

John Wesley's Manuscript Prayer Manual¹

(c. 1730–1734)

Editorial Introduction

During his years as a student and active fellow at Oxford University, John Wesley filled a number of manuscript notebooks with material. Some were devoted to extracts from letters he had received, inventories of his personal library and expenses, and (after 1725) a diary. Others contained extended extracts from books he did not own, or collected short extracts from various sources on a topic (like his MS Poetry Miscellany). The survival of many of these notebooks is one of the rich resources for Wesley Studies. The largest portion that survive are part of the Colman Collection, now held in the Methodist Archives at The John Rylands Library in Manchester, England. Among these is a volume of prayers and psalms, mainly excerpted from published collections.² A transcription of the contents of this notebook is provided below, identifying most of Wesley's sources. (Those portions for which no source has been located are shown in blue font; they may be Wesley's own creation, or from a yet unidentified source.)

Before turning to the transcription it will be helpful to consider the context and purpose of the notebook. In the spiritual retrospective that he wove into his published *Journal* account of the transition he experienced on May 24, 1738, John Wesley emphasized that his earliest years at Epworth were in a home that adhered staunchly to the practice in the Church of England of morning and evening prayers, typically at the parish church. While he spoke of being 'more negligent' of spiritual matters after he left Epworth at age 11, to attend Charterhouse school in London, Wesley stressed that 'I still ... said my prayers, morning and evening.' This carried over to his years at Christ Church Oxford (1721–25), where Wesley elaborated: 'I still said my prayers both in public and private.' The claim of praying in *private* over the full span of his time at Christ Church may be a bit embellished, since Wesley next emphasized that in 1725, under pressure from his father to enter holy orders, he read Thomas à Kempis—and as a result: 'I began to alter the whole form of my conversation, and to set in earnest upon *a new life*. I set apart an hour or two a day for religious retirement.'³

What did Wesley do during these hours of 'religious retirement'? We are helped in answering this question by another resolution Wesley embraced in early 1725 (this time in response to reading Jeremy Taylor) of keeping a spiritual diary. Much of the first decade of the diary (1725–35) has survived. The one significant gap runs from late February 1727 through April 1729.⁴ In browsing this material it

¹The present transcription was finalized by Randy L. Maddox, General Editor of The Wesley Works Editorial Project. Last updated, January 29, 2018.

²Methodist Archive and Research Centre (MARC), MA 1977/503, Colman Collection, Vol. 8. The transcription offered here is published with the permission of The John Rylands Library, University of Manchester, and the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, The Methodist Church in Britain.

³JW, *Journal*, May 24, 1738 (*Works*, 18:242–44).

⁴Most of the notebooks containing portions of this diary are in the Colman Collection; but the earliest section (through Feb. 1727) is held in MARC, MA 1977/157, JW.III.III. These early years of Wesley's diary will be published in volume 17 of *Works*, under the title of 'Oxford Diaries'.

becomes clear that Wesley's time in religious retirement was not devoted solely to prayer, but also to reading spiritual works. Indeed, one characteristic of the diary covering the earliest years (through Feb. 1727) is that the phrase 'private prayers' is quite rare. When prayer is mentioned, it is usually a record either that Wesley 'read prayers' (i.e., served as officiant in a public service of morning or evening prayers) or that he was 'at prayers' (attending such a service). One of the resolutions made during this period was 'never to miss prayers'—again likely referring to the public service.⁵ By contrast, when surviving copies allow us to take up Wesley's diary on April 30, 1729, the very first entry is 'private prayer'; and this phrase appears multiple times a day as the records progress from that point. Thus private prayer became a more central component of Wesley's devotional life sometime during the two years for which we have no diary record. The most significant change in Wesley's circumstances during this period was that he left Oxford, to serve as his father's curate in Epworth and Wroote. Immersion in this ministerial role, and the relative isolation of Epworth and Wroote, likely contributed to this development.

In Wesley's Anglican context 'private prayer' did not mean extemporaneous prayer. When one could not attend public morning and evening prayers, they were encouraged to read the appropriate service, including the assigned psalms, from the *Book of Common Prayer* at home. Given the brevity of this service, some desired further resources. Thus a number of manuals of prayers and psalms designed for devout members of the Church of England were available by 1727. From the Oxford diaries we know that Wesley drew upon the poetic rendering of the psalms in Tate and Brady's *New Version* as early as July 1726, and consulted Thomas Ken's *Manual of Prayers for the Use of the Scholars of Winchester College, and all other Devout Christians* by February 1727. A compilation of all such works that appear in the Oxford diaries through 1735—and the few others not mentioned in the diaries but excerpted in his notebook—can be found at the end of the transcription.

At some point Wesley moved beyond just reading published collections. He began to compile his own collection of excerpted prayers and psalms for use in morning and evening prayer in a notebook. He may have begun while in Lincolnshire as curate; or the summer of 1729, as he was preparing to return to Oxford, to resume his role of tutor at Lincoln College and to provide guidance to a small group of devout students that had gathered around his brother Charles. It seems certain that Wesley was working on this notebook by 1732, when he included material of John Clayton and Nathaniel Spinckes—both of whom he had recently met.⁶

Whenever he began collecting it, the notebook was likely intended at first for Wesley's personal use. It is recorded in a highly abbreviated form, including a few standard symbols for common words.⁷ For example, the first entry on the recto of the first page appears as thus:

Alm G, u wm all Hts are Op, all ds knⁿ, – frō wm no Ss are hid; Cl y^e Thts of o Hts b the Insp of
th̄ H Sp, Y^t we mā pf L T, – wor magn Th̄ H Nāe, thro' Xt o L!

This entry will be puzzling to most readers, but a pious Anglican might soon recognize that it expands into the Collect for Purity in the BCP:

⁵Oxford Diaries, Mar. 12, 1726.

⁶The first mention of Clayton in the Oxford Diaries is Apr. 20, 1732 (in a summary for the month); Spinckes, Oct. 8, 1732.

⁷This notebook is *not* in the shorthand developed by John Byrom that both Wesley brothers would later use on occasion. JW provided a table of frequent abbreviations at the front of some of his notebooks; see for example his MS Poetry Miscellany (Colman Collection, Vol. 1). Such abbreviations were standard in many medieval manuscripts.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Christ our Lord!

Wesley's purpose in using this abbreviated form was not to encrypt the contents, but to save space on the page. It would have served well as a trigger for recalling memorized prayers.

While Wesley's notebook grew to include a number of sources, the prominence in the opening sections of the BCP, including its psalter and the *New Version* of the psalms by Tate and Brady, is quickly evident. Readers are less likely to recognize the influence—from the beginning—of Robert Nelson's *Practice of True Devotion* (1715). Wesley never mentions this volume by Nelson specifically in the notebook, and he included only a couple of excerpts from it. But Nelson was an important source for the general *structure* for his collection. Wesley follows Nelson in focussing Sunday on 'love of God', Monday on 'love of neighbour', Tuesday on 'humility', etc.⁸ Unfortunately, this resonance with Nelson is of limited help in dating more precisely when Wesley began the notebook. The first time Wesley records reading a work by Nelson in surviving sections of his Oxford diary is mid-May 1729, but he does not specify a title. The earliest specific reference we have to Nelson's *Practice of True Devotion* is in a list of books Wesley assigned to students he was tutoring at Lincoln College during the 1730–31 school year.⁹

Wesley's concern for the spiritual lives of his Lincoln students (and of the cluster of members of other Oxford colleges who gathered around John and his brother Charles) may have led him to share his manuscript collection of morning and evening prayers with them. But its abbreviated format was ill-suited for more public use. This recognition led Wesley to prepare what would be his first published work: *A Collection of Forms of Prayer for every Day in the Week*.¹⁰ The published volume drew upon the manuscript notebook, following its structure of morning and evening prayers organized around distinct Christian virtues each day. Wesley did not replicate the notebook in *Collection*, he selected and revised material from it. He also added a series of questions for reflection not found in the notebook.

There is no record of when Wesley began preparing text specifically for his published *Collection*, but the conclusion of the process is documented. A diary records that Wesley started the preface for the volume (the last step in preparing the manuscript) on Nov. 27, 1733, finishing it on Nov. 30. In London at the time, Wesley met the next day with Charles Rivington, a publisher with whom he was friends. And on January 17, 1734, having returned to Oxford, Wesley noted that 'Prayers came from London'.¹¹ It is clear that John Clayton interacted with Wesley in preparing the published *Collection*, in particular providing the text of the prayers for Saturday.¹² In a manuscript catalogue of his own personal library, Clayton even

⁸See Nelson, *Practice of True Devotion*, Chaps. 4–10. JW differs from Nelson slightly of Wednesday and Saturday, as noted in the relevant pages of the transcription. Note that JW had recommended this volume of Nelson to others precisely because of this organization, as seen in the response of his sister Kezia in a letter to JW, July 3, 1731, *Works*, 25:290.

⁹This list is in the Colman Collection, Book 7, pp. 1–5.

¹⁰As detailed below, this volume was first published in late 1733. But no surviving copies are known of either this first edition or a second edition issued in Oxford in 1736. Thus references that follow will be to the third edition, published in London by James Hutton in 1738.

¹¹This is confirmed by a biographical reflection on his publishing activity where JW begins: 'I published *A Collection of Forms of Prayer for every Day in the Week* in 1733.' JW letter to Rev. William Davy, Mar. 15, 1740, *Works*, 26:7–8.

¹²See below, pp. [119–23]; and *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 74–78.

listed this first edition as ‘Prayers by him and J. Wesley. 8vo. L[ondon]. 1733.’¹³

As the preceding makes clear, Wesley’s manuscript prayer manual offers an important window into his devotional practices during the early 1730s. This led Frank Baker to encourage one of his doctoral students, J. Steven Harper, to make the manual a central part of his dissertation on Wesley’s early devotional life. Harper agreed, and took on the task of providing the first expanded version of the abbreviated text, which he included as an appendix to his dissertation.¹⁴ Harper also identified sources for Wesley’s excerpts as he was able—an effort that was constrained by the absence in 1980 of electronic search engines like Eighteenth-Century Collections Online. Dr. Harper kindly gave permission to use his appendix as the starting point for the transcription below. Benefiting from the web-based resources now available, we have been able to identify more of Wesley’s sources; and in doing so have also been able to confirm (or, when necessary, revise) Harper’s expansions.

In addition to the challenge of expanding his abbreviations and symbols, anyone preparing a transcription of one of Wesley’s manuscript notebooks must make decisions about the ordering of the material. This need arises from Wesley’s typical procedure in filling a notebook. When he began a new notebook Wesley typically wrote only on the recto (the right-hand page) of each leaf, leaving the verso (the left-hand page) blank. These blank versos were used initially for occasional corrections or additions to the text on the facing recto (e.g., the verso of leaf 4 for corrections to the recto of leaf 5). At times, particularly as he drew near the end of a notebook, Wesley would switch to filling both recto and verso continuously with the same material. But at other times Wesley would fill the versos of a notebook with new material, unrelated to the facing recto (either starting over at the beginning of the notebook, or flipping the notebook over and starting from the back with the text turned on head).

The present notebook is a good reflection of these practices. Wesley initially wrote only on the recto, with scattered corrections or brief additions appearing on the facing verso; as he drew toward the middle of the notebook, Wesley began using both sides; and when he ran out of room for the last item he was excerpting, Wesley returned to the front of the notebook and filled the versos of the first five leaves with the remainder. In his expansion Dr. Harper chose to honour the order of the leaves (recto and verso) as they stand, even though he recognized that this interspersed at points two different sets of material. He used footnotes at the junctures to guide readers to where material was taken up again. We have chosen in the transcription below, instead, to follow the order in which Wesley intended the material to be read (as indicated, in part, by the published *Collection*). Thus the text on the versos of the opening pages is found near the end of our transcription, rejoined to its opening part. To aid comparison of our transcription to the original notebook, we give in the upper right-hand corner of each page the number and side of the leaf being transcribed.

The bulk of Wesley’s manuscript notebook is devoted to morning and evening prayers for the seven days of the week. He adds to this a couple of pages of miscellaneous prayers, and a longer set of devotional materials for preparing (from Thursday through Sunday) to take the Lord’s Supper. But this notebook also contains some material excerpted ‘From Bishop Andrews’s Greek Devotions and the Apostolic Constitutions’, which Wesley considered relatively distinct (as indicated by his restarting page numbering at ‘1’ at its outset). This material was likely added around 1734, because it includes some text drawn from a book published that year by Thomas Deacon.

We have limited ourselves in this transcription largely to annotating Wesley sources, using short titles (full publication details are available in the bibliography). Readers may wish to consult Harper’s original expansion for his many notes on Wesley’s practice in transcribing—such as how Wesley

¹³In the Manchester Central Library, MS, BRG 109.2 CLI.

¹⁴J. Steven Harper, ‘The Devotional Life of John Wesley: 1703–38’ (Duke University Ph.D. thesis, 1981), 346–599.

typically renders prayers and psalms more personal by changing plural pronouns (our) and third person pronouns (their) to first person singular (my). One should note as well the selectivity with which Wesley chose among the verses in the psalms he transcribed.

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Consider and hear me, O Lord my God; lighten my eyes that I sleep not in death.¹⁵ O purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean. O wash me and I shall be, etc.¹⁶ O knit my heart unto thee, that I may love thy name ([in] what [I] say or do).¹⁷ Lo, I come to do thy will, O God.¹⁸ Let my sacrifice be acceptable in thy sight. Give me love (or [wisdom]) that sitteth by thy throne, and reject me not from out [of] thy children.¹⁹ Into thy hands I commit my spirit, for thou hast redeemed me O Lord, thou God of truth.²⁰

O my God, fill my soul with so entire a love of thee that I may love nothing but for thy sake and in subordination to thy love!

Bishop Ken²¹

¹⁵Ps. 13:3 (BCP).

¹⁶Ps. 51:7 (BCP).

¹⁷Cf. Ps. 86:11 (BCP).

¹⁸Heb. 10:9.

¹⁹Wisd. of Sol. 9:4.

²⁰The last sentence is from Spinckes, *Devotions*, 7.

²¹Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 38; in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 51.

Love of God

I. 1. Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Christ our Lord!²²

O God, who hast prepared for them that love thee such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts such love toward thee that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Sixth Sunday After Trinity

O Lord, who never failest to help and govern them whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love, keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection to thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy name, through Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Second Sunday After Trinity

Lord of all power and might, who art the author and giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of thy name; and of thy great mercy keep us in the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Seventh Sunday After Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity that we may obtain that which thou dost promise; make us to love that which thou dost command, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity

O that I might love thee as well as ever any creature loved thee! Let me think of nothing so much as thee, desire nothing so much as thee, delight in nothing so much as thee.²³

Most gracious Saviour, shed abroad thy love into our hearts. And if we cannot love thee as we ought, let us at least delight in the thoughts of thy love to us, and thy so earnestly desiring to have us for thy love!

Mr. Bonnel[1]²⁴

²²BCP, Holy Communion, Collect for Purity.

²³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 438–39.

²⁴Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 85.

I. 2. Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to us, to be both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life, give us grace that we may always thankfully endeavour to follow his most holy life, through the Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Second Sunday After Easter

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, grant that we may love what thou commandest and desire what thou promisest, that so, among the manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Fourth Sunday After Easter

Grant we beseech thee, Almighty God, that as we believe our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into heaven, so we may ascend thither in heart and mind and there continually dwell with him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

[BCP, Collect for] Ascension Day

Almighty God, whom without faith it is impossible to please, grant me, I beseech thee, so perfectly to believe thy word that my faith in thy sight may never be reprov'd, and that I may ever avoid those things that are contrary to my profession, and follow all things that are agreeable unto the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord.²⁵

Blessed Lord who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that I may in such wisdom hear them, remember, memorize, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy Holy Word I may eternally and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou has given me, through our Lord Jesus Christ.²⁶

Most great God, who hast not only permitted but invited us needy and miserable creatures to present our petitions to thee, O let me set a true value on this inestimable privilege and let, I pray thee, my addresses in thy house be with a reverence some way answerable to thy awful majesty! Give me an heart desirous to pray, and such an attention and fervency in praying, that I may no more incur the guilt of drawing nigh thee with my lips when my heart is far from thee; that so praying to thee here, I may be translated to the praising thee in glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.²⁷

²⁵BCP, Collect for the Third Sunday After Easter.

²⁶BCP, Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent.

²⁷Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 31.

I. 3. To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, who is the ever blessed and adorable trinity, be all honour and glory, now and ever!²⁸

O Lord Jesus, I give thee my body, my soul, my substance, my fame, my friends, my liberty, and my life. Dispose of me and of all that is mine as it seems best to thee. I am now not mine, but thine; therefore claim me as thy right, keep me as thy charge, and love me as thy child. Fight for me when I am assaulted, heal me when I am wounded, and revive me when I am destroyed.²⁹

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep my heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, remain with me now and always!³⁰

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy will these are and were created.³¹

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power be unto our God, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever!³²

With angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, I laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee O Lord most high!

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, I bless thee, I worship thee, I glorify thee, I give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father almighty!

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us! Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy. Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father!³³

Holy is our God! Holy is the Almighty! Holy is the Immortal! Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbaoth, have mercy upon me, now and forever.³⁴

²⁸Cf. 1 Tim. 1:17.

²⁹Spinckes, *Devotions*, 112 (drawing on Cosin, *Collection*, 78–79).

³⁰BCP, Benediction for the Order of the Ministration of the Holy Communion.

³¹Similar to opening of ‘A Thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity’, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 159.

³²Cf. Rev. 7:12.

³³BCP, General Preface for the Order of the Ministration of the Holy Communion.

³⁴Adapted from BCP, Order for Morning Prayer, Te Deum Laudamus.

I. 4. Gracious Lord, who hast taught me that it is a joyful and pleasant thing to be thankful, suffer me not to love my part of this divine pleasure.³⁵ But give me that due sense of all thy mercy, that my heart may be unfailingly thankful, and that I may show forth thy praise, not only with my lips but in my life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by giving up myself to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all my days, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.³⁶

Blessed are they that dwell in the heavenly Jerusalem, where there is no need of the sun or the moon, for the glory of God dost lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. There shall be no night there, and they need no candle, for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign forever and ever!³⁷

O eternal Father, fill my soul with so deep a sense of the excellence of spiritual things that, my affections being weaned from sinful pleasure, I may with strong desires and a free spirit have my conversation in heaven; that being in affections, as in condition, a pilgrim and stranger here, I may covet after, and at last enter into, an abiding city, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bishop Taylor³⁸

O thou Being of all beings, thy works are wonderful and amiable, and I love and admire and praise thy universal providence over the whole world, with perpetual flux of thy goodness upon every creature. All glory be to Thee!

Mr. Spinckes³⁹

I love and praise thee, O my God, for all the particular vouchsafed motions of thy love to me; for all my deliverance and blessings, either to my body or my soul, known or unknown; for all that I do not remember or did not consider. All love, all glory be to thee!⁴⁰

To thee, O Lord, belong greatness and power and glory and victory and majesty. For the earth is thine and the fullness thereof, and all that is in the heavens. Thy kingdom rules over all. Thou art exalted above all gods. Blessed and praised, O Lord God, be thy holy name forever and ever!⁴¹

Thou art the eternal King. Thou art the God, from everlasting to everlasting. I will trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.⁴²

³⁵First sentence from Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 90.

³⁶Remainder of paragraph adapted from BCP, A General Thanksgiving.

³⁷Cf. Rev. 22:5.

³⁸Taylor, Prayer Against Sensuality, *Holy Living*, 184.

³⁹Not found in Spinckes, *Devotions*. It is an adaptation (adding the opening clause) of Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 13.

⁴⁰Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 14.

⁴¹Cf. 1 Chron. 29:11.

⁴²Adapted from Ps. 90:2 and Isa. 26:4.

I.[5.] O blessed Jesus, thou art worthy of all adoration, and all honour, and all love. Thou art the wonderful, the counsellor, the mighty God, the prince of peace! Of thy government and peace there shall be no end! Thou art the brightness of thy Father's glory, the express image of his person, the everlasting height of all things! Thou upholdest all things by the word of thy power. Thou didst by thyself purge our sins. Thou art set on the right hand of the majesty on high! Thou art much better than the angels, thou hast by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than them. Thou art the head of the church, the first-born from the dead. In all things thou hast the preeminence, and it pleased the Father that in thee shall all fullness dwell.⁴³

O Lord, how manifold are thy works. In wisdom hast thou made them all. Thou hast formed all things in nothing, weighed and measured and governed them with the best order and greatest harmony. Thou chooseth the ends that are best for us, and prescribe the best means for the attainment of them. The Lord is gracious in all his ways, and wise in all his works!⁴⁴

Ah Lord God, when shall I be wholly united to thee, swallowed up in thee, and wholly weaned from myself! (Kempis). Thou in me and I in thee, and so may we remain in our hearts for ever!⁴⁵

⁴³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 383.

⁴⁴Cf. Ps. 104:24–31 (BCP).

⁴⁵Thomas à Kempis, *The Christian's Pattern*, 312 (Bk IV, 13.1).

Psalm 16

[11] Thou shalt not leave my soul in hell, nor shalt thou suffer thy holy one to see corruption.

[12] Thou shalt show me the path of life. In thy presence is fullness of joy, and at thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

Psalm 18

[1] I will love thee, O Lord my strength. The Lord is my stony rock and my defence; my saviour, my God and my might, in whom I will trust; my buckler, the horn also of my salvation and my refuge.

[2] I will call upon the Lord who is worthy to be praised. So shall I be safe from mine enemies.

[4] The pains of hell came about me; the snares of death overtook me.

[5] In my trouble I called upon the Lord, and complained unto my God.

[6] He heard my voice out of his holy temple. My complaint entered in his ears.

[16] He sent down from on high to fetch me. He took me out of many waters.

[17] Thou hast delivered me from my strongest enemy. The Lord my God shall make my darkness to be light.

[31] Who is God but the Lord? Or who hast any strength except our God?

[32] It is God that girded me with strength for war, and makes my way perfect.

[35] Thou hast given me the defence of thy salvation. Thy right hand shall hold me up and thy loving correction shall make me great.

[47] The Lord liveth, and blessed be my strong helper, and praised be the God of my salvation; even he that delivereth me from my cruel enemy and sets me up above my adversaries!

Psalm 21

[1] I will rejoice in thy strength, O Lord. Exceeding glad will I be of thy salvation.

[2] Thou hast given me my heart's desire, and hast not denied me the request of my lips.

