

Daily Worship as Disciples of Jesus

Shema, Kiddush, Amidah, Alienu

P “Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Source of all being, by whose word the evening falls. In wisdom You open heaven’s gates. With understanding You make seasons change, causing the times to come and go, and ordering the stars on their appointed paths through heaven’s dome. Creator of day and night, who rolls back light before dark, and dark before light, who makes day pass away and brings on the night, dividing between day and night: the Lord of hosts is Your name! Living and enduring God, be our guide, now and always. Blessed are You, Adonai, who makes evening fall.”

C *The people prayed together. the Shema.¹ Separate Sheet
The Kiddush follows*

P “Help us to lie down in peace, Adonai our God, and to arise again to life. Spread over the world Your sheltering peace. Direct us with Your guidance and save us. Protect and keep us from enmity, illness, violence, want, and sorrow. Remove envy and recrimination from us. Shelter us in the shadow of Your

wings, for You are a protecting, redeeming God. You are God, our source of grace and mercy. Guard our going out and our coming in, for life and for peace, now and forever.”

“Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who chose us from all the nations, and elevated us above all tongues, and sanctified us with His commandments. And You gave us, Lord our God, with love, this Festival of Weeks, the time of the giving of our Torah. Because You chose us, and sanctified us from all the nations, and Your holy festivals in happiness and in joy You have given us as a heritage. Blessed are You, God, Who sanctifies Israel and the holiday seasons.”

C “Amen.”²

P “May His great name be exalted and sanctified in the world which He created according to His will! May He establish His kingdom and may His salvation blossom and be near during your lifetime and during your days and during the lifetimes of all the House of Israel, speedily and very soon! And say, Amen.”

C “Amen. May His great name be blessed for ever, and to all eternity!”

P “May His great name be blessed for ever, and to all eternity! Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored, adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He above and beyond all the blessings, hymns, praises and consolations that are uttered in the world! And say, Amen.”

C “Amen.”

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shema_Yisrael <http://www.jewfaq.org/prayer/shema.htm> It is reasonable to expect Jesus, like everyone else, grew up praying this every morning and evening. It is three passages: Deuteronomy 6:4-9,11:13-21 and Numbers 15:37-41

² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kiddush>

C *The people prayed together.* the Amidah.³ Separate Sheet

C "I will lift up mine eyes unto the mountains: from whence shall my help come? My help cometh from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, He that keepeth Israel doth neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is thy keeper; the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD shall keep thee from all evil; He shall keep thy soul. The LORD shall guard thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth and for ever."

C *The people prayed together.* the Alienu⁴. Separate Sheet

Notes: The Supplement folder in the King of Kings section of <http://thesignofconcord.com> has copies for individual download of the Shema, Aleinu, and Amidah. Jesus and his followers regularly said these prayers. It is good for followers of Jesus today to know how He and His followers worshipped. This uses what was known to exist in Jesus' day. What is presented here has no claim for accuracy.

Jesus as a Rabbi was required by social convention to have his disciples join in the normal daily prayer of the Pious. All twelve probably grew up with this at home. I expect Jesus had each of the twelve take turns leading as part of their training to be leaders.

Scholars have attempted to work back from what was recorded hundreds of years later. Those Liturgies of the Churches are very different from these Jewish forms. This uses what was known to exist in Jesus' day. The Didache, within a hundred years of Jesus, records other versions of the Lord's Prayer and Words of Institution.⁵ Much effort has

gone into trying to discover how the early Church worshipped, there is very little documentation. At the same time there has been almost no interest in how Jesus and the disciples worshipped, which is well documented and known.

Traditionally, three prayer services are recited daily:

1. Shacharit or Shaharit "morning light," Matins.
2. Mincha the afternoon prayers named for the flour offering that accompanied sacrifices at the Temple in Jerusalem, Vespers
3. Arvit or Maariv, from "nightfall." Compline.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_prayer

The Wiki article on the Priestly Blessing also should not be missed.⁶

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee

The LORD make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee

The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

This blessing is also recited by parents to bless their children on Friday night before the beginning of the Shabbat meal.

During the course of the blessing, the hands of the Kohanim, descendants of Aaron, are spread out over the congregation, with the fingers of both hands separated so as to make five spaces between them; the spaces are between the ring finger and middle finger of each hand, between the index finger and thumb of each hand, and the two thumbs touch each other at the knuckle and the aperture is the space above or below the touching knuckles. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priestly_Blessing

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³ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amidah> This prayer has been said to the present day every morning and evening in the synagog. See King of Kings Supplements for a copy for public use.

⁴ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleinu>

⁵ <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/didache-hoole.html> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Didache>

⁶ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priestly_Blessing