

Handout #12» Closing Litany

From Matthew 25:31-46

- Leader 1: When the Son of Man comes in his glory, he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.
- Leader 2: Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, . . . inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."
- Group 1 (Right side): Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food, or thirsty and give you something to drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothing? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?"
- Leader 2: And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."
- Leader 1: Then he will say to those at his left hand, "Depart from me, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."
- Group 2 (Left side): Then they also will answer, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?"
- Leader 1: Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."
- Leader 2: Let us pray:
- All: Gracious God, you have given us many and various gifts with which to serve you and to care for one another: gifts of time and energy, gifts of skills and talents, gifts of material goods and personal relationships.
- You have given us the gift of citizenship in a democracy, where we have the freedom and responsibility to speak out on behalf of public policies that are responsible, just, and compassionate.
- Grant us the strength and wisdom to put these gifts to work in our community, so that those who are hungry may receive their daily bread, and that your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.