[4] I asked life of thee. Thou gavest me long life, even forever and ever.

[6] Thou shalt give me everlasting felicity and make me glad with the joy of thy countenance.

[7] And why? Because I put my trust in the Lord and in the mercy of the Most High.

Psalm 27

[1] The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom then shall I be afraid?

[3] Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not mine heart be afraid; and though there rose up war against me, yet shall I put my trust in him.

[Psalm 27 continued]

[4] One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require; even that I may dwell in his house all the days of my life, to behold, etc.

[5] In the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle, and set me up upon a rock of stone.

[15] I should utterly have fainted, but that I believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord.

[16] O tarry thou the Lord's leisure. Be strong and he shall comfort thine heart and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

Psalm 28

[8] The Lord is my strength and my shield. My heart has trusted in him and I am helped. Therefore my heart dances for joy, and in my song I will praise him.

Psalm 30

[1] I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up, and not made my foes to triumph over me.

[2] O Lord my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

[3] Thou, Lord, hast brought my soul out of hell. Thou hast kept me from them that go down to the pit.

[4] Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks unto him for a remembrance of his holiness.

Psalm 36

[5] Thy mercy, O Lord, reaches unto the heavens, and thy faithfulness unto the clouds.

[6] Thy righteousness stands like the strong mountains. Thy judgments are like the great deep.

[7] Thou, Lord, shall save both man and beast. How excellent is thy mercy, O God; and the children of men shall put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

[10] O continue forth thy loving-kindness unto them that know thee, and thy righteousness unto them that art true of heart.

Psalm 42

[1] Like as the hart pants after the water-brooks, so pants my heart unto thee, O God!

[2] My soul is athirst for God, for the living God! When shall I be fit to appear in the presence of God?

O sing praises, sing praises unto our God. O sing praises unto our King. [Ps. 47:6]

This God is God for ever and ever: he shall be our guide unto death. [Ps. 48:13]

Psalm 59

[9] My strength will I ascribe unto thee, for thou art the God of my refuge.

[17] Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing. For thou, O God, art my refuge and my merciful God. O help us against the enemy, for vain is the help of man. [Ps.60:11]

Through God will we do great acts. It is ever he that shall tread down our enemies. [Ps.60:12]

Psalm 63

- [1] O God thou art my God, early will I seek thee.
- [2] My soul thirsts for thee, my flesh longs after thee.
- [4] For thy loving-kindness is better than life itself. My lips shall praise thee.
- [5] As long as I live will I magnify thee, and lift up my hands in thy name.
- [6] My soul shall be satisfied even as and when my mouth praises thee with joyful lips.
- [7] Have I not remembered thee in my bed, and thought upon thee when I was waking?
- [8] Because thou hast been my helper, therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.
- [9] My soul hangs upon thee, thy right hand has upheld me.

Psalm 65

- [1] Thou, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.
- [2] Thou that heareth the prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.
- [3] When my misdeeds prevail against me, O be thou merciful unto me.
- [4] Blessed is the man whom thou choosest and receivest unto thee.
- [5] Thou shalt show us wonderful things in thy righteousness, O God of our salvation. Thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in the broad sea.
- [6] Who in his strength sets fast the mountains and is girded about with power.
- [7] Who stills the raging of the sea and the madness of the people.
- [8] They that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth shall be afraid at thy tokens, thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.
- [9] Thou visitest the earth and bless it, thou makest it very plenteous.
- [11] Thou waterest her furrows. Thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof. Thou makest it soft with the drops of rain and bless the increase of it.

Psalm 68

- [19] Praised be the Lord daily, even the God who helps us and pours his benefits upon us.
- [20] Thou art our God, of thee comes salvation. Thou art the Lord, by thee we escape death.

[on versos JW gives rendering of psalms poetically by Tate and Brady⁴⁶]

1 Psalm 8⁴⁷

2 Psalm 16. v. 7[ff]

[7] My grateful soul shall bless the Lord, / Whose precepts give me light;
And cheering counsel still afford, / In sorrow's dismal night.
[9] Therefore my heart all grief defies, / My glory shall rejoice
My flesh shall rest in hope to rise, / Waked by thy powerful voice.
[10] Thou Lord, when I resign my breath, / My soul from death and hell shall free,
Nor let thy holy one in death, / The last corruption see.
[11] Thou shalt the paths of life display; / That to thy presence lead,
Where pleasures dwell without allay, / And joys that never fade!

3 Psalm 18

[1–2] No change of times shall ever shock, / My firm affection Lord, to thee;
For thou hast always been a rock, / A fortress and defence to me.
Thou my deliverer art my God, / My trust is in thy mighty power,
Thou art my shield from foes abroad, / At home safeguard and my tower.
[4–5] By floods of wicked men distressed, / With seas of sorrow compassed round,
With guilt's infernal pangs oppressed, / With death's unwieldy fetters bound.
[6] To heaven I made my mournful prayer, / To God addressed my humble moan,
Who graciously inclined his ear, / And heard me from his lofty throne.
[48] My universal safeguard he, / From whom my lasting honours flow.
He heals my soul and sets me free, / From my remorseless deadly foe.

4 Psalm 19

[1] The heavens declare thy glory, / Lord, which that alone can fill,
The firmament and stars express, / Their great Creator's skill.
[2] The dawn of each returning day, / Fresh beams of knowledge brings,
And from each dark return of night, / Divine instruction springs.
[4] Their doctrine does its sacred sense, / Through earth's extent display,
This nature's vice, the circling sun, / Dost round the world convey.
[6] Fast by thy Word, from east to west, / His restless course he goes,
And through his progress cheerful light / And vital warmth bestows.
[7] God's perfect law converts the soul / And warms the pure desires,
The Sacred Word, the heavenly light, / The ignorant inspires.
[8] Thy statutes Lord, are right and just, / And bring sincere delight,
Thy merciful commands assist / And clear the feeblest sight.

⁴⁶Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*. JW revises the language in scattered places.

⁴⁷Nothing is written after the notation for Psalm 8. This may indicate that JW knew it by heart.

[10] Of more esteem than richest mines, / Than gold refined with skill,
More sweet than honey, or the drops / That from the comb distill.

5

Psalm 63

- [1] O God, my gracious God, to thee / My morning prayers shall offered be,
For thee my thirsty soul does pant,
My fainting flesh implores thy grace, / Within this dry and barren place,
Where I refreshing waters want.
- [2] O to my longing heart once more, / That sense of saving love restore,
Which thy enlivening breath displays,⁴⁸
- [3] Then may my dear Redeemer's love / Than life itself far sweeter prove:
My lips shall always speak thy praise.
- [4] My life while I that life enjoy, / In blessing God will I employ,
With ardent prayer adore his name.
- [5] My soul's content shall be as great, / As theirs who choicest dainties eat,
While I his boundless praise proclaim.

6

Psalm 84⁴⁹

⁴⁸Tate and Brady: 'O to my longing eyes once more / That view of glorious power restore,
Which thy majestic house displays.'

⁴⁹No text is given under this heading.

[1] Ye priests of God, whose happy days / Are spent in your Creator's praise,
 Still more and more his fame express!
 Ye pious worshippers, proclaim, / With shouts of joy, his holy name,
 Nor satisfied with praising bless!

[2–3] Let God's high praises aye resound / Beyond old time's too scanty bound,
 And through eternal ages pierce.
 From where the sun first gilds the streams, / To where he sets with purple beams,
 Through all the outstretched universe!

[4] The various tribes of earth obey / Thy awful and imperial sway
 Nor earth thy sovereign power confines.
 Above the sun's all-cheering light, / Above the stars, and far more bright,
 Thy pure essential glory shines.

[5–6] What mortal formed of fading clay, / What nature of eternal day,
 Can with the God of heaven compare?
 Yet angels round his glorious throne / They stoop to view, nor those alone,
 Even earth-born men thy goodness share.

[7–8] The poor thou raisest from the dust: / The needy if on thee they trust,
 From deepest want and guilt and shame, thou shalt raise,
 That they within ease and peace and plenty placed, / With wealth and power and honour graced,
 May sing aloud their Saviour's praise.⁵⁰

8 [1] Not unto us! We all disclaim. / Glory alone to God's blessed name!
 Whose truth shall stand forever fast. / Whose love to endless ages last.
 [3] Thou reignest Lord enthroned above, / Thou wilt thy humble sons approve
 Thou all events disposest still, / And all obey his sovereign will.
 [17–18] The silent dead no praises give: / But we who by thy favour live,
 While we have breath will offerings bring, / And grateful hallelujahs sing.⁵¹

9 [1] O thou who when I didst complain, / Didst all my griefs remove!
 O Saviour! Do not now disdain / My humble praise and love!
 [2] Since thou a pitying ear didst give, / And hear me when I prayed,
 I'll call upon thee while I live, / And never doubt thine aid.
 [3] Pale death with all its ghastly train / My soul encompassed round:
 Anguish and sin and hellish pain, / Too soon alas! I found.
 [4] To thee, O Lord of life, I prayed, / And did for succor flee.
 'O save', in my distress I said, / 'The soul that trusts in thee!'
 [5] How good thou art, how large thy grace! / How easy to forgive!
 The simple he delights to raise, / And by thy love I live.
 [6] Then, O my soul, be still! Nor more / With anxious thoughts distressed!
 God's bounteous love dost thee restore / To wonted ease and rest.
 [7] My eyes no longer drowned in tears, / My feet from falling free,
 Redeemed from death and guilty fears, / O Lord, I'll live to thee!⁵²

⁵⁰Samuel Wesley Sr., *Pious Communicant*, 251–52; JW included in *CPH* (1737), 6–7.

⁵¹*Ibid.*, Ps. 115, pp. 254–57; JW included in *CPH* (1737), 7.

⁵²*Ibid.*, Ps. 116, pp. 257–58 (completed on 9v); JW included in *CPH* (1737), 8.

1. Hail Father, whose creating call, / Unordered worlds attend,
 Jehovah, comprehending all, / Whom none can comprehend.
 In light unsearchable enthroned / Which angels dimly see,
 The fountain of the Godhead owned / And foremost of the three.
 From whence through an eternal now / The Son thine offspring flowed:
 An everlasting Father thou, / As everlasting God.
 Nor quite displayed to worlds above / Nor quite on earth revealed,
 By wonders, unexhausted love / To mortal man revealed.
 Supreme and all-sufficient God / When nature shall expire,
 When worlds created by thy nod / Shall perish by the fire.
 Thy name, Jehovah, be adored, / By creatures without end,
 Whom none but thy essential Word / And Spirit comprehend.

2. Hail God the Son in glory crowned / Ere time began to be:
 Throned with thy Sire through one half round / Of wide eternity.
 Let heaven and earth's stupendous frame / Display their author's power,
 And each exalted seraph their / Creator thee adore.
 Whose wondrous love the Godhead showed / Contracted to a span,
 The coeternal Son of God, / The mortal Son of man.
 To save mankind from lost estate / Behold his lifeblood stream,
 Hail love almighty to create, / Almighty to redeem.
 The mediator's Godlike sway, / His church below sustains,
 Till nature shall his judge consume / The King Messiah reigns.
 Hail the essential glory crowned / When time shall cease to be,
 Throned with the Father through the round / Of whole eternity.

3. Hail, Holy Ghost, Jehovah third / In order of the three,
 Spring from the Father and the Word / From all eternity.
 Thy Spirit brooding o'er the abyss / Of formless waters lay,
 Spoke in order all that is, / And darkness into day.
 In lowest hell or heaven's height / Thy presence who can fly?
 Known is the Father to thy sight, / The abyss of deity.
 Thy power through Jesus' life displayed / Quite from the virgin's womb,
 Dying his soul an offering made, / And raised him from the tomb.

God's image which our sins destroy / Thy grace restores below.
 And truth and holiness and joy / From thee their fountain flow.
 Hail Holy Ghost, in order throned / Through all eternity!

4. Hail Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, / Be endless praise to thee!
 Supreme, essential one adored / In coeternal three.
 Enthroned in everlasting state / Ere time its round began,
 Who joined in council to create / The dignity of man.
 To whom Isaiah's vision showed / The ser'ph who veil their wings,
 While the Jehovah Lord and God / Th' angelic army sings.
 To thee by mystic powers on high / Were humble praises given,
 When joy beheld the favoured eye, / Th' inhabitant of heaven.
 All that the name of creature owns / To thee in hymns aspire,
 May we as angels on our thrones, / Forever join the choir.⁵³

[12–13] To thee what offering shall I make, / Whence my salvation came?
 The cup of blessing I will take, / And call upon his name.
 [15–16] That life which thou, O Lord, didst save / From sin's vile bondage free.
 That ransomed life thy bounty gave, / I consecrate to thee!⁵⁴

Psalm 117

[1] Ye nations of the globe divide, / Ye numerous people scattered wide,
 To God your grateful voices raise!
 [2] To all his boundless mercy shown, / His truth to endless ages known,
 Requires our endless love and praise.
 [3] To him who reigns, etc.⁵⁵

⁵³Samuel Wesley Jr., "Hymn to God the Father," *Weekly Miscellany* 85 (July 27, 1734), 2; reprinted in *Poems on Several Occasions* (London: E. Say, 1736), 1–3; JW included in *CPH* (1737), 10–11.

⁵⁴Samuel Wesley Sr., *The Pious Communicant*, Ps. 116, pp. 258–59 (completing hymn on 8v).

⁵⁵*Ibid.*, 259–60; JW included in *CPH* (1737), 9.

[Sunday] Morning

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, I thy unworthy servant desire to present myself with all humility before thy divine majesty, to offer to thee my morning sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Blessed be thee by all thy creatures for thy great glory manifested in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and especially through the creation of man, the conclusion of thy great work, through making him after thy own image, capable of loving and enjoying thee eternally.

But above all, I praise and magnify thy name for thy inestimable love to lost mankind, in the redemption of the world by our Lord, Jesus Christ; for his meritorious death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the mission of the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Glory be to thee, O God, who in compassion to human weakness, not capable of an uninterrupted contemplation of thee, hast appointed a solemn day for the remembrance of these thy inestimable blessings. O let me ever esteem it a privilege and happiness to have a day set apart for the necessities of my soul, to have a day free from distractions, disengaged from the world, wherein I have nothing to do but to praise and to love thee. O let it ever be to me a day sacred to divine love, day of heavenly rest and refreshment.

Let thy Holy Spirit, who on the first day of the week descended in miraculous gifts on the apostles, descend on me, thy unworthy servant, that I may be always in the Spirit on the Lord's Day. Let his blessed inspirations prevent and assist me in all the duties and services of thine holy day, that my wandering thoughts may all the day be fixed on thee, my tumultuous

affections composed and my flat and cold desires quickened into fervent longings and thirstings after thee. O let me join in the praises of thy Church, with ardent and heavenly affections, hear thy Word with earnest attention and a firm resolution to obey it; and whenever I approach thy altar, pour into my heart humility, faith, hope, love, and all those holy dispositions which become the solemn remembrance of a crucified Saviour. Let me employ this whole day to all those ends for which it was appointed, in charity, prayer, praise, and meditation. And let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be always acceptable in thy sight.

Let the prayers and sacrifices offered this day by thy holy catholic Church be graciously accepted. Clothe thy ministers with righteousness and pardon thy people who are not prepared according to the preparation of the sanctuary. Accept the supplications of thy church for all men. Give thy Son the heathen for his inheritance. Prosper the endeavours of all those who are sincerely engaged in propagating his kingdom (⁵⁶). Bless those whom thou hast set over us both in Church and state, that in their several stations they may promote thy glory and the public good. Pour down thy blessings on my father () and also on my enemies. Let thy Fatherly hand be ever over them, and thy Holy Spirit with them, that submitting themselves entirely to thy holy will and directing all their thoughts, words, and works to thy glory, they may at length enjoy thee in the glories of thy kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed forever.

Bishop Ken and Mr. Nelson⁵⁷

⁵⁶This and later open spaces marked by parentheses in JW's manuscript mark settings for extemporaneous addition of names and the like.

⁵⁷Spinckes, *Devotions*, 10–14; drawing from Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 45–46 and Nelson, *Companion*, 23–25. Significant portions of this prayer appear, with supplements apparently of JW's creation, in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 9–15.

Sunday Evening

O my Father, my God, I am in thy hand, and rejoice above all things in being so. Do with me what seems good in thy sight. Only grant me pardon for all my sins, and wean my heart from the world and the thoughts of the world, that I may be pure and holy and unproveable before thee.

O grant me a thankful heart for all thy mercies, for thy infinite goodness in making me capable of loving thee, for all thy Fatherly tenderness to me and care of me through my whole life. I bless thee for not cutting me off in my sins but sending thy gracious providence to redeem me from them, for delivering me out of all my dangers and saving me from all my fears. I thank thee for so loving us as to give the Son of thy love out of thy bosom for our redemption. I praise thee for thy inconceivable love, O most gracious Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world. For all the good thou hast done, and the evil thou hast suffered for us. For all that bitter pain and shame and sorrow of thy soul even unto death. I praise thee for praying for us upon earth and interceding for us constantly in heaven. For comforting us with thy Spirit, and preparing places for us in thy Father's house. O fit us for thyself and let our souls long to be with thee!

I magnify thee for granting me to be born in the Church and of religious parents. For washing me in thy baptism and instructing me in thy doctrine of truth and holiness. For feeding my soul with thy most precious body and blood, those pledges of love and sure conveyances of strength and comfort. O be gracious unto all of us whom thou hast this day admitted together to thy holy table and strengthen our hearts in thy ways. Strengthen us against all our temptations, and make

us more than conquerors in thy love. Let the thoughts of thy wonderful love be ever sweet to our souls, and let us love to meditate on thy bitter sufferings. O let us not be of the world, as thou wert not of it. But this one thing let us do, let us press toward the mark, the prize of the high calling.⁵⁸

Be merciful, O blessed Lord, to all mankind, but especially to thy holy catholic Church. Confirm her in thy true faith and fear, and let not the gates of hell prevail against her. Have mercy upon us in these sinful nations. Be entreated for us, good Lord. Be glorified, if it be thy gracious will, by our reformation and not by our destruction. Turn all our hearts to thee. Send forth thy Spirit in the midst of us and make us a holy people. Stir up the hearts of thy servants whom thou hast set over us, that they may be zealous and happy instruments in thy hand of promoting this good work. Bless all that wait at thy altar with soundness of doctrine and exemplariness of conversation. Comfort all that are in affliction, especially those who suffer for the testimony of a good conscience. Thou seest them under all their sufferings; O stay their souls upon thee. Let this trial of their faith work patience in them and perfect them in hope and love.⁵⁹

Bless my father and mother—and make them thy servants. Bless all my benefactors (), especially those who have offered up their prayers to thee upon my behalf. Return them, O Father, upon them and all that belong to them a hundred fold in thy bosom. And bless all those whom I have injured by word or deed, in body, soul, goods, or reputation. Of thy infinite mercy

⁵⁸The first three paragraphs come from Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 154–57, abridged.

⁵⁹Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 152–53.

pardon these my sins and prevent or remove all the ill consequences of them. Open the eyes and change the hearts of all that have injured me. Lay not this sin to their charge. And grant that I may never be overcome of evil, but ever overcome evil with good.⁶⁰

Sanctify the friendship which thou hast granted me with these thy servants (). O that our prayers may be heard for each other while our hearts are united in thy love, and graciously unite them therein more and more. Enable us to consecrate ourselves faithfully and entirely to thy service. Grant that we may provoke each other to love, and serve thee, and grow up together before thee to thy heavenly kingdom.

O my God, I praise thee for thy fatherly protection of me this day (), for all the outward comforts thou hast surrounded me with, for this measure of health and strength, and for the leave I now enjoy humbly to pray unto thee. O accept my poor services. Pardon the sinfulness of these and all my holy duties. Pardon my unworthiness of the least of all thy mercies. Grant that I may lie down with thee, and rise up with thee. And when I awake up either in life or eternity, O let me be present with thee. O thou shepherd of Israel, who never slumbers or sleeps, vouchsafe to watch over me and all my friends this night. Preserve us from sin and danger for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ!

Mr. Bonnel[1]⁶¹

⁶⁰Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 153.

⁶¹The last two paragraphs from Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 157–59. The first, third, and fifth paragraphs of this prayer for Sunday evening appear, with several supplements likely by JW, in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 17–23.

O Father of mercies, pity us of this nation, who know not how to pity ourselves. O heal our wounds, and which is of all others the most desperate, our unwillingness to be healed. Let the Spirit of peace overshadow us and impress on us meekness and gentleness. O rescue our religion from our profaneness, not by taking it from us, but by conforming us to it. Finally, do for us not only above what we can ask or think, but beyond what we would wish or choose, for thy dear Son's sake, suffer us not to acquire the miseries we so eagerly pursue!

Decay of Piety⁶²

O holy Jesus, King of the saints and God of purity, preserve I beseech thee thy spouse, whom thou hast purchased and redeemed with thy blood, the catholic Church. Keep her safe from schism, heresy, and sacrilege. Unite all her members with the bonds of faith, hope, and charity—and when it shall seem good in thine eyes, of external communion.⁶³ Incline, O dearest Lord, if it be thy blessed will, the hearts of thy representatives to restore to her her daily bread, by the daily representation of thy all-sufficient sacrifice—that together with her sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, it may be united to thy intercession and forever obtain for each of thy members that measure of grace and happiness which seems best in thy sight; to the end that the whole choir of the faithful with one heart and voice may for mercies received at thy hands, return their humble thanks to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, three persons and one God, forever and ever!

M. P.⁶⁴

⁶²Allestree, *Causes of the Decay*, 428.

⁶³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 423.

⁶⁴JW attributes three prayers in this collection to 'M. P.' In each case M. P. is drawing upon sources, with some apparent additions. The identity of this person is uncertain, but may be the 'M. P.' that appears on JW's prayer list at the end of the volume. If so, it is likely Miss Potter, of Oxford, with whom he met and corresponded often in 1733–34.

Love of a Neighbour

II. 1. O Lord, who hast taught that all our days without charity are nothing worth, pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity for Jesus Christ's sake.

[BCP, Collect for] Quinquagesima¹

Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification, grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve thee in pureness of living, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] First Sunday After Easter

Gracious God, who art good and doest good, who extendest thy kindness to all mankind, the work of thy hands, capable of loving thee eternally; suffer me to exclude none from my charity who are the objects of mercy and tenderness, but let me treat all my neighbours with that love and goodwill which is due to thy children and thy servants.

Thou hast required this mark of our love to thee. O let no temptation expose me to ingratitude, but let me assist all my brethren with good wishes and prayers when I cannot reach them with my actual services.

