let us be thankful for the family and friends that are helpful when we need them the most.
Let us be thankful for the staff and leaders that lead us on our way. Amen

Jewish

1. Ha-mo-tsi le-chem min ha-a-rets,

We give thanks to God for bread. Our voices rise in song together, As our joyful prayer is said:

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai E-lop-hei-nu, me-lech ha-o-lam, ha-mo-tsi le-chem min ha-a-rets.
2. Praised is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who brings bread from the earth.
3. Blessed is the Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, Who hallows us with Mitzvot and takes delight in us. In God's love and favor God has made the holy Sabbath our heritage, as a reminder of the work of creation. It is first among our sacred days, and a remembrance of the Exodus from Egypt.
4. O God, You have chosen us and set us apart from all the peoples, and in love and favor have given us the Sabbath day as a sacred inheritance. Blessed is the Eternal, for the Sabbath and its holiness.

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Muslim

1. Allahomma barik lana fima razaqtana, wa gina aadhaba an-nar, bism-illahi.

Oh Allah ! Bless (food) You provide us and save us from the punishment of the hellfire. In the name of Allah.

PHILMONT GRACE

For food, for raiment, for life, for opportunity, for friendship, and fellowship, we thank thee O Lord.
Amen.

After Meal Blessings

1. We give You thanks, almighty God, for these and all your gifts, which we have received from your bounty, through Your goodness. Amen.
2. Reward in your goodness, O Lord, all those who for your name's sake do good to us, and give them Your reward. Amen.
3. O give thanks unto the Lord, for his goodness and mercy endureth forever. Amen.
4. Our Father in heaven, You give us all things richly to enjoy. We bring our thanks to You at the end of this meal. Bless us as we have partaken of this food, keep us mindful of the needs of others.
Amen.

Jewish

5. Blessed is the Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.
6. O God, You have chosen us and set us apart from all the peoples, and in love and favor have given us the Sabbath day as a sacred inheritance. Blessed is the Eternal, for the Sabbath and its holiness.

Muslim

7. Al-hamdu lillahi il-ladhi ataamana wa saqana wa ja aalana Muslimina.
Praise br to Allah who has fed us and given us to drink, and made us Muslims.

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Songs

Songs should be the glue that holds your worship service together. If you have a scout who is musically inclined, arrange for a guitar or other accompaniment. If nothing else, have a pitch pipe or at least assign someone get everyone started on the same note.

To avoid violating copyright laws, I have not included the notes to the songs and sometimes not all the verses. You do not have to use every verse if some of them seem unfamiliar or too difficult for an outside setting. I have tried to select songs which should be fairly familiar to scouts. If your sponsoring organization happens to be a church, you should be able to borrow some hymnbooks as an additional source, including notes. You might even try the old custom of “lining” which is a process where the one person who has a book (in the old days, it may have been the one person who could actually read) sings the first line and then everyone else repeats the same line.

Where possible, I have also included a little information about the circumstances around which the hymn lyrics or tune was written. The story behind the hymns can be a great way to introduce each song and add some interest to the service.

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Michael Row the Boat Ashore

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is chilly and cold, Alleluia,
Kills the body but not the soul, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is deep and wide, Alleluia,
Meet my mother on the other side, Alleluia.

Gabriel, blow the trumpet horn, Alleluia,
Blow the trumpet loud and long, Alleluia.

Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia,
Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia.

Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia,
Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia.

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fear relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come.
'Twas grace that brought us safe this far,
And grace will bring us home.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see

Song Story: The author is John Newton, who was captain of a slave ship. During a particularly stormy voyage, he became converted to Christianity and became a crusader against slavery and ultimately an Anglican pastor. As a

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pastor, he wrote nearly 300 hymns to use in his church, including "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken."

Kum Ba Ya -- The Scout Law Version

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's trustworthy Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is loyal, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is helpful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is friendly, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is courteous, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is kind, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout's obedient, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is cheerful, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
A Scout is thrifty, Lord, Kum-ba-yah,
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

A Scout is brave, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
A Scout is clean, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
A Scout is reverent, Lord, Kum-ba-yah
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
Kum-ba-yah my Lord, Kum-ba-yah
O, Lord, Kum-ba-yah.

God Bless America

God Bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night with the light from above,
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the ocean, white with foam,
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.

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America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)

My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrim's pride,
from every mountain side Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love: I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song: Let mortal tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing: Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!

Song Story: Written by Samuel Francis Smith in 1832. The tune had been used for at least a century before in England as "God Save the King".

