



## **Rogation Days**

The Rogation Days are the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Day. This year, Ascension Day is May 18, so the Rogation Days are May 15, 16 & 17.

Traditionally, Rogation Days are days to give thanks for the world around us and what God's creation provides to us. In agricultural communities, it was traditional to bless the fields on Rogation Days to ask for a good growing season and good harvest.

What follows are prayers for each of the Rogation Days. You can use them as you walk around your neighborhood, in a favorite park or any other place – or just in your back yard.

## **First Rogation Day**

*Psalm 147 is the psalm appointed for the first Rogation Day. These selected verses of the psalm and the closing prayer are adapted from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. The plain text is a verse of the psalm, the italic is a suggestion for prayer.*

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

*Give thanks to God. Pick one thing to praise God for.*

God heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds.

*We all have something that we are grieving right now. Think about one thing that you wish were still happening, one person you wish was still here, or something you missed and tell God that you are grieving.*

God counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

*God holds all of creation. Think about the most awesome thing in nature you have seen. Give thanks to God for that.*

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

*Sing a little bit of your favorite hymn.*

God covers the heaven with clouds and prepares rain for the earth.

*Give thanks for the rain that helps flowers and food grow.*

God makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve human beings.

*Give thanks for grass to play in and for your favorite green vegetable.*

God provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.

*Can you see any birds? Give thanks for the birds.*

Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Second Rogation Day**

*Psalm 107, verses 1 - 9 is the psalm appointed for the second Rogation Day. This version of the psalm and the closing prayer are adapted from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer. The plain text is a verse of the psalm, the italic is a suggestion for prayer.*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, God's mercy endures for ever.

*Think of one thing to thank God for.*

Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

*Thank God that death does not have the last word. That we have life even in the midst of death.*

God gathered them out of the land from the east and from the west from the north and from the south.

*Thank God that everyone is loved by God and that we all share in the love of God.*

Some wandered in desert wastes; they found no way to a city where they might dwell.

*Pray for those who have no home and for those who feel lost. They were hungry and thirsty; their spirits languished within them.*

*Pray for people who don't have enough to eat and for those who feel empty inside.*

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble and God delivered them from their distress.

*Pray for people who are grieving or in trouble.*

God put their feet on a straight path to go to a city where they might dwell.

*Can you think of a time that God showed you the way to go?*

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his children.

*Give thanks to God for what God has done for you.*

For God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

*Give thanks for all the times that you have had enough or more than enough.*

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### **Third Rogation Day**

*Psalm 104, verses 1, 13-15 & 25-32 is the psalm appointed for the third Rogation Day. This version of the psalm and the closing prayer are adapted from the Book of Common Prayer. The plain text is a verse of the psalm, the italic is a suggestion for prayer.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, how excellent is your greatness! You are clothed with majesty and splendor. *Take a moment, look around, where do you see a reflection of the splendor of God?*

You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

*We often take water for granted. Give thanks for water.*

You make grass grow for flocks and herds and plants to serve human beings.

*Give thanks for ranchers & farmers and everyone who grows & raises our food.*

That they may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden our hearts.

*Give thanks for bakers, butchers, winemakers, truckers, grocery store workers and everyone who gets food to us.*

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

*Stop and listen, what do you hear? Give thanks for all the birds and animals and even the bugs.*

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great.

*Think about lakes and rivers and oceans. Give thanks for fish & seaweed & shells & sand.*

There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it.

*God made the whale (Leviathan) for fun! What have you made for fun!*

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

*Give thanks for the changing of the seasons.*

You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand and they are filled with good things.

*Give thanks for all the good things you can think of.*

You hide your face, and they are terrified; you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

*Give thanks for the circle of life, birth and life and death.*

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

*Give thanks for the circle of life, birth and life and death.*

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works.

*God rejoices in all his works, including us. What is God rejoicing in about you?*

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.