Make me ready to embrace all occasions of advancing the happiness of another man by assisting the needy, protecting the oppressed, instructing the ignorant, and reprovng the wicked.

Nelson²

O teach me, while I have the time, to do good to all men, especially unto those that are of the household of faith.³

¹Quinquagesima was part of the pre-Lenten penitential preparation of the church. It is the Seventh Sunday Before Easter.

²Nelson, *Companion*, 322–23.

³Cf. Gal. 6:10.

II. 2. O Lord, make me humble to my superiors, friendly to my equals, courteous to my inferiors; thankful to my benefactors, loving to my relations, and charitable to my enemies. To be gentle and easily entreated, slow to anger, readily admonished; fully prepared and thoroughly furnished for every good word and work.⁴

Grant that I may look upon the defects of my neighbour as if they were my own, and as carefully recall them; that making thy love to me, O blessed Jesus, the pattern of mine to them, I may above things endeavour to promote their eternal welfare.

Mr. Nelson⁵

Thou, O Lord, thoughtest nothing too dear to part with, to rescue me from eternal misery. O let me think nothing too dear to part with, to set forward the eternal good of my fellow Christians.

Nelson⁶

The good God make us to increase and abound in love one toward another, to the end he may establish our hearts unblameable in holiness, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.⁷

O God, heaven and earth are full of thy goodness. O make us that worship thee to imitate thee. Make our souls to delight in doing good, that we may be thy children indeed, and impart in us such a fond compassion toward each other as our blessed Lord had for us!

Dr. Lucas⁸

O Lord, let me regard the poor when they cry, that being merciful, I may obtain mercy!⁹

⁴Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 35.

⁵Nelson, *Companion*, 323; also in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 142–43.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Cf. 1 Thess. 3:12–13.

⁸Lucas, *Practical Christianity*, 63–64.

⁹Cf. Ps. 41:1 and Matt. 5:7.

II. 3. O thou God of truth, bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived. O thou Father of comforts, succour, heal, and comfort all that are in danger, need, and tribulation. Preserve all that travel by land or by water, all with labour of child, all sick persons, and the children. Shed thy peace upon all prisoners and captives, provide for the fatherless children and widows, and all that are deserted and oppressed. Yea, have mercy upon all men, especially those whom thou hast called to faith in thy Son, Jesus Christ.¹⁰

Pour down thy blessings, O Lord, upon my father and mother, and all other of my relatives, friends, and benefactors. Grant them whatsoever they want. Keep them forever in thy truth and favour, and let their preservation be in the Lord and in the kingdom of God, forever and ever.¹¹

That it may please thee to forgive my enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to humble their hearts. I beseech thee to hear me, gracious Lord.¹²

O Father of spirits, and God of all healing, have mercy on all sick and dying Christians, and receive the souls which thou hast redeemed.¹³

That it may please thee to raise them that fall, to comfort and help the weak-hearted, to raise up them that fall and finally to beat down Satan under foot, I beseech thee.¹⁴

O heal those souls that have sinned against thee; consider and help them O Lord, our God. Lighten their eyes that they sleep not in death.¹⁵

To persuade men to embrace life there is need of all the arguments reason can afford, and those too pointed with all the spirit and flame wit can give them. A task too hard for me! O thou lover of souls, aid me by thy Spirit, while I strain to prevail with young and old, to seek thy glory and their own happiness.¹⁶

¹⁰Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 44.

¹¹Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 66.

¹²BCP, Litany.

¹³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 60–61.

¹⁴BCP, Litany.

¹⁵Cf. Ps. 41:4 and Ps. 13:3 (BCP).

¹⁶Lucas, *Enquiry after Happiness*, 2:230.

II. 4. That it may please thee to keep in thy faith, fear, and love the king and all the royal family, I beseech [thee to hear me dear Lord].

That it may please thee to illuminate all bishops, priests, and deacons with true knowledge and obedience to thy Word, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That it may please thee to endue the lords of the Council, the nobility, magistrates, gentry, and commons of this land with grace, wisdom, and understanding, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That it may please thee to give to all nations, unity, peace, and concord, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and dread thee, and diligently to live after thy comforts, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That [it may please thee] to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That [it may please thee] to succour, help, and comfort all that are in danger, necessity, and tribulation, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That [it may please thee] to defend and provide for the fatherless children and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That [it may please thee] to have mercy upon all men, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].

That [it may please thee] to give true repentance, and to forgive all our sins, negligences, and ignorances, and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to amend our lives according to thy holy Word, [I beseech thee to hear me dear Lord].¹⁷

The good Lord pardon every one that prepares his heart to seek God, the Lord God of his fathers, though himself be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.¹⁸

¹⁷BCP, Litany.

¹⁸2 Chron. 30: 18–19.

II. 5. O most gracious God, may the examples of thy mercy toward mankind, and of my blessed Saviour dying for his enemies, enkindle in me such a true affection toward my neighbour that I may love him as thou lovest me, that I may walk as blessed Jesus did in all instances of a heavenly charity, and so at last enter into the eternal abode of peace and love. Amen, blessed Lord, amen.

Dr. Lucas¹⁹

Almighty God, who hast compassion upon all men and hatest nothing that thou hast made, teach me to have compassion for the weakness and frailties of my brethren, to put the best construction on all their actions, to interpret all doubtful things to their advantage, and cheerfully to bear with their real infirmities.

Let me so improve all those talents of any kind with which thou hast instructed me, for the benefit of my neighbour, that I may be able to give a good account of my stewardship when the great Judge shall appear.²⁰

¹⁹Lucas, *Practical Christianity*, 111–12.

²⁰Nelson, *Companion*, 151.

Psalm 67

[1] To bless thy chosen race, / In mercy, Lord, incline;
 And cause the brightness of thy face / On all our hearts to shine.
 [2] O may thy wondrous ways / Through all the world be known,
 May distant lands their tribute pay, / And thy salvation own.
 [3] Let differing nations join, / To celebrate thy fame;
 Let all thy creatures, Lord, combine / To praise thy glorious name.
 [4] O let them shout and sing, / With joy and pious mirth,
 For thou, the righteous God and King, / Dost govern all the earth.²¹

Psalm 85

[4] O God our Saviour, all our hearts / To thy obedience turn;
 That quenched by our repenting tears, / Thy wrath no more may burn.
 [5–6] O why wilt thou be angry still, / And wrath so long retain?
 Revive us Lord, and let our land / Thy wonted favour gain.
 [7] Thy gracious mercy Lord display, / Which we have long implored;
 And for the righteous Saviour's sake, / Thy powerful aid afford.
 [13] Let righteousness before thee go, / And thy just paths prepare;
 And we thy holy steps pursue, / With constant love and care.²²

²¹Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*.

²²Ibid.

Monday Morning

O God, who art the giver of all good gifts, thy unworthy servant entirely desires to praise thy name for all the expressions of bounty toward me. Blessed be thy love in giving thy Son to die for our sins, for the covenant of mercy confirmed in his most precious blood, for the means of grace and hopes of glory. I also bless thee for that, after all my willful refusals of thy grace, thou still hast patience in preserving me this night and hast given me yet another day to finish the work thou hast allotted to me, and to renew and perfect my repentance. Pardon, good Lord, all my former sins and give me grace to be every day more and more diligent, more zealous and careful to improve every opportunity which thou givest me. Make thyself always present to my mind, and let thy love fill and rule my soul in all those places and companies where thou callest me this day, that I may acknowledge and obey thy heavenly calling. In all my passage through this life, and my manifold concerns therein, suffer not my heart to be set upon it. But always fix my eye upon the prize of my high calling, that I may make all the things of this world minister unto it, and be careful by all things to fit my soul for that pure bliss which thou hast prepared for them that love thee.²³

O thou who art good and doest good, who extendest thy loving-kindness to all thy creatures, suffer me to exclude none from my charity who are the objects of thy mercy. But let me treat all my neighbours with that tender love which is due to thy servants and thy children. Thou hast required this mark of love to thee. O let no temptation expose me to ingratitude, or make me forfeit thy loving-kindness, which is better than life itself. But grant that I may assist all my brethren with my prayers when I cannot

²³Prayer by John Kettlewell, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 23–25.

reach them with actual services. Make me zealous to embrace all occasions of advancing their happiness, by assisting the needy, protecting the oppressed, instructing the ignorant, confirming the wavering, exhorting the godly, and reproofing the wicked. Grant that I may look on the defects of my neighbour as if they were my own, that I may conceal and be grieved for them, and that making thy love to us, O blessed Jesus, the pattern of my love to them, I may above all things endeavour to promote their eternal welfare. O let me think nothing too dear to part with, to set forward the everlasting good of our fellow Christians. They are members of thy body; therefore I will cherish them. Thou hast redeemed them with an inestimable price; therefore will I endeavour to recover them from a state of destruction. That thus adoring thy holy gospel by doing good according to my power and capacity, I may at length be received in the endearments of thy eternal love.²⁴

Extend, I humbly beseech thee, thy mercy to all men, [...] that they may become thy faithful servants. Let all Christians live up to the religion they profess. Bless these kingdoms, defend this church from schism and heresy, and the king from all treason and conspiracies. Give to the rich and prosperous, temperance and charity; to the poor and afflicted, patience and contentment. Preserve my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, all my friends and relations, and all that belong to this country in their souls and bodies. Forgive my enemies, and make them kindly affected toward me. Hear these my prayers, O merciful Father, for the sake of thy Son, our advocate and only Saviour, Jesus Christ!²⁵

Mr. Kettlewell & Nelson²⁶

²⁴Nelson, *Companion*, 322–23; also in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 142–43.

²⁵Prayer by John Kettlewell, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 25, 30.

²⁶JW included this prayer, with revisions, in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 24–28.

Monday Evening

Most great and glorious Lord God, I desire to prostrate myself with all humility before thy divine majesty, under a deep sense of my own unworthiness, and to confess with shame and sorrow and confusion of face that my manifold transgressions deserve thy severest visitations. Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But I return. O let thy paternal bowels yearn upon me and, for Jesus Christ's sake, graciously receive me. Accept my imperfect repentance, and send thy Spirit of adoption into my heart, to instill into it true filial affections, that I may again be owned by thee, call thee Father, and share in the blessings of thy children.

O my God, fill my soul with so entire a love of thee that I may love nothing but for thy sake and in subordination to thy love. Give me grace so to study thy knowledge that, the more I know thee, the more I may love thee. Create in me a zealous obedience to all thy commands, a cheerful patience under all thy chastisements, and a thankful resignation to all thy disposals. May I ever have awful thoughts of thee; never mention thy holy name but on just occasions. O let it be the one business of my life to glorify thee, by every thought of my heart, by every word of my tongue, by every work of my hand, even unto death, if thou shouldest please to call me to it. And by engaging all men, as far as in me lies, to glorify and love thee.

Let thy unwearied and tender love to me make my love unwearied and tender to my neighbour, zealous to promote his health and safety, his peace and happiness, and active to succour and relieve, to comfort and pray for

all according to my power and their several necessities. Make me peaceful and reconcilable, ever easy to forgive, and ready to return good for evil. Make me like thyself, all meekness and benignity, all goodness and gentleness, all forbearance and long-suffering. And O thou lover of souls, raise in me a compassionate zeal to save the eternal life of souls and, by affectionate and seasonable advice, exhortations, and reproof, to reclaim the wicked and win them over to thy love.

Be pleased, O Lord, to take me and my father and mother into thy protection this night, and defend us from all the dangers of it. Refresh me with such comfortable rest that in the morning I may rise (at) the more fit for thy service. Let no evil men or evil spirits approach to hurt me. Let me lay down with holy thoughts of thee; and when I awake, let me be still with thee.

Show mercy to the whole world, O Father of all. Let the gospel of thy Son run and be glorified throughout all the earth. Let it be made known to all heathens and infidels, and obeyed by all that are called Christians. Be merciful to this nation. Grant that we may be so humble and resigned that we may be pardoned and spared. Multiply thy blessings on our sovereign and all the royal family, and make them signal instruments of thy glory. Be gracious to all those that minister in holy things, that they may diligently watch over the souls committed to their care, instruct them in thy

truth, guide them by their examples, praying for and blessing them, exercising spiritual discipline in thy Church and rightly and duly administering thy holy sacraments. Visit in mercy all the children of affliction (). Relieve all their necessities and lighten all their burdens. Give them a cheerful submission to thy blessed will, and in thy due time deliver them from all their troubles.

Finally, adored be thy goodness, O Lord, for all thy mercies which thou hast from time to time bestowed upon me; for the good things of this life, and the hope of eternal happiness. Particularly I offer to thee my humble thanks and praise for thy preservation of me from the perils of the day past (). If I have escaped any sin, it is the effect of thy restraining grace. If I have avoided any danger, it was thy hand directed me. To thy holy name be ascribed honour and glory. O let the sense of all thy blessings have this effect upon me, to make daily more zealous and diligent in doing the work thou hast sent me into the world to do. All which I beg for Jesus Christ's sake, in whose blessed words I farther call upon thee [saying, 'Our Father ...].

Bishop Ken²⁷

²⁷Spinckes, *Devotions*, 50–54; a prayer weaving together several sections in Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*. JW included this prayer, with additions and some abridging, in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 29–32.

Humility

III. I. Almighty and everlasting God, who of thy tender love toward mankind hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all men might follow the example of his great humility; mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his humility and be made a partaker of his resurrection, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] First Sunday Before Easter

Almighty God who resisteth the proud, who givest grace to the humble, convince me that I am less than the least of thy mercies. As I am vile in myself, so let me be in my own eyes, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Dr. Lake¹

O most holy and gracious Saviour, who both by thy example and thy precept, didst command us to be meek and humble, be pleased to give me grace to be so, to imitate in my whole life thy sweetness and humility. O mortify in me all proud thoughts and vain opinions of myself. Let me return to thee the acknowledgement and the fruits of all the good things thou hast given me; that by confessing I am wholly in debt to thee for them, I may not boast of what I have received, and am so highly accountable for. And for what is my own, teach me to be ashamed and humbled, it being nothing but sin and misery, weakness and uncharity; that despising myself, I may be accepted by thee in the homes thou hast prepared for thy humble servants.

Bishop Taylor²

Lord, it is not enough that thou givest me leave to think of thee. Give me also to think humbly of myself. It is not enough that thou openest me a glade to look toward thee. O shut out the world also from my eyes! What am I profited if I cannot think on thee without considering what the world will think of me. O let me know the world to be nothing, myself worse than nothing. O heal my soul, and then I shall never think of the world, nor of myself, but of thee, my only happiness!

Mr. Bonnel[1]³

¹Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 88.

²Taylor, *Holy Living*, 188.

³Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 65–66.

Glorious and holy God, who dwellest with the humble, I earnestly beseech thee to fill every part of my soul with humility. To make it the constant rule and habit of my mind, that I may not only feel it, but feel all my other tempers arise from it. That I may have no thoughts, no desires, no designs, but such as are the true fruits of a meek and lowly heart.

Grant that I may always be poor and little and mean in my own eyes, and fully content when others think so of me.

Grant, O Lord, that I may look for nothing, claim nothing, resent nothing. That I may go through all the actions and accidents of life looking wholly unto thee, speaking and acting wholly for thee; not seeking applause, but doing and receiving everything in the meek and lowly spirit of my Lord and Saviour.⁴

⁴JW is adapting Law, *Serious Call*, 376–77.

III. 2. O deliver me from the slavery and domination of pride, which threw the angels from heaven and man out of paradise, which brings so much evil wherever it is, which is so hateful in thy sight.

Give me, O Lord, a thorough sense of all my weaknesses and follies, a readiness to submit to the meanest offices, for the welfare of my fellow creatures.

Let that mind be in me which was also in Christ Jesus!⁵

Grant me to restrain all immodest desires of honour and never to acclaim myself upon any advantage of body or mind which I enjoy above others, remembering that I have nothing but what I have received, and not by my merit, but thy free and infinite mercy.⁶

O that nothing might be done among us for strife or vainglory, but that each might esteem others better than himself. Yea, that all of us were subject to one another and clothed with humility!⁷

O Lord, let me not be high-minded, let me have no proud looks. Let me not express myself in great matters which are too high for me. Let me refresh my soul and keep it lowly like a child that is weaned from his mother. Yea, let my love be ever as a weaned child. Psalm 131[:1–2]

O blessed Jesus, who in thy life and death hast set before us a perfect pattern of humility, enable me by thy grace to imitate for my whole life thy wonderful condescension. Make me sensible of my weakness by remembrance of my sins, which are evident proofs of my folly, baseness, and ingratitude. To thee be the glory of all the good I think or do. For it is thou who workest in me both to will and to do of thy good pleasure. And O let me not disdain any reproaches or indignities, since thou didst suffer them for my sake, O blessed Jesus, who with the Father, and with the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, world without end!⁸

⁵Cf. Phil. 2:5.

⁶This prayer seems to be JW's creation, drawing on themes in the chapter on pride in Jeremy Collier, *Essays Upon Several Moral Subjects* (2nd edition, enlarged; London: R. Sare, 1697); see esp. pp. 55, 81.

⁷Cf. Phil. 2:3.

⁸Nelson, *Companion*, 331–32; also in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 144–45.

[23v]

O give me humility, the cornerstone of all virtues, the foundation of religion, the ladder to intimate converse with the Almighty, a gift beyond that of miracles.⁹

[24v]

O give me grace, whenever I am praised, instantly to shrink from the net spread for my humility; and to fear, lest I be more sharply corrected by thee, for wanting the very thing I but prayed for. Lest if I want it not, I should think of myself more highly than I ought to think. Or lest I should cease to care, 'it is not I that act or speak, but thy Spirit that dwellest in me', and so compel thee to take away even that which I have, and to cast the unfaithful servant into outer darkness.

O thou great and holy God, who always dwellest with the humble, I earnestly beseech thee, prepare my soul for thy habitation. Let not any word that may tend to my own praise come out of my mouth, unless it be necessary to thy glory. Let me never dare to praise another unless so far as the good of his soul requires it.

⁹JW's reframing of a prayer in Horneck, *The Happy Ascetick*, 50.

III. 3. We humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities and, for the glory of thy name, turn from us all those evils that we most righteously have deserved. And grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and life in thy mercy, and ever serve thee in holiness and purity of life, to thy honour and glory, through the only mediator and advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord.¹⁰

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and, in all our dangers and necessities, stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Third Sunday After Epiphany

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright, grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

O Lord, we beseech thee favorably to hear the prayers of thy people, that we who are justly punished for our offenses may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

[BCP, Collect for] Septuagesima¹¹

O Lord God, who seest that we put not our trust in anything that we do, mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversities, by Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Sexagesima¹²

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves, keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Second Sunday in Lent

Grant we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

[BCP, Collect for] Fourth Sunday in Lent

O God, the strength of all them that put their trust in thee, mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] First Sunday After Trinity

¹⁰BCP, Litany.

¹¹Septuagesima is the Ninth Sunday Before Easter

¹²Sexagesima is the Eighth Sunday Before Easter.

III. 4. O Lord, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy servants. And because I cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve me evermore by it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity

O Lord, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee, grant that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our heart, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

In the midst of life we are in death. O from whom will we see the succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins are justly displeased.

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts. Shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, and suffer us not at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee.¹³

Remember not, Lord, our iniquities, nor the iniquities of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance upon our sins. Spare us, good Lord. Spare thy servant, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with me forever.¹⁴

I have sinned. What shall I do, O thou preserver of men? I am not worthy to come into thy presence. But speak the word only, and thy servant shall be healed.¹⁵

The good God pardon everyone that preparast his heart to seek God, the Lord God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.¹⁶

Lord, I know that I am constant to folly, and inconstant to holy purposes. My way is in folly, being ignorant even of the parts and passions of my own body and soul. And what am I, O Lord, before thee, but a miserable person, largely in death, and not able to pray?¹⁷

Thy grace is sufficient for me, for thy strength is made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9¹⁸

God forbid that I should glory in anything, save in the cross of Christ!¹⁹

¹³BCP, Order for the Burial of the Dead.

¹⁴BCP, Order for the Visitation of the Sick.

¹⁵Cf. Matt. 8:8.

¹⁶Cf. 2 Chron. 30:19.

¹⁷Taylor, *Holy Living*, 189.

¹⁸JW incorrectly identified this as 2 Cor. 14.

¹⁹Cf. Gal. 6:14.

III. 5. O thou high and lofty One that inhabitest eternity, whose name is holy. Thou dwellest in high places! [and] with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit and that trembleth at thy word, to revive the spirit of the humble and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. Isaiah 57:15

Lord, behold I am vile. What should I answer thee! I will lay my hand upon my mouth!²⁰ I will abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes. Job 42[:6]

Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man. I never learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy! Proverbs 30[:2-3]

Behold, he putteth no trust in his servants; and his angels he charges with folly! How much less in them who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, who are crushed before the moth! Do not their excellency which is in them go away! They die even without wisdom! Job 4:18[-19, 21]

Behold even to the moon and it shineth not; yea the stars are not clean in his sight. How much less man, that is a worm, and the son of man, that is a worm? Job 25[:5-6]

Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth, but woe unto him that striveth with his maker! Isaiah 45:9

Righteousness, O Lord, belongs unto thee; but unto me, confusion of faces. Daniel 9:7

I am not worthy of the air I breathe, or the earth I tread upon, or of the sun that shineth upon me; much less to lift up either hands or eyes to heaven. Thou hast said no unclean thing shall abide within thy sight. Where then shall I appear?²¹

What art thou, O Lord? The great God of heaven and earth. The fountain of holiness and perfection! What am I? So ignorant that I know not what I am. So poor that I have nothing of my own. So sinful that I am the heir of sorrow and death.

Taylor²²

²⁰The first three sentences are Job 40:4.

²¹Brian Duppa, *A Guide for the Penitent* (London: James Flesher, 1660), 14. Bound within Taylor, *Golden Grove*, 12th edn. (London: R. Royston, 1680), 154.

²²Taylor, *Golden Grove*, 122 (1680, 114).

