AN ORDER FOR MORNING PRAISE AND PRAYER

This service is for use by groups at dawn or as they begin their day in prayer. The service is most effective when morning sunlight is visible.

The people may participate by using An Order for Morning Praise and Prayer in UMH 876.

The congregation may be invited to stand for the entire service, except during the reading of Scripture and Silence, when used.

CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER * Sung (220) or spoken:

O Lord, open our lips.

And we shall declare your praise.

(PSALM 51:15, ALT.)

MORNING HYMN *

A hymn appropriate to the morning may be sung. Suggested from UMH:

674 –81	Morning Hymns	658	This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made
947	Hymns listed under Morning Prayer	185	When Morning Gilds the Skies
173	Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies	65	Santo! Santo!
64	Holy, Holy, Holy!	657	This Is the Day

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

See For a New Day (UMH 676), Listen, Lord (UMH 677), and For Help for the Forthcoming Day (UMH 681).

SCRIPTURE

The following or other readings appropriate to the morning, or to the day or season of the Christian year, or to the nature of the occasion, may be used:

Deuteronomy 6:4 –7	The Shema
Isaiah 55:1 –3	Invitation to abundant life
Psalm 51 (UMH 785)	Prayer for cleansing and pardon
Psalm 63 (UMH 788)	Comfort and assurance
Psalm 95 (UMH 814)	Call to worship and obedience
Romans 12:1 –2	Be transformed by God.
John 1:1 –5, 9–14	In the beginning was the Word.

SILENCE

Silent meditation on the scripture that has been read. This may be concluded with a short prayer, such as Let our prayers be acceptable to you, O God, our rock and our salvation. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *

The traditional morning Song of Praise is the Song of Zechariah (UMH 208, 209). The following psalms and canticles, or other scripture songs or hymns, may also be sung:

Psalm 100 (UMH 821)

Psalm 148 (UMH 861)

Psalm 150 (UMH 862)

Canticle of Light and Darkness (UMH 205)

Canticle of Moses and Miriam (UMH 135)

Canticle of Praise to God (UMH 91)

Canticle of God's Glory (UMH 82, 83)

Canticle of Thanksgiving (UMH 74)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *

The following or other of litany of intercession (see another litany) may be prayed, during which any person may offer a brief prayer of intercession or petition.

After each prayer, the leader may conclude: Lord, in your mercy, and all may respond: Hear our prayer.

Or the leader may intone: Let Us Pray to the Lord (UMH 485), and all respond singing: Lord, have mercy.

Together, let us pray

for the people of this congregation...

for those who suffer and those in trouble...

for the concerns of this local community...

for the world, its peoples, and its leaders...

for the earth you have given to our care...

for the Church universal—its leaders, its members, and its mission...

in communion with the saints....

Following these prayers, all may sing one of the following from UMH:

490 Hear Us, O God 491 Remember Me 488 Jesus, Remember Me 487 This Is Our Prayer

485 Let Us Pray to the Lord

See also:

God Hears Our Every Need (Hymn 183) Tino tenda Jesu (Hymn 203)

Jesus, We Are Here (Hymn 187) Señor, Apiádate de Nosotros (Hymn 188)

Teach Me to Hear in Silence (Hymn 194) O Lamb of God (Hymn 201)

THE LORD'S PRAYER * Sung or spoken. See UMH 270–71, 894–96.

BLESSING *

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

THE PEACE * Signs of peace may be exchanged.

Keywords: Morning Prayer, praise, morning, Song of Zechariah, dawn, sunrise

Copyright: "An Order for Morning Praise and Prayer," Copyright © 1992 UMPH. Note: an additional petition (for the earth) has been added, 2013, by The General Board of Discipleship, in keeping with the Council of Bishops' 2009 teaching document, "God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action."