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.

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For the Beauty of the Earth

For the Beauty of the Earth, For the Beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth, over and around us lies
Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, of the day and of the night
Hill and vale, tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light
Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, For the heart and mind's delight
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight
Lord of all to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken, Like the first bird,
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Chaplains Aide Program America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea!

Kum bah yah

Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's waiting Lord, Kum bah yah
And debating Lord, Kum bah yah
Contemplating Lord, Kum bah yah
O Lord, Kum bah yah
Someone's teach Lord, Kum bah yah
Someone's preaching Lord, Kum bah yah
Someone's reaching Lord, Kum bah yah
O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's learning Lord, Kum bah yah
Someone's burning Lord, Kum bah yah
Someone's turning Lord, Kum bah yah
O Lord, Kum bah yah

Someone's praying Lord, Kum bah yah
And obeying Lord, Kum bah yah
And they're staying Lord, Kum bah yah
O Lord, Kum bah yah

Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah
Kum bah yah my Lord, Kum bah yah

Chaplains Aide Program

O Lord, Kum bah yah

On Top of Old Smokey (Scout Version)

On top of Old Smokey, all covered with snow,
I learned a great lesson, all people should know.
I met a Scoutmaster, a helper of youth,
He was roaming God's mountain, in search of the truth.

He told me he'd found it, in the red sunset's glow;
In the voice of the thunder, in the touch of the snow.
His truth was quite simple, as plain as could be,
I'll never forget what, that Leader told me.

Do your duty to God, to the red, white, and blue.
To all others be helpful, to thine own self be true

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning.
Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from heaven.
Like the first dew fall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden.
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning.
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning.
God's re-creation of the new day.

SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT

CHORUS

Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home;
Swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see,
Comin' for to carry me home;
A band of angels coming after me,
Comin' for to carry me home.

If you get to heaven before I do,
Comin' for to carry me home;

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Just tell all my friends that I'm a coming too,
Comin' for to carry me home.

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,
Comin' for to carry me home;
But still my soul feels heavenly bound,
Comin' for to carry me home.

I've never been to heaven, but I've been told,
Comin' for to carry me home;
That the streets in heaven are paved with gold,
Comin' for to carry me home.

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword -
His truth is marching on.

Chorus:

Glory! Glory, hallelujah! Glory! Glory, hallelujah!
Glory! Glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an alter in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps
His day is marching on. (Chorus)

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet! --
Our God is marching on. (Chorus)

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born a cross the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me;
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on. (Chorus)

Song Story: This is a civil war song. The tune is also called 'John Brown's Body' after the abolitionist who tried to free the slaves by conducting a raid at the Federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry. It was commonly sung by recruits at the beginning of the war. Julia Ward Howe, the wife of a physician serving in Washington, D.C. was asked to write more appropriate lyrics for the tune, which she did in one evening. She received a royalty payment of five dollars for her efforts from the Atlantic Monthly magazine.

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God of Our Fathers

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide, and Stay;
Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase,
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

Taps

**Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.**

**Fading light dims the sight,
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright'
From afar, drawing nigh, Falls the night.**

Scout Vespers

**Softly falls the light of day,
As our campfire fades away.
Silently, each Scout should ask,
"Have I done my daily task?"**

**"Have I cared and have I tried,
Can I guiltless sleep tonight?
Have I done and have I dared,
Every thing to be prepared?"**

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B-P's Farewell Message To Scouts

Dear Scouts:

If you have ever seen the play Peter Pan you will remember how the pirate chief was always making his dying speech because he was afraid that possibly when the time came for him to die he might not have time to get it off his chest. It is much the same with me, and so, although I am not at this moment dying, I shall be doing so one of these days and I want to send you a parting word of good-bye.

Remember, it is the last you will ever hear from me, so think it over.

I have had a most happy life and I want each one of you to have as happy a life too.

I believe that God put us in this jolly world to be happy and enjoy life. Happiness doesn't come from being rich, nor merely from being successful in your career, nor by self-indulgence. One step towards happiness is to make yourself healthy and strong while you are a boy, so that you can be useful and so can enjoy life when you are a man.

Nature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made the world for you to enjoy. Be contented with what you have got and make the best of it. Look on the bright side of things instead of the gloomy one.

But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best. "Be Prepared" in this way, to live happy and to die happy – stick to your Scout promise always – even after you have ceased to be a boy – and God help you to do it.

You're Friend,



**Baden-Powell of Gilwell
September, 1940**