Psalm 25

[1] To [thee O] God in whom I trust, / I lift my heart and voice;
 O let me not be put to shame, / Nor let my foes rejoice.
 [4–5] To me thy truth impart, / And lead me in thy way;
 For thou art he that brings me help, / On thee I wait all day.
 [6] Thy mercies and thy love, / O Lord recall to mind;
 And graciously continue still, / As thou wert ever kind.
 [7] Let all my youthful crimes, / Be blotted out by thee;
 And for the merits of thy Son, / In mercy think on me.
 [14] For me O gracious Lord, / Thy secret will impart;
 And deep thy righteous cov'nant write, / In my obedient heart.
 [15] To thee I lift my eyes, / And wait thy timely aid;
 Thou breaks the strong and deadly snare, / That for my feet wast laid.
 [16] O turn, and all my sins, / In mercy Lord redress;
 Let me with woes be compassed round, / With guilt and deep distress.
 [18] Do thou with tender eyes, / All my corruptions see;
 O purge me, Lord, and from my guilt / Entirely set me free.²³

Psalm 31

[1] Defend me, Lord, from shame, / For still I trust in thee;
 As good and righteous is thy name, / From danger set me free.
 [2] Bow down thy gracious ear, / And speedy succour send;
 Do thou my steadfast rock appear, / To shelter and defend.
 [3] Whenever my foes oppress, / Thou my sure fortress art;
 To guide me from my fearful sins, / Thy wonted help impart.
 [4] Release me from the snares / Which pride hath closely laid;
 Since I, O God, my strength repair / To thee alone for aid.²⁴

²³Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*.

²⁴Ibid.

Tuesday Morning

O eternal God and merciful Father, I give thee humble and hearty thanks (increase my thankfulness, I beseech thee) for all the blessings, spiritual and temporal, which in the riches of thy mercy thou hast liberally poured down upon me. Lord, let me not live but to magnify thy glorious name. Particularly I give thee most unfeigned thanks for my preservation from my birth till this moment; for bringing me safely to the beginning of this day (), in which and all the days of my life I beseech thee preserve me from sin () and danger in body and soul, that all my thoughts, words, and works may tend to thy glory. Heal, O Father of mercies, all my infirmities (). Strengthen me against all my follies (). Forgive all my sins, whether of omission or commission, in thought, word, and deed (). Let them not cry louder in thy ears for vengeance than my prayers for mercy and forgiveness.

O Lord, against heaven and against thee have I sinned. But I beseech thee, cast me not out of thy presence. Wipe all my sins out of the book of remembrances which thou hast written before thee. And give me from henceforth a wise, a meek, a courageous heart; chaste, temperate reins and thoughts; and a soul full of devotion to thy service.

O blessed Lord, enable me to fulfill thy commands, and command what thou wilt. O thou Saviour of all who hope in thee, do with me as seems best in thy own eyes.²⁵ Only give me the mind which was in thee. Pour into me the whole spirit of humility. Fill, I beseech thee, every part of my soul with it, and make it the constant rule and habit of my mind, that I may not only feel it, and that more

²⁵To this point JW follows a prayer of William Laud, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 33–34.

and more, day by day, but feel all my other tempers rise from it, that I may have no thoughts or desires, no designs, but such as are the true fruits of a lowly heart. Grant that I may always appear poor and little and mean and base and vile in my own eyes. That I may feel I am nothing but sin and misery, but weakness and uncleanness. That I may clearly see that I have neither learned wisdom nor have the knowledge of the holy. That I am not worthy of the air I breathe, the earth I tread upon, or the sun that shines upon me. That I am nothing, that I have nothing, that I can do nothing! And enable [me] to be fully content, that all men should think of me as I do now.²⁶ And if at any time thou art pleased to work by my hand, guard me from arrogating anything to myself. Teach me to discern what is mine own from what is another's, and to render unto thee the things that are thine. O save me from defrauding thee of any part of thy praise, and let not the accursed thing cleave unto me. As all the good that is done, thou doest it thyself, let me ever return to thee all the glory. O deliver me from either seeking or desiring any honour that comes of men. Convince me that the words of praise, though smoother than oil, are very swords.²⁷ Enable me to fear them more than the poison of asps, or the pestilence that walks in darkness. And when these snares of death do overtake me, suffer me not to take any pleasure in them; but enable me instantly to flee unto thee, O Lord, and to complain unto my God. Let me cry out, 'Thou alone art worthy to be praised; so shall I be safe from my enemies.'²⁸

²⁶This section adapts Law, *Serious Call*, 376–77.

²⁷Cf. Ps. 55:22 (BCP).

²⁸Cf. Ps. 18:3.

Bless, O gracious Father, the holy catholic Church. Fill it with truth and grace. Where it is corrupt, purge it. Where it is in error, rectify it. Where it is right, confirm it. Where it is divided and rent asunder, heal the breaches of it. O thou holy one of Israel, bless all those who are called to any office in thy church. Replenish them with truth of doctrine and innocence of life. Let their prayers be as precious incense in thy sight, that their cries and tears for thy people and the city of their God may not be in vain.

O Lord, send the king help from thy sanctuary and strengthen him out of Zion. Set his heart firmly on thee, and unto other things only as they are in and for thee. O defend him and all in authority from all evil, from thy holy heaven, even with the saving strength of thy right hand.

Have mercy upon this kingdom and forgive the sins of this people. Turn thou unto us, bless us, and cause thy face to shine on our desolations. Comfort all the widows and daughters of affliction (), especially those who suffer for righteousness' sake. Bless all my friends and relations, especially (). Forgive all mine enemies, and give me graces that for their hatred I may love them, for their cursing bless them, for their injuries return them kindnesses, and freely forgive them as I desire to be forgiven by thy merits and intercessions, O blessed Jesus, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, blessed forever!²⁹

Archbishop Laud, Law, etc.³⁰

²⁹The last three paragraphs return to a prayer of William Laud in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 35–36.

³⁰JW includes this prayer, somewhat abridged, in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 33–36.

Tuesday Evening

I desire to offer unto thee, O Lord, my evening sacrifice, the sacrifice of a troubled spirit, a broken and a contrite heart, which thou hast promised not to despise. Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness; after the multitude of thy mercies, do away mine offenses. Let thy unspeakable mercy free me from the sins I have committed and deliver me from the punishment I have deserved.³¹

Lord, I confess that I have wasted the time which thou hast hitherto given me for repentance, and have heaped sin upon sin before thy all-seeing eye, as if I had stood in no fear of thee at all. O Lord, I acknowledge it is of thy goodness alone that I am not consumed in my iniquities, and to thy mercy be all the praise and glory thereof.

O thou Father of mercies, who desirest not the death of a sinner, in the name and mediation of our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, I most humbly crave pardon for my sins. Lord, I repent. Help my impenitence, and water my heart with the dew of thy heavenly grace, that I may no longer bring forth weeds fit only for the fire. Convert me, O Lord, and I shall be converted. Open my eyes, direct my heart, and so draw me after thee, that I may no more return to folly; but that being cleansed from all filthiness of flesh and spirit, and saved from every work of darkness, I may have grace with a pure mind and a perfect heart to follow thee, the only true God.³²

O glorious and holy God, who dwellest with the humble, I earnestly beseech thee to prepare my soul for thy habitation. Grant that I may feel that I am nothing, that I have nothing, that I deserve nothing but shame and punishment.

O Lamb of God, who both by thy example

³¹Prayer by John Laud, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 38–39.

³²This and the preceding paragraph are a prayer of Lancelot Andrewes, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 63.

and precept didst command us to be meek and humble, give me grace in all my thoughts and words and works to imitate thy meekness and humility. O mortify in me all proud thoughts. Let me return to thee the praise of all thou hast given me, that by confessing they are wholly thine, I may not boast of what I have received and am so highly accountable for.³³

Grant, O Lord, that I may look for nothing, claim nothing, resent nothing that I got through all the actions of life, looking wholly unto thee, asking wholly for thee. Let me ever dread applause, in whatsoever form, and from whatsoever tongue it comes. Let me ever remember that many strong men have been slain by it, and that it leads to the chambers of death. O deliver my soul from this deadly snare, and let me never more spread it for the feet of others. Whosoever perishes by it, let their blood be on their own head, and let not my hand be upon them!

Make me to remember thee on my bed, to think upon thee when I am waking. Thou hast preserved me from all the dangers of the day past (). Thou hast preserved³⁴ me from my youth, up until now, under the shadow of thy wings. Let me pass this night in comfort and peace. Let not my sleep be intemperate but sufficient to relieve nature, and whatever days thou art pleased to add to my life, let them all be devoted to thy service, and wholly employed in the advancement of thy honour and glory.

And, O thou creator and preserver of all mankind, have mercy upon all conditions of men. Bless thy holy catholic Church. Purge her from all heresy,

³³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 188.

³⁴Above the word 'preserved' JW has written 'sustained'.

schism, and error—that one faith, one Lord, one baptism may in all places be uniformly professed. And keep me, O Lord, a faithful living member under Christ, the head of the true Church, his body, all the days of my life and at the hour of my death.

Bless our sovereign in his person, in his actions, in his relations, in his people. Grant him success in this life, and then crown him with an eternal weight of glory. Bless all that labour under afflictions (). Give them constant patience or speedy deliverance, as seems best to thee. Bless all my kindred and acquaintances, my friends and benefactors (particularly). Turn the hearts of my enemies. Forgive me and them all our sins, and grant us mercy in the dreadful day of judgment, through the mediation and satisfaction of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be all honour, praise, and thanksgiving, in all churches of the saints forever!³⁵

Archbishop Laud & Bishop Andrews³⁶

³⁵The last three paragraphs return to prayer by Laud, in Spinckes, *Devotions*, 39–41.

³⁶JW includes portions of this prayer in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 38–42.

Psalm 23³⁷Psalm 31:5[ff]³⁸

[5] To thee, O God of truth, / My life and all that's mine,
 For thou preserv'st me from my youth, / I willingly resign.
 [15] Whate'er events betide, / Thy wisdom times them all;
 Then shall thy servant safely hide, / From those that seek my fall.
 [16] The brightness of thy face, / Thou shalt to me disclose;
 And as thy mercies still increase, / Preserve me from my foes.
 [24] Ye that on God rely, / Courageously proceed;
 For he will still our hearts supply / With strength in time of need.

Psalm 34

[1] Through all the changing scenes of life, / In trouble and in joy,
 The praises of my God shall still / My heart and tongue employ.
 [2] Of his deliverance I will boast, / Till all that are distressed,
 From my example comfort take, / And charm their griefs to rest.
 [7] Thy hosts, O God, encamp around, / The dwellings of the just;
 And safety thou affordest to all, / That on thy succour trust.

Psalm 36:5

Psalm 56:11

[10–11] I'll trust in God and so despise / The force that men can raise;
 [12] To thee, O God, my vows are due; / To thee my constant praise.
 [13] Thou hast retrieved my soul from death, / And thou wilt still secure
 The life thou hast so oft preserved, / And make my footsteps sure.
 Protected by thy sovereign power, / This life I shall enjoy.
 And in the service of my God, / My joyful days employ.

Psalm 57

[1] Thy mercy, Lord, to me extend, / On thy protection I depend;
 And to thy wing for shelter haste, / Till these outrageous storms be past.
 [2] To thy all-powerful love I fly, / Thou sovereign judge and God most high;
 Thou my salvation hast begun, / And wilt not leave thy work undone.
 [9] Thy praises, Lord, let me resound / To all the listening nations round;
 Thy goodness highest heaven transcends, / Thy truth beyond the clouds extends.
 [11] Be thou, O God exalted high, / And as thy glory fills the sky,
 So let it be on earth displayed, / Till thou art here as there obeyed.³⁹

³⁷All psalms are from Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*. No text is given below this heading or for 36:5; JW likely knew the psalms by memory.

³⁸JW mislabeled as '32:5'.

³⁹The last two lines appear on 32v.

Meekness, Sweetness, and Resignation¹

IV. 1. Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life, give me grace to learn of him, who was meek and lowly, to put on bowels of mercy, gentleness, . . . longsuffering, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.²

Guide me, O Lord, through all the changes of the world, that in all things I may have an evenness and tranquillity of spirit, that my soul may be wholly resigned to thy will, never murmuring at thy fatherly correction, through Jesus Christ our Lord.³

O keep my eye steadfast upon thee, and upon the indications of thy will and providence, that I may not be forward to anything of my own head, lest I put myself out of thy protection. Hear me, O Lord, and prepare my heart to receive the dictates of thy infinite wisdom concerning me. Prepare me always for thy holy presence, and whether I live or die, let me be thine.

Mr. Bonnel[l]⁴

Most gracious God, who wisely orderest all things, and dost not willingly afflict the sons of men, teach me contentedly to submit all the dispensations of thy providence, how contrary soever to flesh and blood. Thou knowest the surest ways of making me happy, and art infinite in loving-kindness and mercy. Therefore let thy blessed will in everything be my choice and satisfaction! Let every danger awaken me to a lively sense of thy power, which nothing can resist; and thy goodness, which endures continually; that being armed with these defences, I may serve thee quietly with a devout mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Nelson⁵

¹In Nelson, *Practice of True Devotion*, Wednesday was devoted to ‘Patience and Resignation’.

²See BCP, Collect for the Second Sunday After Easter, and Col. 3:12.

³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 49.

⁴Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 51–55 (abridged).

⁵Nelson, *Companion*, 332–33.

IV. 2. Most gracious God, while thou art pleased to continue to me that ease and plenty which I now enjoy, grant that I may be duly sensible of thy undeserved goodness, and by a moderate and charitable use of thy blessings, be prepared cheerfully to embrace whatever change thou art pleased to order for me, through Jesus Christ.

Bishop Patrick⁶

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed, give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commands and also that by thee we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.⁷

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of thy holy servant and give me peace all the days of my life, through Jesus Christ.

[BCP, Collect for] Second Sunday After Epiphany

O everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the services of angels and men in a wonderful order, mercifully grant that as thy holy angels always do thou serve in heaven, so by thy appointment they may succour and defend us on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] St. Michael's Day

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection I commit me. The Lord bless me and keep me. The Lord make his face to shine upon me, and be gracious unto me. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon me, and give me peace, both now and evermore.⁸

My Lord and my God, give me, I beseech thee, a mild, a patient, and a courageous spirit. Give me watchfulness in prosperity, meekness in adversity, and continual joy in the Holy Ghost.

I believe, O sovereign goodness, O mighty wisdom, that thou dost sweetly order and govern and dispose all things, even the most minute, even the most noxious, for thy glory and the good of those that love thee. Therefore let thy blessed will in everything be my choice and satisfaction!⁹

⁶Patrick, *Devout Christian Instructed*, 160.

⁷BCP, Order for Evening Prayer.

⁸BCP, Order for the Visitation of the Sick.

⁹Cf. Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 13.

IV. 3. O God, whose never-failing providence orders all things, both in heaven and earth, we humbly beseech thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us things that are profitable for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Eighth Sunday After Trinity

O most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us from all things that may hurt us, and teach us cheerfully to accomplish the things that thou wouldst have done, through [Jesus Christ our Lord].

[BCP, Collect for] Twentieth Sunday After Trinity

O Lord, in thee have I trusted. Let me never be confounded.¹⁰

I know that all things work together for good to them that love God!¹¹

O Lord, do thou order my goings and make my way acceptable to thyself. Though I fall, let me not be cast down, but uphold me with thy hand! Psalm 37[:23–24]

It is the Lord's, let him do what seems good unto him!¹²

The Lord gives and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!¹³

Wherefore dost a living man complain? A man for the punishment of his sins? Lamentations [3:39]

O Almighty God, Father and Lord of all creatures, who hast disposed all things so as may best magnify thy mercy and justice, I most humbly beseech thee to give me wisdom to adore thy ways and footsteps, which are in the great deep and not to be searched out. Teach me to submit to thy providence in all things, to be content in all changes of person and condition, in every state to read my duty in the lines of mercy, through Jesus Christ.¹⁴

O thou immense majesty, the all-sufficient God of angels and men, who art above all, and through all, and in us all. From whom and in whom are all things. In whom we live, move, and have our being. With awful joy I feel myself in thy hand. O let my will be as entirely and continually derived from thine, as my being and happiness are.

¹⁰BCP, Order for Morning Prayer.

¹¹Cf. Rom. 8:28.

¹²Cf. 2 Sam. 15:26.

¹³Job 1:21.

¹⁴Taylor, *Holy Living*, 190.

IV. 4. O may I count it all joy when I fall into diverse temptations, knowing that the trial of my faith worketh patience. O God, let peace have its perfect work, that I may be perfect.¹⁵

It is good for me that I should be in trouble, that I may learn thy statutes, that the law of thy mouth may be dearer unto me than thousands of gold and silver!¹⁶

O teach me in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content!¹⁷

O my God, everywhere and in all things let me be instructed both to be full and to be humble, both to abound and to want!¹⁸

O that there were in me a heart that might always follow thee, a soul that might always love thee, an understanding that might converse worthily of thee, ears ever open to hear thee, eyes ever intent to see thee, and a will entirely and gladly obedient to thee.

Saint Augustine¹⁹

Let me learn of thee to be meek and lowly, that I may find rest to my soul.²⁰

¹⁵Cf. James 1:2–4.

¹⁶Cf. Ps. 119:71–72.

¹⁷Cf. Phil. 4:11.

¹⁸Cf. Phil. 4:12.

¹⁹Augustine, *Pious Breathings*, 101.

²⁰Cf. Matt. 11:29.

[IV.] 5. Lo I come! If this soul and body may be useful to anything here, they are both to do thy will, O God! And hereafter if it please thee to use that power which thou hast as creator over dust and ashes, over weak flesh and blood, over a brittle vessel of clay, over the work of thy own hands, lo here they are to suffer also thy good pleasure! I do now protest to my God that if he please to visit me with either pain or dishonour, I will ‘humble myself’ under it, and ‘be obedient unto death, even the death of the cross’.²¹ Whatsoever may come to me, either from the Jews or Gentiles, from my neighbours or from strangers, since it is my God that employs them, though they neither know nor think so, unless at the same time thou help me to some lawful means of securing myself against their wrongs, I will not hereafter ‘open my mouth before the Lord’,²² who dost strike me, except only to sing the psalm, after I have eaten the bitter herbs that belong to this Passover, and to bless the Lord who gave them me, and entreat him for those who either ignorantly or maliciously gathered them. Hereafter no man can take anything from me, no life, no honour, no estate; since I am ready of myself to lay them down, as soon as I can perceive that thou requires them at my hands. Nevertheless, ‘O Father, if it be thy will, remove this cup from me.’²³ If it be not, thy will be done. What kind soever of sufferings may hereafter trouble me, following the example of our great High Priest, in his bitterest pangs, ‘into thy hands, O Father, I commend my life’²⁴ and dearest concernments. And if thou be pleased that either I live yet a while or not, I will with my Saviour ‘bow down my head’.²⁵ I will adore thee under my burden and humble myself under thy hand. I will give up all what thou wilt be pleased to ask, goods, joys, etc., until at last I surrender and give up the ghost.²⁶

²¹Cf. Phil. 2:8.

²²Cf. Isa. 53:7.

²³Luke 22:42.

²⁴Luke 23:46.

²⁵John 19:30.

²⁶Brevint, *Christian Sacrament*, 99–101. The last part of the last line (following ‘pleased’) is found on 35v.

Wednesday Morning

O Almighty God, great Lord of heaven and earth, I a miserable sinner desire with fear and shame to cast myself down before thee, humbly confessing my manifold sins and insufferable wickednesses, by which I have deserved thy wrath and eternal separation from thy presence. I confess, O great God, that I have sinned grievously against thee, by thought, word, and deed, in public and in private (). My sins of omission are infinite, and my sins of commission cannot be numbered. Thy words and thy laws, O God, are holy, and thy judgments are terrible; but I have broken all thy righteous laws, and incurred thy severest judgments, and where shall I appear when thou art angry?

But O Lord my judge, thou art also my redeemer. I have sinned; but thou, O blessed Jesus, art my advocate. Have mercy upon me, a most miserable sinner. Enter not into judgment with me, lest I die. But spare me gracious Lord, spare thy servant, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood. O reserve not evil in store for me against the day of vengeance, but let thy mercy be magnified upon me. Deliver me from the power of sin and preserve me from the punishment of it.

Thou, whose mercy is without measure, whose goodness is unspeakable, despise not thy returning servant, who earnestly begs for pardon and reconciliation. Grant me the forgiveness of what is past, and a perfect death unto sin, that for the time to come I may, with a pure spirit, a broken and contrite heart, fulfill all thy commands, walking humbly with my God, conversing charitably with men, possessing my soul in patience and holiness, and my body in sanctification and honour.²⁷

²⁷JW used the first three paragraphs of this prayer to open his prayer for 'Wednesday Evening' in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 49–50.

Thou who dwellest in the light to which no man can approach, in whose presence there is no night, in the light of whose countenance there is perpetual day, I thy servant whom thou hast preserved this night, who livest by thy power this day, bless and glorify thee for the defence of thy almighty providence (); and humbly pray thee to grant that this and all the days of my life may be holy, peaceable, and entirely dedicated to thy service. Send thy Holy Spirit to be the guide of all my ways, the guard of my soul and body. Save, defend, and daily build me up in thy love. Give unto me the light of thy countenance, peace from heaven, and the salvation of my soul in the day of the Lord Jesus.

Hear also my prayers for thy holy catholic Church. Unite her divisions. Extirpate out of her all false doctrines. Let her live by thy Spirit and reign in thy glory. Remember those whom thou hast appointed stewards of thy holy mysteries. Give them such wisdom and charity, such zeal and diligence, that they may be guides to the blind, comforters to the weary and heavy-laden; that they may strengthen the weak and confirm the strong, boldly rebuke sin, and patiently suffer for the truth.

Preserve, O great King of heaven and earth, all Christian princes, more especially our sovereign. Crown them with justice and peace and with the love of God and their people. Let holiness be the ornament of their heads, that being enabled by thy anointing from above to be faithful servants of thee, the King of kings, they may inherit a crown of everlasting glory.

O blessed Lord, who art rich in mercy and compassion, have mercy on the whole Christian Church. Remember the poor and needy (), the widow and fatherless, the friendless and oppressed (). Relieve their necessities, comfort their sorrows, strengthen their weakness. Heal the sick and languishing, and them that draw near unto death, and suffer not Satan to prevail over them in the day of their calamity. Give them deliverance when thou seest it expedient for them, and in the meantime a sanctified use of thy rod.

Together with them I come to thy divine mercy myself. O give us all those graces and blessings which thou knowest to be most suitable for us.²⁸

Let these my prayers, O Lord, find access to the throne of grace, through the Son of thy love, Jesus Christ the Righteous; to whom with thee, O Father, in the unity of the Spirit, be all glory and praise, all love and obedience for ever and ever.

Bishop Taylor²⁹

Wednesday Evening

O Almighty Father, who gavest the sun for a light by day and the ordinances of the moon and stars for a light by night, vouchsafe to receive me this night and ever in thy favour and protection. And so govern me by thy Holy Spirit, that I may be preserved from sin and from the infection of every temptation. Let not the sins of this day () deprive me of thy gracious protection, but let thy merciful ears be open to my prayer for forgiveness.

I desire, O Lord, with sorrow and shame to confess my sins unto thee, and to humble myself at the remembrance of [my] folly. O thou God of compassion, have mercy upon me, for thou art our Father, merciful and gracious, and hast revealed to us thy infinite mercies in Jesus Christ. For his

²⁸These two sentences added to Spinckes's text from Ken, *Manual*, 19–20.

²⁹Spinckes, *Devotions*, 87–91. JW included later paragraphs of this prayer in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 43–47.

sake give me true penitence and the perfect remission of my past sins. Wash my soul in the blood of thy holy Lamb and the baptism of repentance. Enable me to run not as uncertainly; to fight, not as one that beateth the air; but ever to keep my body under, and daily bring it more and more into, subjection.³⁰ O grant me to be buried with Christ unto death, that sin may no longer reign in my mortal body.³¹ Enable me to mortify my members which are upon the earth, and all earthly, sensual, devilish affections.³² Strengthen me that I may wholly put off the old man,³³ and utterly abolish the whole body of sin.³⁴ And grant that I may henceforth live a holy life, in all godliness and honesty, continually increasing in the knowledge of God, and being more and more fruitful in every good work. O let it be the one work of my life to obey thee, the joy of my soul to please thee; that in a constant and faithful discharge of my duty, I may watch for the coming of my Lord, and be ready to enter in with him, at whatsoever hour he shall come.

Thou, O Lord, who by thy blessed Son, the most gracious and holy Redeemer, hast subdued all the powers of hell and the grave, and taken away the sting of death, have mercy upon me now and at the hour of death. O let me not be snatched away unprepared, nor called upon when my lamp is untrimmed. Preserve, if it be thy blessed will, my faith and hope, my sense and speech, perfect and useful to the last of my days. And grant that I may die the death of the righteous, and that my future state may be like his.

³⁰Cf. 1 Cor. 9:26–27.

³¹Cf. Rom. 6:4, 12.

³²Cf. Col. 3:5.

³³Cf. Eph. 4:22.

³⁴Cf. Rom. 6:6. JW added the five scripture adaptations to Spinckes's text.

Preserve, O Lord, thy Church, from all heresy and schism, from all that persecute or oppose the truth. And give unto them who serve thee in the ministries of religion wisdom and holiness, the blessings of peace and righteousness, and the powerful aid of thy Holy Spirit.

And, O Almighty God, who rulest in the kingdoms of man, defend those with thy mercy whom thou hast adorned with thy power. Advance the just interests and preserve the persons of all Christian princes, especially our sovereign. Give them long life and peace in the world, and a crown of glory in the world to come.

With a propitious eye, O gracious Comforter, behold all mine enemies, and all that are in affliction. Hear the sighings of the distressed, the groans of the sick, the prayers of the oppressed, the desires of the poor and needy (). Give them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. To thy almighty protection I likewise recommend my father, etc. O thou that never slumberest nor sleepest, watch over them to preserve them from sin and danger.³⁵

These my prayers, O most merciful Father, vouchsafe to hear, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who with thee and the Holy Ghost together is worshipped and glorified in all churches of the saints, one God, blessed forever!

Bishop Taylor³⁶

³⁵The last two sentences in this paragraph are added to Spinckes's text from Ken, *Manual*, 32.

³⁶Spinckes, *Devotions*, 93–96. JW included only small excerpts from the later parts of this prayer in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 51–52.

Sincerity and Courtesy¹

V. O Holy Lord, who searchest the heart, purge mine, I beseech thee, from all hypocrisy and guile. Teach me to speak the truth from my heart, and to be sincere, as well as pitiful and courteous, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.²

Teach me, O Lord, in all my intercourse with others to exercise simplicity and singleness of heart; never to compass my design by insidious devices or betray my neighbour by not performing what I have promised.

Let me never abuse men into a false opinion of themselves, by representing them better than they are. Let me ever study to be an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile.

Let my tongue be the true interpreter of my heart, and my words and actions the true image of my intentions, that so when the secrets of all hearts shall be discovered, I may not be confounded. Amen, O Lord Jesus!³

¹JW departs here from the pattern of Nelson, *Practice of True Devotion*; Nelson devoted Thursday to 'The Improvement of Our Talents, and Co-operation with God's Grace'.

²Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 89.

³Nelson, *Companion*, 197 (with JW adding the allusion to John 1:47).

Thursday Morning

I adore thee with all humility, O Almighty and Eternal God, my sovereign Lord, and acknowledge that all I am, all I have is thine. O give me such a sense of thy infinite goodness, that I may return to thee all possible obedience.

I humbly and heartily thank thee for all the favours thou hast bestowed upon me; for creating me after thine own image, for preserving me by the daily protection of thy good providence; for redeeming me by the death of thy blessed Son, and for the assistance of thy Holy Spirit: for causing me to be born in a Christian country, for blessing me with plentiful means of salvation, with religious parents, sincere friends, and frequent returns of thy ever-blessed sacrament: and for the good hope of the glorious inheritance prepared for those who love thee and keep thy commandments. I also thank thee for the many temporal blessings thou hast bestowed upon me; for the comfortable rest of last night, and my preservation from all the dangers of it (). For my health, strength, food, and raiment; for all the comforts and conveniences, as well as the necessities of life. O may I always delight to praise thy holy name, and love all thy benefits only for the sake of the great benefactor.

And, O Father of Mercies, shut not up thy bowels of compassion toward me, a vile and miserable sinner; despise not the works of thy own hands, the purchase of thy Son's blood. For his sake I most humbly implore the forgiveness of all my sins.⁴ *Lo I come now to do thy will, O God, and am resolved, by the assistance of thy grace, to have no longer any desire of my own, but with singleness of heart to obey thy good pleasure. Father, not my will but thine be done, in all my thoughts, words, and actions.*

⁴Up to this point from Spinckes, *Devotions*, 44–45 (who was distilling Nelson, *Practice of True Devotion*, 265–66).

Lord Jesus, I give thee my body, my soul, my substance, my fame, my friends, my liberty, my life. Dispose of me and all that is mine as it seemeth best to thee. I am not my own, but thine: therefore, claim me as thy right, keep me as thy charge, and love me as thy child.⁵ O thou all-sufficient God of angels and men, who art above all and through all and in us all, from whom, by whom, and in whom are all things, in whom we live, move, and have our being, with awful joy I feel myself in thy hand! O let my will be as entirely and continually derived from thine as my being and happiness are!⁶

I believe, O sovereign goodness, O mighty wisdom, that thou dost sweetly order and govern all things, even the most minute, even the most noxious, for thy glory and the good of those that love thee.⁷ Therefore, let thy blessed will in all things be my choice and satisfaction.

Thou, O Father of heaven and earth, so disposest all events as may best magnify thy love with thy creatures. I most humbly beseech thee to give me wisdom to adore thy ways, and footsteps which are in the great deep. Teach me to be glad that thou art King, and thankful to accept whatever comes from thee; to rejoice in all changes of my own person and condition, and ever to read my duty in the lines of thy mercy.⁸

O help me with thy grace, that all I shall do or suffer this day may tend to thy glory. Keep me in innocence, and in love to thee and to all men; do thou direct my paths, and teach me so to set thee always before me, that I may guide all my affairs with discretion. But let not the things of this life alienate any part of my life from thee; nor let me ever pursue or regard them but for thee, and in obedience to thy will.

⁵Spinckes, *Devotions*, 112 (drawing on Cosin, *Collection*, 78–79).

⁶This also found on 34r above.

⁷Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 13.

⁸Taylor, *Holy Living*, 190.

Extend, O Lord, thy compassion to the whole race of mankind: enlighten the Gentile world with the knowledge of thy truth, and bring into thy flock thy ancient people the Jews. Be gracious to thy holy catholic Church: grant that she may always preserve thy doctrine and discipline, and let not the gates of hell ever prevail against her. Grant that all the governors in church and state may be serviceable to thy glory and the public good. Be merciful to all that are in affliction, that labour under poverty or persecution, under bodily pains or diseases, or under temptations or troubles (). Be pleased to support and comfort them, and in thy good time, to deliver them according to thy great mercy. Bless all my friends and relations (), my acquaintances and enemies: those that are in sin, convert; those that are in grace, confirm and strengthen. Unite us all, O God, to one another by fervent charity, and to thyself by love stronger than death.

Finally, O gracious Lord, pardon, I beseech thee, the coldness and wanderings of these petitions, and deal not with me according to my prayers or deserts, but according to my necessities and thy own rich mercies in Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose blessed name and words I conclude my imperfect prayers, saying “Our Father ...”⁹

Mr. Nelson & Bishop Cosin

⁹Last three paragraphs from Spinckes, *Devotions*, 47–48 (drawing on Nelson, *Practice of True Devotion*, 270–72). JW included much of this prayer in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 53–57.

Thursday Evening

O most gracious God, who daily multipliest upon us thy mercies, notwithstanding we every day renew our provocations; accept, I beseech thee, my most humble and hearty thanks for thy unspeakable kindness to me thy unworthy servant. Blessed be thy goodness which hath this day supplied me with necessaries, preserved me in health, and prospered me in all my ways (). Adored be thy love and patience for the assistance of thy Holy Spirit in the duties of this day, and for not cutting me off in any act of those sins which I have this day committed (). Grant me a due sense of these endearing benefits, and earnest sorrow for having offended so gracious a God, for having followed the desires of my own heart and leaned to my own understanding. Remember not against me my past iniquities, by which I have rebelled against thy sovereign will (), but mercifully forgive and heal me. And let the blessed influences of thy Holy Spirit defend me against all future temptations. My full purpose is to have no will but thine, and thou hast promised to assist me therein. O let thy arm be my almighty aid. So shall I daily increase in true holiness.¹⁰

O my God, to thee I humbly offer up myself. Accept of me graciously to be thine in thy dear Son. Thou hast made me what I am, and given me what I have. I live by thee; O that I may live to thee. By thee I am this moving body and this thinking soul. O that I may neither move nor think, but for thy glory. I am a living monument of thy mercy! O that I may be a living monument of thy praise.¹¹

¹⁰Spinckes, *Devotions*, 28–29 (drawing on John Kettlewell, *Help and Exhortation*, 488–89).

¹¹Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 162.

To thee, my most adorable Preserver, I wholly dedicate what thou hast preserved: my body, my soul, my members, my senses, my faculties, my thoughts, my words, my affections, and my actions, to be governed, guided and sanctified by thee, and made ever conformable to thy holy will.¹²

Out of thy fulness, O most gracious Lord Jesus, let me receive grace for grace, humility, meekness, purity, recollection of spirit and weanedness from the world, absolute resignation to all thy disposals and thankfulness in every condition, uprightness of heart toward thee my God, and toward men universal charity.

I adore thy condescending love, O Lord God, our sanctifier, in giving thyself to thy creatures, and vouchsafe to abide [with] us forever, to sanctify our spirits unto obedience, and to prevent, assist and follow us, to enlighten, strengthen and comfort us, to begin and perfect the work of redemption in each of our hearts; to renew thy image upon our souls, to unite us to thyself and each other, and seal us to thy heavenly kingdom. Glory be to thee for all thy gracious mercies and holy inspirations of me a miserable sinner. O pardon my grievings of thee, by sacrilegiously denying thee for the glory of thy own work. By faithlessly neglecting to work together with thee, and carrying on other works beside that of my salvation. By insolently setting up idols in my heart, and having other gods before thee. O be not yet provoked to forsake my soul; but graciously assist me, that for the time to come, I may be readily obedient to all thy motions, and love thee with all my heart, and all my strength.¹³

¹²Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 161.

¹³Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 158–59 (adapted).

Have mercy, O Father of the spirits of all flesh, on all mankind. Convert all Jews, Turks, and heathens to thy truth. Confirm all Christians therein. Bless the universal Church. Heal its breaches, reform what is amiss in it, and establish it in truth and peace. Preserve and defend all Christian princes, especially our sovereign. Bless the clergy with soundness of doctrine and purity of life, the Council with wisdom, the judges with integrity, the magistrates with discretion, and the people with loyalty. To thy almighty protection I commit myself and all my relations, and all that belong to this college. O thou that never slumberest nor sleepest, watch over us, to preserve us from sin and danger. Comfort and relieve those who labour under any affliction of body or mind (), who are in danger or want, in prison or condemned to death. Those that do good to or love me, reward sevenfold in their bosom (). Those who hate me without a cause, convert and forgive. And grant all to have our hearts there fixed where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour.¹⁴

Mr. Kettlewell, Mr. Bonnel[1], Bishop Andrew[e]s

¹⁴Spinckes, *Devotions*, 64–65 (attributed to Bishop Lancelot Andrewes). JW included only this paragraph in his prayer for Thursday evening in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 62–63.

Psalm 6¹⁵

[1] Thy dreadful anger Lord restrain, / And spare a wretch forlorn;
 Correct me not in thy fierce wrath, / Too heavy to be borne.
 [2] Have mercy, Lord, for I am faint, / Nor able to endure
 The sins and follies of my soul, / Which thou alone canst cure.
 [4] Thy wonted goodness, Lord, repeat, / And heal my wounded soul;
 Heal me and for my Saviour's sake, / Vouchsafe to make me whole.
 [5] For after death no more can I / Thy glorious acts proclaim;
 No prisoner of the silent grave / Can magnify thy name.

Psalm 42:9[, etc.]

[9] God of my strength, how long shall I / Like one forgotten mourn?
 Dismayed, forsaken, and exposed / To my oppressor's scorn?
 [5] Why restless, why cast down my soul, / Trust God who will employ
 His aid for thee and change these sighs / To grateful hymns of joy.
 [2] For thee, my God, the living God, / My thirsty soul dost pine:
 O when shall I behold thy face, / Thou majesty divine!
 [43:3] Send forth, O Lord, thy light and truth, / To guide me in the way,
 Till on thy holy hill I rest, / And in thy presence stay.
 [11] Why restless, why cast down my soul, / Hope still and thou shalt sing,
 The praise of him who is thy God, / Thy health's eternal spring.

Psalm 51¹⁶

[1] Have mercy on me Lord, / As thou wert ever kind,
 Let me, oppressed with loads of guilt, / Thy wonted goodness find.
 [2-3] Wash off my foul offense, / And cleanse me from my sin;
 For I confess my crimes and see / How great my guilt has been.
 [5] In guilt each part was formed, / Of all this sinful frame,
 In guilt I was conceived, and born / The heir of sin and shame.
 [6] O thou whose searching eye / Dost inward truth require,
 In secret with thy righteous laws, / My erring soul inspire.
 [7] O purge me from my sins, / And so I clean shall be;
 I shall with snow in whiteness vie, / When purified by thee.
 [8] Make me to hear with joy / Thy kind forgiving voice;
 That so the bones which thou hast broke / May with fresh strength rejoice.

¹⁵First two psalms are from Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*.

¹⁶This one taken from *A Supplement to the New Version of Psalms* (London: D. Brown, J. Wild, et al., 1700).

[9–10] Blot out my crying sin, / Nor me in anger view;
Create in me a heart that's clean, / An upright mind renew.
[11] Withdraw not thou thy help, / Nor cast me from thy sight;
Nor let thy Holy Spirit take / His everlasting flight.
[12] The joy thy favor gives, / Let me again obtain,
And thy free Spirit's firm support, / My fainting soul sustain.
[14] My weight of guilt remove, / My Saviour and my God,
And my glad tongue shall loudly tell / Thy righteous acts abroad.

Psalm 69:13[–16]¹⁷

[13] O Lord to thee I will repair, / With humble tears and fervent prayer;
Relieve me from thy mercy's store, / Display thy truth's preserving power.
[14] From threatening dangers me relieve, / From death my wandering soul retrieve;
From hell's devouring jaws, O keep, / O snatch me from the raging deep.
[15] Control the deluge ere it spread / And roll its waves above my head;
Nor deep destruction's open pit, / To close her mouth on me permit.
[16] Lord, hear the humble prayer I make, / Save me for my Redeemer's sake.
Relieve thy supplicant once more, / From thy abounding mercy's store.

¹⁷Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*.

Mortification

VI. Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Ash Wednesday

Grant O Lord that, as we are baptized in the death of thy blessed Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections, we may pass to our joyful resurrection, for his merits who died and rose again for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Easter Evening

O most mighty God and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all men, and hateth nothing that thou hast made; who would not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his sin, and be saved; mercifully forgive me my trespasses, receive and comfort me, who am grieved and weary with the burden of my sins. Thy property is always to have mercy. To thee only it applies to forgive sins. Spare me therefore good Lord. Spare thy servant, whom thou hast redeemed. Enter not into judgment with thy servant, who is vile, earthy, and a miserable sinner. But so turn thy anger from me, who meekly acknowledges my vileness and truly repents myself of my faults, and so make haste to heal myself in this world that I may ever live with thee in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Turn thou me, O good Lord, and so shall I be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, be favourable to thy servant, who turns to thee in weeping, fasting, and praying! For thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, longsuffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, and in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy servant, good Lord. Spare me, and let me not be brought to confusion. Hear me, O Lord, for thy mercy is great. And of the multitude of thy mercies look upon me, through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Order of Communion]

Almighty and most merciful Father, who for my many and grievous sins committed against thee might most justly have cut me off in the midst of my days, but in the multitude of my mercies hast hitherto spared me, accept I most heartily beseech thee

my unfeigned sorrow for all my transgressions, and grant that I may never so presume on thy mercy as to dispose the riches of thy goodness, but that thy forbearance and long-suffering may lead me to repentance, to the amendment of my sinful life, to thy honour and glory, and my final acquittal at the last day, through Jesus Christ our Lord.¹

O Saviour of the world, save me! Thou who by thy cross and passion hast redeemed me, help me and save me O God!²

O Christ, hear me! Remember now that hour in which thou didst resign thy blessed spirit into the hands of thy heavenly Father; when, with a torn body and a broken heart, thou didst show forth the bowels of thy mercy and die for us. I beseech thee, O thou image of God, assist me by this thy most precious death, that being dead unto the world, I may live only unto thee; and at the hour of my departure from this mortal life, I may revive my soul in thy house, and thou may receive me into life immortal, there to reign with thee forever and ever.³

O Saviour of the world, God of God, Light of Light, thou that art the brightness of thy Father's glory and the express image of his person; thou that hast destroyed the power of the devil, that hast overcome death, that sittest at the right hand of the Father; thou that wilt speedily come down in thy Father's glory, to reward all men according to their works: be thou my light and my peace; destroy the power of the devil in me and raise me from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness.⁴

O baptize me into the death of thy Son, that I may rise with him unto life immortal!⁵

Lord, I repent, help my impenitence; compassionate my infirmities, forgive my wickedness, purify my uncleanness, strengthen my weakness, fix my unstableness; and let thy love ever rule in my heart through the merits and sufferings and love of thy Son, in whom thou art always well-pleased!⁶

¹Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 25.

²Ibid., 28.

³Ibid., 34.

⁴William Law, *Serious Call*, 246.

⁵Cf. Rom. 6:5.

⁶Spinckes, *Devotions*, 83.

O Thou God, who art a pure Spirit sanctify and make me holy as thou art holy; that I may continually offer to thee my soul and body, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice.⁷

O Lord, correct me, but with mercy; not in thy anger, lest thou bring me to nothing!⁸

Thou hast opened a fountain for sin and uncleanness, and unto thee shall all flesh come.⁹

O Lord God, whatever thou deniest me, deny me not a broken and a contrite spirit.¹⁰

Turn thou me, O good Lord, and so shall I be turned: turn the whole stream of my affections: be thou the constant bias of my heart, that it may continually move toward thee!¹¹

O God whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive; receive our humble prayers; and though we be tied and bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us, through [Jesus Christ our Lord].

[BCP, Prayer for General Occasions]

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art want to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercies, and forgive us those sins whereof our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the worthiness of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Twelfth Sunday After Trinity

God be merciful unto me, a sinner!¹²

Give me wisdom that sitteth by thy throne and reject me not from among thy children. Let me know and love by considering what an evil it is, to affront thy authority, to break through the bonds which thou hast set, to rebel against the most excellent and divine part of my nature and to oppose that which thou lovest and which is of all things most lovely. O let thy wisdom dwell with me. Let my loins be always girt, and my light burning, that I may not be dead to the deceits of sin, nor seek death in the errors of my life.¹³

⁷See 1 Pet. 1:15, and Rom. 12:1.

⁸Jer. 10:24.

⁹Zech. 13:1.

¹⁰Cf. Ps. 51:17.

¹¹Spinckes, *Devotions*, 83.

¹²Luke 18:13.

¹³Norris, *Miscellanies*, 388–89.

Psalm 6 [BCP]

- [1] O Lord, rebuke me not in thy anger, nor chasten me in thy displeasure.
- [2] Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak. O Lord, heal me for my bones are vexed.
- [3] My soul also is sore troubled; but Lord, how long wilt thou punish me?
- [4] Turn thou, O Lord, and deliver my soul. O save me for thy mercy's sake.
- [5] For in death no man can remember thee, and who will give thee thanks in the pit?
- [10] O let mine enemies be confounded, let them be put to shame suddenly.

Psalm 13 [BCP]

- [1] How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? Forever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?
- [2] How long shall I seek counsel in my soul, and be so vexed in my heart? How long shall my enemies triumph over me?
- [3] Consider and hear me, O Lord my God. Lighten my eyes that I sleep not in death.
- [4] Let not mine enemies say, 'I have prevailed against him'. Let not them that trouble me rejoice.
- [5] Let my trust be in thy mercy. Let my heart be joyful in thy salvation.
- [6] I will sing of the Lord who deals so lovingly with me. I will praise the name of the Lord most high!

Psalm 17 [BCP]

- [1] O Lord, consider my complaints; hearken my prayer that goeth out of feigned lips.
- [5] O hold thou up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not.
- [7] Show thy marvellous loving kindness, thou that art the saviour of them that trust in thee.
- [8] Keep me as the apple of an eye. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Psalm 22 [BCP]

[1] My God, my God, look upon me. Why hast thou forsaken me, and art so [far] from my health, and from the word of my complaint?

[3] Thou continuest holy, O thou worship of Israel.

[4] Our fathers hoped in thee; they trusted in thee, and thou didst deliver them.

[9] Thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb. I have been left unto thee ever since I was born.

[11] O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand, and there is none to help me.

[14] I am poured out like water. My bones are out of joint. My heart is like melted wax.

[15] My strength is dried up like a potsherd. O do not bring me into the dust of death.

[19] Be not thou far from me, O Lord. Thou art my succour, hasten thou to help me.

Psalm 25 [BCP]

[1] Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul. My God, I have put my trust in. O let me not be confounded, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

[3] Show me thy way, O Lord, and teach me thy paths.

[4] Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me, for thou art the God of my salvation. In thee hath been my hope all the day long.

[5] Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies, and thy loving-kindnesses which have ever been of old.

[6] O remember not the sins and offenses of my youth; but according to thy mercy think upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

[10] For thy name's sake, O Lord, be merciful to my sins, for they are great!

[14] Mine eyes are ever looking to the Lord, for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

[15] Turn thou unto me, and have mercy upon me, for I am desolate and in misery.

[16] The sorrows of my heart are enlarged. O bring thou me out of my troubles.

[17] Look upon my adversity and misery, and forgive all my sin.

[20] O keep my soul and deliver me. Let me not be confounded, for I have put my trust in thee.¹⁴

¹⁴This last verse appears at the top of 55r.

Psalm 27 [BCP]

- [8] Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto thee. Have mercy upon me and help me.
[10] O hide not thou thy face from me, nor cast thy servant away in displeasure.
[11] Thou hast been my succour. Leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
[12] When my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord taketh me up.
[13] Teach me thy way, O Lord. Lead me in the right way, because of mine enemies.

Psalm 28 [BCP]

- [1] Unto thee will I cry, O Lord my strength. Think no scorn of me, lest if thou make as though thou hearest not, I become like them that go down into the pit.
[2] Hear the voice of my humble petitions when I cry unto thee.
[3] O pluck me not away, nor destroy me with the wicked doers.

Psalm 39 [BCP]

- [5] Lord, let me know my end, and the number of my days, that I may know how frail I am.
[8] And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is even in thee.
[9] Deliver me from mine offenses, and make me not a rebuke unto the foolish.
[11] Take thy plague away from me. I am even consumed by thy heavy hand.
[12] When thou dost chasten me for sin, thou makest his beauty to consume away, like as it were a moth from a garment. Every man therefore is but vanity.
[13] Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with thy ears consider my calling. Hold not thy peace at my tears.
[15] O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength before I go.

Psalm 40 [BCP]

- [14] Withdraw not thou thy mercy from me, O Lord. Let thy loving-kindness and faith always preserve me.
[15] For my sins have taken such hold of me that I am not able to look up. They are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart hath failed me.
[16] O Lord, let it be thy pleasure to deliver me. Make haste, O Lord, to help me.
[19] Let those that seek thee be joyful in thee. Let them say always, 'The Lord be praised.'
[20] As for me, I am poor and needy. But the Lord careth for me.
[21] Thou art my helper and my redeemer. Make no long tarrying, O my God.

Psalm 43 [BCP]

- [2] Why, O God of my strength, hast thou put me from thee? Why go I so heavily, while the enemy oppresses me?
[3] O send forth thy light and thy truth, that they may lead me, and bring me unto thy holy hill.
[5] Why art thou so heavy, O my soul, and why art thou so disquieted within me?
[6] O put thy trust in God. For I will yet give him thanks, which is the help of my countenance and my God.

Psalm 31 [BCP]

- [1] In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust. Let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
- [2] Bow down thine ear to me, make haste to deliver me.
- [3] Be thou my strong rock and house of defence, that thou mayest save me.
- [4] Thou art my strong rock. Be thou also my guide and lead me for thy name's sake.
- [5] Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me, for thou art my strength.
- [6] Into thy hands I commit my spirit, for thou hast [redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth].
- [10] Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble, and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness.
- [12] My strength faileth me because of mine iniquities, and my bones are consumed.
- [16] But my hope hath been in thee, O Lord. I have said, 'Thou art my God.'
- [18] Show thy servant the light of thy countenance, and save me for thy mercy's sake.

Psalm 38 [BCP]

- [1] Put me not to rebuke, O Lord, in thy anger, nor chasten me in thy heavy displeasure.
- [2] For thy arrows stick fast in myself, and thy hand presseth me sore.
- [3] There is no health in my flesh because of thy displeasure, nor is there any rest in my bones because of my sin.
- [4] For my wickednesses are gone over my head, and are like a sore burden too heavy for me to bear.
- [6] I am brought into so great trouble and misery that I go mourning all the day long.
- [9] Lord, thou knowest all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from thee.
- [15] In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust. Thou shalt answer for me, O Lord my God.
- [17] I truly am set in the plague, and my heaviness is ever in my sight.
- [18] But I will confess my wickedness and be sorry for my sin.
- [21] Forsake me not, O Lord my God: be thou not far from me.
- [22] Hasten thou to help me, O Lord God of my salvation.

Psalm 56[–57¹⁵] [BCP]

[57:1] Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me, for my soul trusts in thee, and under the shadow of thy wings shall be my refuge until this tyranny be overpast.

[57:3] O send down from heaven, and save me from the reproof of him that would eat me up.

[56:4] Nevertheless, though I am sometime afraid, yet put I my trust in thee.

[56:9] Whensoever I call upon thee, then shall mine enemies be put to flight.

[57:6] Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens, and thy glory above all the earth.

Psalm 61[–62¹⁶]

[61:1] Hear my cry, O God. Give ear unto my prayer.

[61:2] From the ends of the earth will I call upon thee, when my heart is in heaviness.

[61:3a] O set me up upon the rock that is higher than I, for thou hast been my hope.

[61:4b] My trust shall be under the covering of thy wings.

[61:7b] O prepare thy loving mercy and faithfulness, that they may preserve me.

[62:1] My soul truly waiteth still upon God, for of him cometh my salvation.

[62:2] He verily is my strength and my salvation. He is my defence, so that I shall not greatly fall.

Psalm 69¹⁷

¹⁵This is actually a combination of Psalms 56 and 57.

¹⁶This is actually a combination of Psalms 61 and 62.

¹⁷There is no text given under this heading.

Psalm 51 [BCP]

- [1] Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness. According to the multitude of thy mercies, do away mine offenses.
- [2] Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.
- [3] For I acknowledge my transgressions; let my sins be ever before me!
- [5] Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin hath my mother conceived me.
- [7] O purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean. O wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- [8] O make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.
- [9] Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
- [10] Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
- [11] Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
- [12] O give me the comfort of thy help again, and establish me with thy free Spirit.
- [13] Then I shall teach thy ways unto the wicked, and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
- [15] Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall show thy praise.
- [17b] O give such a broken and contrite heart, as thou, O God, wilt not despise.

Psalm 88 [BCP & KJV¹⁸]

- [1] O Lord God of my salvation, I have cried day and night before thee. O let my prayer enter into thy presence, incline thine ear unto my calling.
- [2] For my soul is full of trouble, and my life draweth nigh unto hell.
- [3] I am as one of them that go down into the pit, as a man that hath no strength.
- [4] Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave; whom thou remembrest no more, they are cut off by thy hand.
- [5] Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.
- [6] Thy indignation lieth hard upon me, and thou hast vexed me with all thy storms.
- [9] Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction. Lord I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched forth my hands unto thee.
- [10] Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise thee?
- [11] Shall thy loving-kindness be declared in the grave or thy faithfulness in destruction?
- [12] Shall thy wonders be known in the dark and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- [14] Lord, why casteth thee off my soul? Why hideth thy face from me?
- [16] Thy fierce wrath goeth over me. Thy terrors have cut me off.
Turn thy anger, O Lord, at the last, and be gracious unto thy servant!¹⁹

¹⁸Verses 1–6 are from the BCP; 9–12, 14, and 16 are from the KJV.

¹⁹This last verse is an adaptation of Ps. 90:13 BCP.

Psalm 102 [BCP]

- [1] Hear my voice, O Lord, and let my crying come unto thee.
[2] Hide not thy face from me in the time of my trouble. Incline thy ear unto me when I call. O hear me, and that right soon.
[3] For my days are consumed away like smoke, and my bones are burned up, as it were a firebrand.
[4] My heart is smitten down and withered like grass. I have mingled my drink with weeping.
[10] And that because of thy indignation, for thou hast taken me up and cast me down.
[11] My days are gone like a shadow, and I am withered like grass.
[17] O turn thyself unto the prayer of the poor destitute. O despise not my desire.
[23] He brought down my strength in my journey, and shortened my days.
[24] O my God, take me not away in the midst of mine age.
[20] O hear the mournings of such as are in captivity, and deliver the children appointed unto death!

Psalm 130 [BCP]

- [1] Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord. Lord hear my voice.
[2] O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.
[3] If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is amiss, O Lord, who may abide it?
[4] But there is mercy with thee, that thou mayest be feared.
[5] I look for the Lord: my soul doth wait for him: in his Word is my trust.
[7] O trust in the Lord, for with the Lord is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.
[8] And he shall redeem us from all our sins.

Psalm 143 [BCP]

- [1] Hear my prayer, O Lord, and consider my desire. Hearken unto me for thy truth and righteousness sake.
[2] And enter not into judgment with thy servant, for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
[3] For the enemy hath persecuted my soul, he hath smitten my life down to the ground.
[4] Therefore, my spirit is vexed within me, and my heart within me is desolate.
[6] I stretch forth my hands unto thee, my soul gaspeth unto thee as a thirsty land.

[7] Hear me, O Lord, and that soon, for my spirit waxeth faint. Hide not thy face from me, lest I be like them that go down to the pit.

[8] O let me hear thy loving-kindness betimes in the morning, for in thee is my trust. Show thou me the way that I should walk in, for I lift up my soul unto thee.

[9] Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies, for I flee unto thee to hide me.

[10] Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee, for thou art my God. Let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into the land of righteousness.

[11] Quicken me, O Lord, for thy name's sake, and for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

Grant us, O Lord, such a repression of our thoughts and government of our passions and appetites, as may hinder them from running after sensual pleasure, and such an abstemiousness in using them, as may deaden us to the love and desire of them.²⁰

²⁰Adapted from Norris, *Treatise on Christian Prudence*, 178.

Psalm 19:12²¹

[12] Lord, what frail man observes how oft / He does from virtue fall,
 O cleanse me from my secret faults / Thou God that knowest them all.
 [13] Let no presumptuous sin, O Lord, / Dominion have over me;
 That by thy grace preserved I may / The great transgression flee.
 [14] O let my prayers and praises be / With thy acceptance blest,
 May I secure on thy defence / My God and Saviour rest.

Psalm 33

[1] Let all the just to God with joy / Their cheerful voices raise,
 For well the righteous it becomes / To sing glad songs of praise.
 [4, 5] For faithful is the Word of God, / His works with truth abound;
 He justice loves and all the earth / Is with his goodness crowned.
 [6] By his almighty Word at first / The heavenly arch was reared,
 And all the beauteous hosts of light / At his command appeared.
 [7] The swelling floods together rolled, / He makes in heaps to lie,
 And lays, as in a storehouse safe / The watery treasures by.
 [8, 9] Let earth and all that dwell therein / Before him trembling stand,
 For when he spake the world was made, / Twas fixed at his command.
 [18, 19] Tis God who those that trust in him / Beholds with gracious eyes,
 He frees the soul from death, his love / Our daily wants supplies.

Psalm 65

[2] O thou who to my humble prayer / Didst always bend thy gracious ear,
 To thee shall all mankind repair, / And suppliant at thy throne appear.
 [3] Our sins, though numberless, in vain / To stop thy flowing mercy try;
 Thou overlookest the guilty stain, / Thou washest out the crimson dye.
 [4] Blest is the man who near thee placed / Within thy sacred dwelling lives,
 May we at humbler distance taste / The vast delight thy presence gives.
 [11] Thy goodness does the circling year / With fresh returns of plenty crown,
 And where thy glorious paths appear / Thy fruitful clouds drop fatness down.
 [5] By wondrous acts, O God most just, / Have we thy boundless mercy found.
 In thee remotest nations trust, / And those whom stormy waves surround.

Psalm 67

[1] To bless thy chosen race / In mercy Lord incline,
 And cause the brightness of thy face / Upon our hearts to shine.
 [2] That so thy wondrous ways / May through the world be known,
 While distant lands their tribute pay, / And thy dominion own.

²¹All four psalms are from Tate and Brady, *New Version of the Psalms*.

[3] Let differing nations join / To celebrate thy fame,
Let all the world, O Lord, combine / To praise thy glorious name.
[4] O let them shout and sing, / With joy and pious mirth,
For thou the righteous judge and king, / Dost govern all the earth.
[7] O Lord, upon our land / Thy constant blessings shower,
And all the world in awe shall stand / Of thy resistless power.

[Untitled¹]

VII. [1.] Lord, I beseech thee, grant thy servant grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the only God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for] Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity

Grant me, gracious Lord, purity of heart, and a steadfast resolution to despise all vanity; to fight manfully against the world, the flesh, and the devil; to walk always in thy presence, to preserve my soul and body in holiness, fit for the habitation of the Spirit of God.²

O eternal God, merciful and gracious, vouchsafe thy blessings to thy servant. Let the love of thy mercies and dread of thy majesty make me careful to search thy will and diligent to perform it, now and ever.³

Almighty God, O most high and eternal Father, who art of pure eyes and canst behold no uncleanness; let thy Holy Spirit descend upon thy servant and reprove the spirit of fornication and uncleanness!

Come cast out uncleanness from me that my body may be a holy temple and my soul a sanctuary fit to entertain the Prince of purity, the holy and eternal Spirit of God!

O let no impure thoughts pollute that soul which God hath sanctified, no unclean words pollute that tongue which God hath formed to speak his praises, no unchaste actions rend the veil of that temple which the Holy Jesus hath been pleased to choose for his habitation. But seal up all my senses from all vain objects, and let them be entirely possessed with religion, and fortified by prudence, watchfulness, and mortification; that I, possessing my vessel in holiness, may lay it down in hope and receive it again in a joyful resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bishop Taylor⁴

‘Lord if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean; speak the word and thy servant shall be healed!’⁵

¹Nelson focussed Saturday on ‘Chastity’ in *Practice of True Devotion*, chap. 10. JW does not designate a virtue in the ms notebook at this point. His selections on the first three pages of this section focus on resisting temptation and making one’s election sure. But then he adds a reflection ‘For those who live a single life’ that resonates with an emphasis on chastity. In *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738) JW turns to the prayers for Saturday morning and evening by John Clayton, found below on pp. [119–23].

²Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 34.

³Taylor, *Holy Living*, 54.

⁴Taylor, *Holy Living*, 185–86.

⁵Cf. Matt. 8:2, 8:8.

VII. 2. O Lord, who didst sentence the unprofitable servant to be cast into utter darkness, grant that I may not stand here all the day idle, but may use all diligence to make my calling and election sure. Make me in some measure useful both to myself and others, and that for Christ's sake.

Dr. Lake⁶

O Almighty God, infinite and eternal, who fillest all things with thy presence, teach me to walk always as in thy presence, and so reverence thy presence that I may never dare to commit any indecency in the eye of my Lord and Judge. Let me so demean myself now and ever, that in the last day, my Judge may not be my accuser, but my advocate.

Bishop Taylor⁷

O Holy Jesus, Son of the most high God, thou that wast scourged at a pillar and stretched and nailed upon a cross, unite me to thy cross, and fill me with thy holy, humble, and suffering spirit!

Mr. Law⁸

O fountain of mercy, thou that didst save the thief upon the cross, save me from the guilt of a sinful life; thou that didst cast seven devils out of Mary Magdalene, cast out of my heart all wicked thoughts and evil tempers.

Mr. Law⁹

O giver of life, thou that didst raise Lazarus from the dead, raise up my soul from the death of sin. Thou that didst give thy apostles power over unclean spirits, give me power over my own heart!

Mr. Law¹⁰

Thou that didst cleanse the lepers, heal the sick, and give sight to the blind, cleanse my heart, heal the discords of my soul, open mine eyes that I sleep not in death.¹¹

⁶Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 87.

⁷Taylor, *Holy Living*, 63–64.

⁸Law, *Serious Call*, 246.

⁹Ibid., 246–47.

¹⁰Ibid., 247.

¹¹Ibid. JW included these last three petitions from Law in his prayer for Friday Morning in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 65–66.

VII. 3. O thou who only canst change the heart, give me a heart entirely turned to thee. Give me to suppress the very first motions of lust, before lust reviving brings forth sin!¹²

O Lord, keep me always watchful and on my guard, that I may resist every approach of evil. Keep me warm with continual zeal and diligence, that I may lay hold on every opportunity of doing good.

When I think I stand, let me take hold, lest I fall.¹³

Thy grace is sufficient for me! Make thy strength perfect in weakness!¹⁴

Eternal God, who seest that I walk upon snares and in the midst of enemies, give me the spirit of sobriety and watchfulness, that I may walk circumspectly and pass the time of my sojourning with fear; that having fought a good fight and finished my course with joy, I may have confidence in the Day of the Lord Jesus!

Dr. Lucas¹⁵

Thou, O God, who by thy blessed Son, O most gracious and most holy Redeemer, hath subdued all the powers of hell and the grave, taken away the sting of death: have mercy upon me now and at the hour of death. O let me not be snatched away unprepared, nor called upon when my lamp's untrimmed. Preserve, if it be thy blessed will, my faith and hope, my sense and speech perfect and useful to the last of my days and grant that I may die the death of the righteous and that my future state may be like his.¹⁶

¹²Ken, *Exposition of Catechism*, 58.

¹³Cf. 1 Cor. 10:12.

¹⁴Cf. 2 Cor. 12:9.

¹⁵Lucas, *Practical Christianity*, 280.

¹⁶Spinckes, *Devotions*, 94–95.

[For Those who live a Single Life – initial draft¹]

O blessed Redeemer, who hast said of the state wherein thy mercy hast placed me, ‘He that can receive it, let him receive it,’² assist me that I may ever duly consider the advantages of it, and make use of them for life eternal.

O merciful Lord, thy apostle hath said that the unmarried person ‘careth for the things of the Lord’³ and to be ‘holy both in body and spirit’.⁴ ‘That we are happiest if we so abide’,⁵ and that not only as being freed from present distresses but because we may now attend upon thee without distraction. For those reasons thy inspired disciple hath said, ‘I would that all men were even as I myself, I say unto the unmarried, it is good for them, if they abide even as I.’⁶ ‘I would have you without carefulness; he that is unmarried careth for the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord.’ That he ‘may be holy both in body and spirit’,⁷ and care not for the things of the world. The man whose eyes thy blessed Spirit had opened hath said, ‘This I speak for your own profit’ and as that which is becoming your Christian calling, and that ‘ye may attend upon the Lord without distractions’.⁸ ‘He that giveth in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth not doeth better.’⁹

O my God, I know these are the greatest advantages that can be desired in this life. Being created for eternity, what can be more desirable than those circumstances which, according to the judgment of him who knoweth all things, are fittest for caring and providing for eternity; my greatest danger being from the distractions of the world? What condition is to be compared to that which gives the best opportunities for ‘attending upon the Lord without distraction’?¹⁰

I render thee thanks, O blessed Lord, for the happy condition wherein thou placest me. O defend me from lightly regarding that which thy apostle thus hast so highly

¹This draft largely abridges the opening of ‘For Those who live a Single Life’, in Gother, *Sinner’s Complaints*, 19–21. There is a vertical line drawn through all of this draft, and it is revised more into JW’s voice on the facing versos (see above).

²Matt. 19:12.

³1 Cor. 7:32.

⁴1 Cor. 7:34.

⁵Cf. 1 Cor. 7:40.

⁶1 Cor. 7:7–8.

⁷1 Cor. 7:34.

⁸1 Cor. 7:35.

⁹1 Cor. 7:38.

¹⁰1 Cor. 7:35.

[63r]

commended. Imprint on my soul a deep and lively sense of the advantages I enjoy, and give a strong desire and a constant care to avoid whatever may tend to deprive me of them. Give me strength to cast out every thought and to shun all conversation, and to fly from every action, which can in any wise abate my desire or my power of receiving thy saying.

Help me, O Lord, to seek and obtain that perfection which is peculiar to this state. Grant that in this liberty I may fix my whole heart on thee with a love surpassing the love of women.¹¹ Grant, that being at liberty from those many engagements with which others are distracted, I may seek and serve thee with all the powers of my soul. While they are troubled about many things, let all my thoughts be on the one thing needful, and let me ever rejoice in the little share I have in the cares or pleasures of a world that passes away.

I own this freedom to be a talent of inestimable value. O let it be my daily study to improve it. Direct and strengthen me with thy grace, that having thee for my spouse, I may leave all for thee, I may love thee with all my heart, I may desire thee with all my strength. O Jesus, to thy protection I recommend myself. I desire my life may be sanctified in thy service. I desire to be a sacrifice to thee. Assist me in executing my desires. Defend me against all the snares of the devil, the world, and my own corruption. Preserve me from indiscretion and rashness, and from a light inconstant mind. Secure me from ill advice, and from all fondness of sensual pleasures. Give me a dread of all that is dangerous. And be thou, O holy Jesus

[64r]

my sole love and joy and desire, now and forever!

¹¹Cf. 2 Sam. 1:26.

[For Those who live a Single Life – revised draft]

1. Recount advantages. 2. For a sight of them. 3. Thanks for a desire. 4. For power. 5. Against throwing away either. 6. For a diligent use.¹²

O thou who art the way, the truth, and the life, thou hast said of the state wherein thy mercy hast placed me, ‘All men cannot receive this saying; he that can receive it, let him receive it.’¹³ Open thou my eyes that I may see, and my heart that I may desire the advantages of it. And give me power to abide therein unto the end, and to make use of them to life eternal.

1. O my Saviour, thy inspired disciple hath said, ‘I say unto the unmarried, it is good for them if they abide even as I.’¹⁴ He who had the Spirit of God hath said, ‘this I speak for their own profit, that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.’¹⁵ Thy blessed Spirit by the mouth of his prophet hath said, ‘I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth not for the things of the world, but careth for the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord, that he may be holy both in body and spirit.’¹⁶

2. O thou who alone canst give sight to the blind, give me to see the greatness of the advantages I enjoy. Convince me of the inestimable value of that state which enables me to attend upon thee without distraction. Let me feel and know how glorious a privilege it is for him who would be holy both in body and spirit, to be in such a condition as is without carefulness for the things of the world, and therefore fittest for caring for the things of the Lord.

3. I yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, for placing me in these happy circumstances; for disengaging me from the world, that if I am careful for the things of it, it will be of choice, not of necessity. I gladly bless thee for this liberty from the engagements that distract the minds of others with care and confusion. O may I ever rejoice in this peaceable retirement from them, and in the little share I have in a troublesome world, whichever in its lawful concerns

¹²This outline of the final draft appears at the top of 62v.

¹³Cf. Matt. 19:11–12.

¹⁴1 Cor. 7:8.

¹⁵1 Cor. 7:35.

¹⁶Cf. 1 Cor. 7:32.

is a hindrance to all those exercises by which we are to come to the possession of thee.

I know, O Lord, that ‘unless thou keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain’.¹⁷

4. O thou with whom all things are possible, give me power to continue even as thou willeth, and strengthen my weakness, that notwithstanding all the temptations that daily surround me, I may ever choose this more excellent way.

5. Imprint on my soul so deep and lasting a sense of the advantages I enjoy as may produce in me a strong desire and a constant care, to avoid whatever may tend to deprive me of them. And give me strength to cast out every thought, to shun all conversations and to fly from every action which is in any way likely to weaken my desire, or abate my power of receiving thy saying. O defend me from all the snares of the enemy; especially from wounding my own soul in attempting to rescue others. Then especially let thy right hand save me from making myself less fit for thy entire love and service, when I endeavour to gain an influence upon her, to win her over to thy love.

6. Help me, O Lord, to seek and obtain that perfection which is peculiar to this state. Grant that in this liberty I may fix my whole heart on thee, with a love surpassing the love of women. Grant that being not troubled as others are, about many things, all my thoughts may be on the one thing needful. Having thee for my spouse, may I leave all for thee, may I love thee with all my strength. O Jesus to thy protection I recommend myself. May my life be sanctified in thy service. May I be an entire sacrifice to thee. O let no others have any part in me, but be thou, O gracious Redeemer,

and the persons and things that lead to thee, the sole object of all my love now and forever.¹⁸

¹⁷Cf. Ps. 127:2 BCP.

¹⁸JW will echo much of this reflection in his later *Thoughts on a Single Life* (1765).

Miscellaneous

VIII. O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies, that we surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Order for Morning Prayer, Collect for Peace]

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, nor run in any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by thy government, to do always that [which] is righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Order for Morning Prayer, Collect for Grace]

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed, give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Order for Evening Prayer, Second Collect]

O God, whose nature and property is ever to have mercy and to forgive, receive our humble petitions, and though we be tied and bound with the chains of our sin, yet let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us, for the honour of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate.

[BCP, Last Prayer upon Several Occasions]

Almighty God, grant that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life (in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility!), that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever!

[BCP, Collect for the First Sunday in Advent]

Lord, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas through our sins and wickedness we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful mercy may speedily help and deliver us, through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost ...

[BCP, Collect for the] Fourth Sunday in Advent

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee, and grant that they may both know what things they ought to do, and also may have power faithfully to fulfill the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for the] First Sunday After Epiphany

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Collect for the] Second Sunday After Epiphany

O Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy church and household continually in thy true religion; that they who lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace, may evermore be defended by thy mighty power, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Collect for the] Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy majesty to be our defence against all our enemies, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BCP, Collect for the] Third Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, who through thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life, we humbly beseech thee that, as by thy special grace preventing us, thou dost put into our mind good desires, so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect through Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

[BCP, Collect for] Easter Day

O Lord, from whom all good things do come, grant that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same, through our Lord Jesus Christ.
[BCP, Collect for the Fifth Sunday After Easter]

O Lord, who bestows thy mercy to help us, grant that I to whom thou hast given a desire to pray, may by thy goodness receive the accomplishment of my prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that thou being our guide, we may so pass through things temporal as not to lose the things eternal!
[BCP, Collect for the] Fourth Sunday After Trinity

Lord, I pray thee that thy grace may always prevent and follow me, and make me continually given to all good works, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Collect for the] Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful servant, pardon and peace, that I may be cleansed from all my sins and serve thee with a quiet mind, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Collect for the Twenty-first Sunday After Trinity]

O everlasting God, who hast ordained and constituted the service of angels and men in a wonderful order, mercifully grant that as thy holy angels always do thy service in heaven, so by thy appointment they may succour and defend us on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Collect for Saint Michael's Day]

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in all our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servant towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Order for Holy Communion, Collect after the Offertory]

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally by thy mercy obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
[BCP, Order for Holy Communion, Collect after the Offertory]

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection I commend me; the Lord bless me and keep me; the Lord make his face to shine upon me and be gracious unto me. The Lord lift up his countenance upon me and give me peace, both now and ever more.
[BCP, Order for Visitation of the Sick]

My Lord and my God, give me, I beseech thee, a wise, a sober, a patient, a religious, and a courageous spirit; chaste and temperate reins and thoughts; a soul full of zeal for thy service, and O make my service acceptable to thee while I live, and my soul ready for thee when I die.

O Lord, increase in me faith and devotion; give me humility in prosperity, patience in adversity, and continual joy in the Holy Ghost. [...]

Give me modesty in my countenance, composure in my behaviour, prudence in my speech, holiness in my actions. Let thy mercy cleanse me from all my sins, and confirm me in all righteousness. [...]

God the Father bless me! God the Son defend me! God the Holy Ghost preserve me! God the Holy Trinity be with me now and ever more!¹

In all time of my tribulation, in all time of my wealth, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, good Lord deliver me!

[BCP, Litany]

Give me a tender conscience; a conversation discreet and affable, modest, patient, and obliging; a body chaste and healthful; a compassionate fortune, a resigned will, and mortified affections; that my portion may be in the brightness of thy countenance and the glories of eternity!

Bishop Taylor²

¹Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 34–38.

²Taylor, *Holy Living*, 56.

For the Sacrament

Thursday Morning

Almighty God, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, and didst institute and command us to continue a perpetual memory of that his most precious death, until his coming again; hear me, most merciful Father, I most humbly beseech thee, and make my longing after this holy Sacrament answerable to my need of it. For where shall this polluted soul be washed, but in this fountain opened for sinners and for uncleanness. Hither then I come, and thou hast promised, 'He that cometh to thee, thou wilt in no wise cast out.'¹ Grant me, therefore, gracious Lord so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that my sinful body may be made clean by his body and my soul washed through his most precious blood.

Dr. Lake²

[Thursday] Noon

O let not the inestimable benefits of thy blessed Saviour be frustrated by my many and grievous sins; but inspire my soul with those graces which may qualify me to receive them, tendered to me at thy holy table.

Lake³

[Thursday] Evening

O Lord, my sincere design is to offer thee a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, to love and adore thee in the way thou hast ordained, as the good of my life, and the portion I have above in the land of the living. O let nothing oppose the design which thou hast given. Let thy blessed ordinance have its due effect upon me, that when my flesh and my heart fail, thou mayest be my portion for ever, through the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour!

Nelson⁴

[alternate on 67v]

Noon

No greater evidence of thy love, O Lord, can be derived than the sacrifice of thy Son. O qualify me to receive the benefits of it, by a firm faith in the merit of his death! That I may [escape] those punishments my sins deserve, and obtain the salvation thou hast graciously promised!⁵

¹Cf. John 6:37.

²Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 3–4.

³Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 65.

⁴Nelson, *Great Duty*, 76–77.

⁵Nelson, *Great Duty*, 95.

Friday Morning

I will not presume to come to thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. Give me, I pray thee, such a preparation of soul as may qualify me for approaching there unto. Make me heartily sensible of my sins and unworthiness. Raise up my dull mind from grovelling here below, and inspire it with a holy zeal for those things that are above. Let that infinite love of Christ, in dying for so wretched a sinner, kindle in me the sacred fire of love to him and to all those whom he has given me command and example to love, enemies as well as friends. Clothe me, O Lord, in the wedding garment, and make me, though of myself a most unworthy, yet by thy mercy an acceptable, guest at thy table, through Jesus Christ our Lord.⁶

[Friday] Noon

O create in me a hunger and thirst after thy kingdom and the means thou hast ordained to lead me to it, that I may long for the bread of heaven, and thirst for the fountain of salvation; that as the hart pants after the water-brooks, so may my soul pant after these living waters!⁷

[Friday] Evening

Almighty God, whose infinite goodness gives me yet another opportunity of approaching thy altar, and of pleading before thee the prevailing merits of the death of thy blessed Son, I am sensible, O Lord, of my great unworthiness to partake of this Christian sacrifice. But the positive command of my dying Saviour, and the many wants I labour under, make it absolutely necessary for me. Assist me, therefore, O Lord, with thy Holy Spirit, in the duty and service I am about to perform, that I may partake of it with such a preparation of soul as befits these holy mysteries. Touch me with such a true sense of value of them as may compose my tumultuous affections, and stir up my flat and cold desires, that I may feel the power and taste the sweetness of thy banquet!⁸

[alternates on 68v]

Noon

“This is a true saying and worthy of all merit to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.” *A most joyful truth!* Thou, O blessed Jesus, wast manifest to destroy the works of the devil. Let true repentance make me a fit object of thy mercy, and then even my sins shall not deprive me of the hopes of thy favour. Nelson⁹

Evening

Blessed Lord, who hast not left us without remedy when our enemies prevail against us, I will not despair of thy mercy, since we have an advocate with men, Jesus Christ the righteous. Let the merit of his sufferings plead for the acceptance of my repentance, and convey to me strength to serve thee better for the time to come! Ibid.¹⁰

⁶Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 4–5.

⁷Taylor, *Worthy Communicant*, 194.

⁸Nelson, *Great Duty*, 74–75.

⁹Nelson, *Great Duty*, 95–96.

¹⁰Nelson, *Great Duty*, 96.

For the Priest Before He Consecrates

O gracious God and merciful Father, who in compassion to our infirmities hast commanded us to present unto thee a holy, venerable, and unbloody sacrifice, in remembrance of the sacrifice of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, which was offered for our sins: assist me, I beseech thee, with thy Holy Spirit, and strengthen me in thy service, that I may stand, that I may stand unblamable before thy tremendous altar, being in some measure worthy of so sacred a ministry. Have mercy also upon these people, who are here assembled together, with hungry and thirsty souls, to be refreshed and comforted at thy Holy Table. Cleanse us from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit. Let us draw near with reverence and offer this Holy Offering in peace, that so being made one with Christ and Christ in us, nothing may be ever able to dissolve this union but that begun here in grace it may be perfected in glory, for his sake whose all-sufficient sacrifice I am about to represent, and by whose authority and command I am bold to minister even the same by thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.¹¹

M. P.

¹¹This prayer, adapted from Jeremy Taylor, *A Collection of Offices*, (London: J. Fletcher, 1657), [pp. 185–86] by M. P., was added later and does not fit the flow well. See fn about ‘M. P.’ on 12v above.

Saturday Morning

Almighty God, who hast mercifully ordained this sacrament for a perpetual memory of thy blessed sacrifice upon the cross, grant me with such diligent remembrance and due reverence to partake of this holy mystery that by thy grace I may obtain the fruits of the same, with all the benefits of thy precious death and passion, even the remission of all my sins and the fulness of all thy graces, which I beg for thy only merits, who art my only Saviour, God from everlasting and world without end!

Dr. Lake¹²**[Saturday] Noon**

O Christ hear me! Inspire me with a holy zeal to mortify my sins. Support me with an unprovable faith, and inflame me with a never-failing charity. Let me judge myself, that I be not judged of thee; but that receiving this holy Sacrament with a truly penitent heart, I may dwell in Christ and Christ in me, I may be one with Christ and Christ with me. Go mercifully with me, and grant this for his own compassion's sake.

Ibid.¹³**[Saturday] Afternoon**

O give me such a sense of my Saviour's sufferings as may fill my soul with love and gratitude to him, such a sight of my sins which occasioned them as heartily to detest them, such a faith in his full and perfect oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the world that I may so importunately plead the merit of it in this commemoration of that sacrifice as to render thy graces and propitiations to me a miserable sinner, such a conviction of my own weakness and insufficiencies as may procure thy merciful assistance, such longing desires of being consumed to thy holy will and pleasure as may transform me into thy divine image that I may continue thy faithful servant all the days of my life!

Nelson¹⁴

¹²Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 68–69.

¹³Lake, *Officium Eucharisticum*, 4–5.

¹⁴Nelson, *Great Duty*, 75–76.

Saturday Evening

O my God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, change my heart into an entire love of thee; that I may be unfeignedly sorry for having offended thee, that with a broken and contrite heart I may grieve and mourn and repent for all my former sins, and may forever forsake them and live hereafter as a sworn votary of thy love.

O heavenly Father, fix in my soul a lively faith in thy mercy through Christ, a steadfast belief of all thy love to sinners, and an affectionate reliance on the merits of thy crucified Son. [...]

O my crucified God, let the remembrance of thy death set all the powers of my soul on work, that I may desire and pant after thee, that I may delight in thy gracious presence, and with praise and thanksgiving I may receive thee into my heart and always entertain thee there, with devout and inflamed affections.

I see, O blessed Jesus, in the memorial of thy sufferings, how thou didst forgive and love me when I was thy enemy. Give me grace, for thy sake and after thy example, to forgive and love all my enemies, to ask pardon of all whom I have wronged and make them satisfaction according to my power. And may thy poor members, who are hungry or thirsty or naked, or in prison or in any other distress, ever liberally partake of what I enjoy since thou wert so liberal of thy inestimable blood for me.

Thus prepared, O Lord, let me approach thy holy table, and so eat the flesh of thy dear Son and drink his blood, that my sinful body may be made clean by his body, and my soul washed through his most-precious blood!

Nelson¹⁵

¹⁵Nelson, *Great Duty*, 174–77.

Sunday Morning

1. I come to thy altar to renew my baptismal covenant with thee, of which thy sacrament is a seal. I come to testify my sense of thy love, heavenly Father, in so loving us as to give thine only Son to die for us.

I come to testify my faith in thee, and my love toward thee, O blessed Saviour, and thankfully to commemorate thy Word of life in dying for me!

I come, Lord, to testify my steadfastness in the communion of thy church, and my charity to all the world.

I come to thy table, O Lord, out of the sense I have of the want of that spiritual food to which thou there invitest me.

Alas! Alas! I am soon weary of well-doing. A few prayers, very little duty tires me. A slight temptation overcomes me. And I know there is no food cordial can revive my drooping obediences but thy blood, and this I hunger and thirst after. O gracious Lord, grant that I and all that communicate with me, may feel its saving efficacy. O feed and refresh, O nourish our souls with it to life everlasting, and that for thy own infinite mercy's sake, which moved thee to offer up thy body and blood for us!

Bishop Ken¹⁶

[see #2 on next page]

3. Thou Lord, by giving me this opportunity of coming, invitest me to thy table. Thou callest me to seek thy face and my heart replies, 'Thy face, Lord, will I seek.'

If thou, Lord, shouldst be extreme to mark what is dearly amiss,¹⁷ I am unfit not only to communicate, but to say even my daily prayers. I know, Lord, that if I should stay till I am worthy to come, I should never come, and therefore though I am unworthy of so unspeakable a mercy, yet I come to beg thy grace to make me worthy, or at least such as thou wilt accept.¹⁸

¹⁶Ken, *Manual of Prayers*, 95–97.

¹⁷Cf. Ps. 130:3 BCP.

¹⁸Ken, *Manual of Prayers*, 98.

[Sunday] Morning

2. O eternal God, let the all-sufficient sacrifice of thy Son plead effectually for the pardon of all my sins. Let the power of it prevail against all the powers of darkness, the wisdom of it make me wise unto salvation!¹⁹

I adore thee, O blessed Lord, who didst endure even the death of the cross, to redeem me from sin and misery. I adore thy infinite goodness, who wert miserable that I might be happy, poor that I might be rich, and didst die that I might live. With all my soul I love and praise thee for these amazing expressions of love and compassion toward me. O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon me! O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant me thy peace!

Nelson²⁰

In the multitude of thy mercies, O Lord, let me approach thy altar. I come as a sick man to the Great Physician of life; I beseech thee, Lord, to heal my infirmities. I come as a polluted wretch to the Fountain of mercy; wash away, I entreat thee, all my uncleanness. I come as a returning prodigal to his compassionate father; O receive me and revive me by thy favour. I come as a blind man to the source of eternal brightness; lighten my eyes, that I sleep not in death. I come as a poor, frail creature to the great Lord of heaven and earth; O supply my wants and do more for me than I can ask or think.

Let me receive the body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, that so all carnal affections may die in me, and that I may grow more in all those heavenly virtues which thou wilt eternally reward with the merit of thy Son's death, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and praise, world without end.

Nelson²¹

¹⁹Nelson, *Great Duty*, 98–99.

²⁰Nelson, *Great Duty*, 99–100.

²¹Nelson, *Great Duty*, 105–7.

Sunday Morning

O blessed Jesus, do thou so open my eyes of faith, to discern thy body and blood in this Sacrament, do thou so dispose my soul that I may feel all the happy effects of thy divine institution, that my soul may receive such lasting impressions of thy goodness, and be so ravished with the love of thee, that all the pleasures of sin which hereafter may tempt me may appear to me tasteless and unwelcome.

O heavenly Father, clothe me with the wedding garment, even the graces of my blessed Saviour, for then I am sure to be a welcomed guest to thy table, when I come in the likeness of him in whom thou art always well-pleased.

O fill me with a lively faith, profound humility, inflamed affections, and universal charity. O raise in my soul all that zeal and devotion, that love and praise and thanksgiving, which becomes the remembrance of a crucified Saviour, which becomes one redeemed by the blood of God, and that for his sake only who redeemed me, Jesus Christ.

Bishop Ken²²

Most merciful God, who didst give thy only Son to suffer death for us, even the death of the cross, I beseech thee by his infinite condescension, by his perfect obedience, and by his meritorious sufferings, to pardon my past sins, and to give me strength to resist them for the time to come, and let these Holy Mysteries so replenish me with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, as may both enable me to act according to the light of my own mind and readily to obey thy heavenly motions and constantly follow the suggestions of thy holy inspirations and give me that wisdom from above, that humility which was in Christ Jesus, that love of thee which passes knowledge, which may stir me up to zeal and in doing whatever is acceptable in

²²Ken, *Manual of Devotions*, 99–100.

thy sight. In order to attain these blessed ends, O Lord, I approach to thy Holy Table. Grant, O merciful Lord, that I receiving his body and blood, may by the grace of his Spirit be conformed to his image and steadfastly serving thee, till thou takest me to enjoy thee, through Jesus Christ my blessed Saviour and Redeemer.

Nelson²³

Most gracious God, who hast given thy Son Jesus Christ to be our High Priest and the great Bishop of our souls, who didst offer up himself to thee as pure sacrifice on the cross for us miserable sinners, who hast given us his flesh to eat and his blood to drink, in a mystical manner; I humbly beseech thee by the merits of his blood, the great price of our redemption, that thou wouldest be pleased to wash me in his blood from all my sins, which make me unworthy of the least of thy mercies. Let no vile affections hinder me from receiving the benefit of this divine nourishment. Let me celebrate this Christian sacrifice with purity of heart. Let me entirely resign my soul and body, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee. Strengthen me, O Lord, in such a manner by this spiritual food, that I may subdue all my spiritual enemies: suppress in me the spirit of pride and vainglory, of uncleanness, intemperance, and uncharitableness: that being fortified by the assistance of thy grace, I may press toward the mark of the prize of a high calling, when I shall enjoy thee face to face, and be eternally satisfied with the pleasures of thy kingdom, through the merits of Jesus Christ my Saviour.

Nelson²⁴

²³Nelson, *Great Duty*, 107–16 (much abridged).

²⁴Nelson, *Great Duty*, 117–21 (much abridged).

Sunday, 9:00

1. Glory be to thee, O Jesus, my Lord and my God, for thus feeding my soul with thy most blessed body and blood. O let thy holy food transfuse new life and new vigour into my soul and into the souls of all that communicate with me; that the faith may daily increase, that we may all grow more humble and contrite for our sins, that we may all love thee and delight in thee, and praise thee more fervently, more incessantly, than ever we have done heretofore!²⁵

2. Pardon, O God, all the imperfections that have accompanied me at this time in my attendances at thy altar. Forgive the deadness and dullness of my affections and the wanderings of my thoughts. Let the sincerity of my purposes make some amends for my weakness and frailty. O let this commemoration of my crucified Saviour influence all my thoughts, words, and actions, that my conversation may be as becomes the gospel of Christ. Reward me, not according to my deserts, but according to my great necessities and thy own rich mercy in Jesus Christ, to whom with thee, O God the Father, and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.

Nelson²⁶

3. Blessed be thy holy name, O Lord Jesus, for this thy inestimable gift. As long as I have any being, will I thankfully acknowledge this bounty to the children of men. Thou hast given me thy body and blood to be the food of my soul. Behold, I offer to thee my body and soul; make them fit for thy service. Let this divine food repair in me whatever has been decayed by the lusts of the flesh or the wiles of Satan, that my understanding may be exercised in the knowledge of thee,

²⁵Spinckes, *Devotions*, 253.

²⁶Nelson, *Great Duty*, 140–41.

that I may choose thee before all things, and that my affections may be surely fixed on thee, in whom true joys are to be found. I will love thee, O Lord, because thou art infinitely good, and thy mercy endures forever. I will love thee, O Lord, because thou didst create me after thy own image, capable of knowing and loving thee eternally. I will love thee, O Lord, because when I was undone and lost, thou didst die to redeem me. I will love thee, O Lord, because thou only art worthy of my love, thou only canst sanctify my soul. Be thou, therefore, my hope; let all my trust be placed on thee. Be thou my refuge; let all my safety depend on thee. Be thou my portion and treasure; and let me enjoy thee eternally! Amen, Lord Jesus, Amen!

Nelson²⁷

4. Blessing and honour and power be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and with the Lamb that was slain for ever and ever. I give thee most humble and hearty thanks, O Lord, that thou hast again suffered me to partake in these holy mysteries. Grant, I beseech thee, that this thy holy Sacrament may never turn to my condemnation; but that it may be health and recovery from all my weaknesses and infirmities, safety and defence against all my spiritual enemies, vigour and strength to all my holy purposes, comfort and support under all the troubles of life, help at the hour of death, mercy in the day of judgment, and a never-failing crown in that glorious kingdom, where with thy Son Jesus Christ, and the blessed Spirit, thou livest and reignest, one God, world without end!

Idem²⁸

²⁷Nelson, *Great Duty*, 122–25.

²⁸Nelson, *Great Duty*, 126–28.

Sunday, 12:00

O how plentiful is thy goodness, my Lord and my God, which thou hast laid up for those that fear thee, which and for those that trust in thy mercy.

Was it not love infinite enough, dearest Lord, to give thyself for me on the cross? Was not that sacrifice of thyself sufficient to take away the sins of the whole world?

And yet for all this, thou hast wrought new miracles of love for me: and as if it had not been love enough to give thyself for me on the cross, thou hast found out a way to give thyself to us in the Holy Sacrament: to unite thyself to us with the most intimate union that is possible to receive: to become the very food, the life, the strength, the support of my soul; to become one with me, to become the very Soul of my soul!

O Lord God, this is so inconceivable a blessing that the very angels crowd about the altar, and desire to look into this Divine Mystery, and to admire this Holy Sacrament.

What thanks then gracious Lord, can I return for those wonders of love which thou hast showed to me, a wretched sinner, which the very angels who never sinned so much admire?

O dearest Lord, raise thou my devotion to the highest pitch it can possibly reach to praise thee: enlarge my soul to its utmost extent to love thee.

How can I evermore offend such riches of mercy as are in thee, O crucified Saviour: and yet while I carry this body of sin about me, I fear I shall. But Lord, I do from my heart renounce all things that displease thee, and I resolve to the utmost of my power to resist all temptations, and to be as totally thine as my frail nature will permit me.²⁹

²⁹Ken, *Manual of Prayers*, 105–8 (this extract continues on the next page).

Sunday 12:00

O gracious Lord, who hast so infinitely loved us, and given us a good hope, comfort my heart and forever establish it in every good word and work. Blessing and honour and glory and power, be unto him that sitteth on the throne, and unto the Lord forever. Rejoice in the Lord Jesus, O my soul, for of him cometh thy salvation. I will love thee, O Lord my King, I will praise thy name forever and ever.

Glory be to thee, O Lord, God, for giving me this blessed opportunity of coming to thy altar; O grant I may never more pollute my soul which is now thy temple, O God of purity.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, while I live I will praise the Lord: yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing praises unto thee, O blessed Saviour, my King and my God.

O gracious Lord, pardon all my failings, accept all my prayers, and supply all my wants.³⁰

Blessed be the mercies of God, revealed to us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. O eternal High Priest, let the sacrifice of the cross which thou didst once offer for the sins of the whole world, and which thou dost now and always represent in heaven to thy Father by never ceasing intercession, the commemoration of which according to thy command hast now been celebrated by one of thy representatives on earth, obtain mercy and peace, faith and love, safety and establishment to thy whole church. Preserve us, O Lord, from all heresies and divisions of spirit, and confirm in us the love of the cross; that whatsoever shame, reproach, or persecution shall befall us for thy name's sake, we may in conformity to thy doctrine, and the example of thy holy apostles, embrace it not only with patience, but joy and thanksgiving, that we are counted worthy to suffer for thy name, that at thy second coming we may be acknowledged by thee and received into the glory of thy face.

M. P.³¹

³⁰Ken, *Manual of Prayers*, 108–9.

³¹See fn about 'M. P.' on 12v above.

Sunday, 3:00

1. I acknowledge, O Lord my God, with all thankfulness of heart, thy great mercy shown to me this day, in giving me an opportunity and a desire to communicate with infinite love of my crucified Saviour; to praise and thank him for laying down his life, a sacrifice for the sins of the world; to represent unto thee that sacrifice as a full satisfaction for them, in humblest hope of the benefits of his death and passion. [...]

Blessed be thy name for those fresh supplies of grace I have received at thy altar. May they enable me to run the way of thy comforts with vigour, that I may never more faint or droop in my duty.

Blessed be thy name for those comfortable assurances thou hast given me of forgiveness. Let this thy goodness perpetually oblige me to gratitude. Let it put me ever upon my guard, that I watch over all my ways.

Blessed be thy name, O Lord, for those resolutions thou hast written in me to persevere in thy service. Make them firm, vigorous and constant, and let no sinful passion any more discompose my mind.

Blessed be thy name for the desire thou hast given me of possessing the eternal inheritance. Let the pleasures of the world appear contemptible to me, and no more prevail on me to transgress thy holy laws.

Grant, O Lord, that I may walk worthy of these distinguished mercies, and live as becomes the redeemed of the Lord. Without thee, O blessed Jesus, I can do nothing. Without thee, who attendest the prayers of souls, I shall languish and die. Without thee, who art the joy of all devout minds, I shall consume my days in sadness. Abide therefore with me, O Lord, forever. I shall then be enabled to do thy will and thereby qualified to partake of thy glory.

Nelson³²

³²Nelson, *Great Duty*, 177–81.

Sunday, 3:00

2. Lord Jesus Christ, very God and very man, made in all things like unto us, sin only excepted, I bless and praise thy holy name with all my heart, with all my soul, and with all my strength, and give thee all possible thanks for thy infinite love and pity toward lost man. Blessed be the hour in which thou wert born, and the hour in which thou didst die! Blessed and forever hallowed be thy most comfortable and glorious name, the name Jesus, at which every knee shall bow, on things in heaven and things in earth, and things under the earth. For thy name is above every name and there is no other name by which we can be saved!

O most holy, most humble and harmless Lamb, how didst thou make thyself of no reputation and becamest obedient to the death upon the cross for my sake! And when thou wert to drink the cup of thy Father's anger due to my sins, didst instead of it ordain and bequeath to me the cup of life and salvation! O Lord, give me a heart to understand and eyes to see what thou hast done for me. O never suffer me to crucify thee again by returning to me former iniquities and pollutions, but write thy sufferings and the price of my redemption in the tables of my heart, set them for a signet upon my hand, and for a bracelet upon mine arms that I, by a continual and careful remembrance of them, may in the strength of this bread received today at thy table, travel to thy holy mountain, and that this drink which I drank out of the spiritual rock, may become a well of living waters, springing up in me to eternal life. Grant this, O God, for thy glory's sake,

[75v]

and for that love and mercy's sake which brought thee hither out of thy Father's bosom, to suffer so many things for his elect's sake!

Mr. Laserre³³

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and blessing. For he hath redeemed us to God by his blood, out of every kindred and tongue and people and name, and hath made us unto our God, kings and priests, and we shall reign on the earth. Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead my Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, to the blood of the everlasting covenant make me perfect in every good work to do his will, working in me that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever!

Ibid.³⁴

3. O Lord, the only spring and everlasting fountain of all good, who hast this day received and quickened my poor soul, by giving things unto me in this blessed sacrament; I praise and glorify thy holy name for this thy infinite mercy. I crown what thou hast begun by a continual supply of thy saving and refreshing graces that I may never forget whom and what I have received; but being purified by thy blood and strengthened by thy body against all temptations, I may constantly run through all the parts of an holy life, to the possession of thy everlasting kingdom.

Bishop Duppa³⁵

³³Mr. Laserre, of London, was an acquaintance of JW and Thomas Broughton; see Broughton's letter to JW dated Nov. 20, 1734. This prayer is actually taken from Henry Vaughn, *The Mount of Olives; or, Solitary Devotions* (London: William Leake, 1652), 63–65.

³⁴Again attributed to Mr. Laserre, this prayer weaves together Rev. 5:12, Rev. 5:10, and Heb. 13:20.

³⁵Duppa, *Holy Rules*, 69–70.

The glory of my God, with his heavenly host filled the place. God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost were all there, beholding their little flock.³⁶

³⁶Hamilton, *Life of Bonnell*, 176.

From Bishop Andrews' Greek Devotions and the Apostolic Constitutions

For Nine in the Morning, The Third Hour

O thou who at the third hour of the day didst pour out from heaven upon thine apostles the miraculous gift of the Holy Ghost, take not away from me the comforts of thy Spirit, but fill my heart with the riches of thy grace and save me.²

O thou who about this hour didst with invincible meekness and patience stand before Pilate's bar and suffered a robber and murderer to be released before thee, grant me in all my sufferings for the testimony of thy truth, a good conscience to consider and imitate thee, who didst endure such contradiction of sinners against thyself, and save me.

Bishop Andrews³

O thou great Being of beings, O Lord God Almighty, who alone art unbegotten, and the supreme monarch; who always art and existest before all ages; who art self-sufficient and above all cause and generation; who alone art true, who alone art wise; who alone art most holy and art by nature invisible; who alone art good and above comparison; who knowest all things before they come to pass, and art acquainted with the most secret thoughts of the heart; who art inaccessible and without a superior; O God and Father of thy only-begotten Son, our God and Saviour; who art the creator of the whole world by him and whose providential care extendeth to all things; the father of mercies and God of all consolation; who hast thy dwelling in the highest heavens and yet humblest thyself to behold the things which are upon the earth; hear my prayer, O Lord, and let thy ears receive my supplications, and cause

¹JW clearly considered this a distinct section of the manuscript volume. He numbered the next 15 pages (counting both verso and recto) consecutively.

²Andrewes, *Private Prayers*, 114–15.

³Andrewes, *Private Prayers*, 115.

the light of thy countenance to shine upon me, thy servant.

Grant unto me, O Lord Almighty, through thy Christ, the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, that I may please thee with meekness and purity of heart, that I may sincerely serve thee with a cheerful mind and a willing soul, continue steadfast, unblamable and unreprouable to the end, may fully discharge the duties of my vocation, and make my calling and election sure, through thy holy child, Jesus Christ, our God and Saviour, by whom all glory, honour, and adoration be to thee in the Holy Ghost, now and forever, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.⁴

⁴Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 214–15.

For the Sixth Hour

O thou who at the sixth hour of the sixth day of the week didst nail the sins of the world with thy body to the cross, blot out the handwriting of my sins which is against me, and take it out of the way and save me.

O thou who at the same hour of the day didst let down a great sheet from heaven, filled with all sorts of living creatures, figuring thereby to Peter thy universal church; grant that I a sinner of the Gentiles, who have been received into that mystical sheet, may with it at length be taken up into heaven and save me!

Andrewes⁵

O Almighty God, true and faithful, who art rich unto all that call upon thee in truth; who art fearful in counsel and wise in understanding; who art powerful and great, good and the lover of mankind; mercifully hear my prayers and supplications, and accept my petitions. Assist me and grant me the desires of my heart, as may be most expedient for me. Reveal unto me more fully the gospel of thy Christ. Give me further degrees of illumination and understanding, and instruct me in the knowledge of thee and of divine things. Teach me thy precepts and judgments. Implant within me thy holy and saving fear, and open the ears of my heart that I may exercise myself in thy law day and night. Deliver me from all ungodliness and suffer not the adversary to prevail against me. But cleanse me from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit. Dwell in me and walk with me. Bless my going out and my coming in, and direct all my designs and purposes, to my advantage and thy honour and glory, through Christ, by whom praise and adoration

⁵Andrewes, *Private Prayers*, 115–16.

be to thee in the Holy Ghost, world without end! Amen!⁶

O Almighty God, unbegotten and inaccessible, the only true God and Father of thy Christ, the only-begotten Son, the God of the Comforter and Lord of all, who by Christ didst make learners become teachers, for the propagation of religion and piety; do thou now look down upon me thy unworthy servant, who hast been taught the gospel of thy Christ. Give me a new heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me, that I may both know and do thy will with a perfect heart and a willing mind. Vouchsafe me a constant union with and communion in thy holy church, and make me always a worthy partaker of thy holy mysteries, through Jesus Christ, my hope, who died for me; by whom and with whom, glory and adoration be to thee and the Holy Ghost, forever and ever. Amen!⁷

⁶Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 282–83.

⁷Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 283.

For the Ninth Hour

O thou who didst vouchsafe about the ninth hour of the day to taste death for the sins of every man, mortify in me my members which are upon the earth, even all things contrary to thy holy will, that I also may be crucified unto the world and save me!

O thou who at this solemn time of prayer didst magnify the power of thy apostles, by the cure of the impotent man at the Beautiful Gate of thy temple, and who didst also at this hour manifest thyself to Cornelius, praying in his own house; hearken unto me in this and every hour, whether of public or private prayer, and grant the desires and petitions of thy servant, as thou knowest to be most expedient for me, and save me!

Andrewes⁸

O Almighty God, who hast created all things by Christ, and by him dispensest thy Fatherly care and providence over them; for he who had power to make different creatures hath also power to provide for and govern them according to their different natures. O God, the lover of mankind; do thou by Christ rebuke all unclean and wicked spirits, and draw me thy servant from the domination of the adversary.

And O thou who didst rebuke the legion of demons, and the prince of wickedness the devil, do thou rebuke those apostate from goodness. Deliver me, thy own workmanship, from his power, and cleanse thy creature whom thou hast made with great wisdom and goodness.

O thou who hast bound the strong one, and spoiled his goods; who didst give thy apostles

⁸Andrewes, *Private Prayers*, 117.

power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and didst deliver the old serpent, that murderer of men, bound unto them; at whose sight all things shake with fear and tremble at the presence of thy power; whose looks dry up the deep, whose threatenings melt the mountains, and whose truth endureth forever; whom infants praise and sucklings bless and angels celebrate and adore; who touchest the mountains and they smoke, who rebukest the sea and makes it dry, and driest up all the mighty rivers; the dust of whose feet is the clouds, and who walkest upon the sea as upon firm ground; O thou only-begotten God, Son of the Great Father, do thou rebuke all wicked spirits, and deliver me the work of thy hands from the power of the adversary. For to thee is due glory, honour, and adoration, and through thee to thy Father, in the Holy Ghost, forever and ever! Amen!⁹

At the end of each of these prayers shall be said, 'O Almighty God, the Father of thy Christ, thine only-begotten Son, give me a body undefiled, a pure heart, and a watchful mind, knowledge without error, and the powerful influence of thy Holy Spirit, that I may obtain and assuredly enjoy the truth, through thy Christ, by whom glory be thee in the Holy Ghost, forever and ever! Amen.' 'Our Father which art,'¹⁰

O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come unto thee! I bless thee, O Lord, and render thanks to thee my God. May the divine assistance remain with me forever. Amen.¹¹

⁹Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 286–87.

¹⁰Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 281.

¹¹Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 264.

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection I commit myself and all belonging to me. The Lord bless us and keep us, the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us, the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. Amen!¹²

**Penitential Prayers
From the Apostolic Constitutions**

Number 1

O eternal God who art plenteous in mercy and compassion, who hast made the constitution of the world by thy operations therein. O God the lover of compassion, show me the way of repentance and accept my return and confession. Beat down Satan under my feet, deliver me from the snares of the devil and the incursion of wicked spirits, and preserve me from all impure thoughts, wicked words, and unlawful deeds. Forgive me all my sins, voluntary and involuntary. Blot out the handwriting that is against me, and write my name in the Book of Life. Cleanse me from all filthiness of heart and spirit and keep me always united to thy holy flock. Thou knowest my frame, and understandest whereof I am made. O Lord who can glory that he hath a clean heart? Or who can say that he is pure from sin? For we are all worthy of punishment. But since there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, grant that I may turn from every evil work, and constantly practice all that is good. O God thou lover of mankind, do thou accept my petition. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and strengthen me with thy free Spirit, that I may never fall or be shaken again, but may be made

¹²Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 264.

worthy of thy adoption and may obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen!¹³

Number 2

O Almighty and Eternal God, Lord of the whole world, creator and governor of all things; who by Christ hast made man to be the great ornament of the world, and hast given him both a natural and a written law, that he might live by the rules thereof as a rational creature; who hast also, when he sinned, given him a motive and encouragement to repent, even thine own abundant mercy and goodness; do thou look down upon me who bows the knee of my soul and body unto thee. For thou desirest not the death of a sinner, but his repentance, that he should turn from his evil way and live. O thou who didst accept the repentance of the Ninevites, who wouldest all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth, who didst receive again the prodigal son, who had spent his substance in riotous living, with the compassionate bowels of a father, on account of his repentance; do thou now accept the repentance of me thy humble supplicant. For there is no man that sinneth not against thee, and if thou, Lord, wilt mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it? But with thee there is mercy and propitiation. Restore me therefore to thy gracious favour, through Christ our God and Saviour, by whom glory and adoration be to thee, in the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen!¹⁴

¹³Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 299–300.

¹⁴Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 300–301.

[Number 3]
The Prayer of King Manasses

O Lord, Almighty God of our fathers, who hast made heaven and earth with all the ornaments thereof; who hast bound the sea by the word of thy commandment; who hast shut up the deep and sealed it by thy terrible and glorious name; whom all men fear and tremble before thy power, for the majesty of thy glory cannot be borne, and thine angry threatening toward sinners is importable, but thy merciful promise is unmeasurable and unsearchable, for thou art the most high Lord of great compassion, long-suffering, very merciful, and repentest of the evils of men. Thou, O Lord, according to thy great goodness hast promised repentance and forgiveness to them that have sinned against thee, and of thine infinite mercies hast appointed repentance unto sinners that they may be saved. Thou, O Lord, that art the God of the just, hast not appointed repentance unto the just which have not sinned against thee, but thou hast appointed repentance unto me that am a sinner. For I have sinned above the number of the sands of the sea. My transgressions, O Lord, are multiplied; my transgressions are multiplied, and I am not worthy to behold and seek the height of heaven, for the multitude of mine iniquities. I am bowed down with many bands and I cannot lift up my head, for I have provoked thy wrath, and done evil before thee. I did not thy will, neither kept thy commandments. I have set up abominations and multiplied offenses. Now therefore I bow the knee of my heart, beseeching thee for grace. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge mine iniquities. Therefore I humbly beseech thee, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me and destroy me not with mine iniquities. Be not angry with me forever, by reserving evil for me, neither condemn me

in the lower parts of the earth. For thou art the God, even the God of them that repent; and in me thou wilt show all thy goodness. For thou wilt save me that am unworthy according to thy great mercy. Therefore I will praise thee forever all the days of my life; for all the powers of the heavens do praise thee, and thine is the glory forever and ever! Amen!¹⁵

**The Eucharistic Intercession
From the Apostolic Constitutions¹⁶**

O Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Maker and Governor of all things that are in heaven and in earth, I most humbly beseech thee favourably to behold this rational and unbloody sacrifice which hath now been offered unto thee, and be mercifully pleased to accept it, for the sake of that sacrifice of thy well-beloved Son upon the cross, which it was instituted to represent and commemorate. Let it be unto thee a sweet smelling savour, O Lord, and an acceptable memorial of the Lamb that was slain. For the sake of it be propitious to me thy unworthy servant. Pardon and forgive my sin and grant me thy grace to live better for the time to come. Have mercy upon the whole world. Convert all Jews and Turks, infidels, and heretics, and bring them all into the sheepfold of thy Son Jesus Christ. Bless thy holy Catholic Church; rectify her errors, reform her corruptions, heal her breaches, and establish her in truth and peace. Bless her clergy, whether they be bishops, priests, or deacons. Give them grace rightly and duly to administer thy holy sacraments and so to preach thy Word and regulate their lives thereby, that they may receive the reward of faithful stewards! Bless the King's majesty with all that are put in authority under him;

¹⁵Deacon, *Collection of Devotions*, 301–2.

¹⁶The following prayer appears to be JW's personal translation and adaptation to the Church of England of the Greek text in Whiston, *Apostolical Constitutions*, Book VIII, secs. v–x.

crown him with justice, truth, and peace in this world, and a crown of glory in that which is to come. Bless the universities and all schools and nurseries of true religion and learning, and mercifully grant that they may answer the end for which they were founded, by promoting thy glory and the public good. Bless the Commons of this land; make them devout and humble servants of thee, dutiful sons of thy holy Catholic Church, loyal subjects of the king, and faithful friends to one another. And of thy goodness I beseech thee to accept of this tremendous sacrifice, as a propitiation for all my relations (), friends (), acquaintances. For the prisoners and captives (), the sick and weak (), the poor and needy; and lastly, for all the saints and servants which are departed this life and now sleep in peace. Let it obtain for them all a supply of all their necessities, and such a proportion of thy blessings as they stand in need of, or as will be most expedient for them. Lastly, I beseech thee favourably to accept of this our reasonable service, and for the sake of it to hear my prayers and the prayers of thy church, through the merits and mediation of its divine author, our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be ascribed all honour, glory, might, majesty, and dominion, both now and henceforth and forever. Amen. 'Our Father'

From the Constitutions¹⁷

Blessed art [thou], O Lord, the everlasting king, who madest the whole world by Christ, and by him in the beginning didst reduce into order the disordered parts; who dividest the waters from the waters by the firmament, and didst cause the Spirit of life to move upon them; who didst fix the earth and stretch out the heavens and appoint to each creature its proper office; for by thy power O Lord, the world is beautifully adorned and the heavens built over our heads in the form of an arch, and bespangled with stars for our comfort in darkness. The light also and the sun were created for days and the production of fruits and the moon for the change of seasons, its changeableness by its increase and decrease. The night was divided for the day and the firmament established in the midst of the abyss. Thou commandest the waters to be gathered together and the dry land to appear. But as for the sea, who can describe it? It rolls with fury from the oceans, and falls back again at the voice of thy word. For thou hast said, 'Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further, and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.'¹⁸ Thou hast replenished it with small and great animals, and made it navigable for ships. Thou hast collected together the great deep, and cast around about it. Seas of salt water stand as an heap, bounded on every side with barriers of sand. So much thou dost swell it with the wind so as to equal

highest mountains, and sometimes smooth it into a beautiful plain; now make it rage with this tempest, then stilling it with a calmness. The earth thou hast encompassed with rivers, watered with currents, and moistened with springs which never fail. Thou hast girded it about with mountains, that it may not be moved at any time. Thou hast made it green with fragrant and medicinal herbs, and hast planted it with all sorts of flowers and varieties of trees; and with shining luminaries, the nourishers thereof, preserve their unchangeable course and in nothing depart from thy appointment, but where thou commandest them there do they rise and set, for signs and seasons, for days, for years, and for the constant return of the work of man. And besides all these things, O Lord God, who can worthily set forth thy praise, for the motion of the rain clouds, the shining of the lightning, and the noise of the thunder, for the most agreeable temperature of the air, and for that supply of proper food which thou hast made for all thy creatures? By thy word were the many and various kinds of animals created, strong and weak, for food and for labour, tame and wild, terrestrial, aerial, and amphibious. To each of them thine own wisdom, the offspring of thine eternal mind didst severally impart a suitable providence. For just as he wanted not power to produce different kinds of creatures, so neither did he disdain to exercise a different providence over them according to their several

¹⁷While these extracts appear on the versos at the front of the notebook, they were clearly added later and are placed here, in conjunction with other material from the Apostolic Constitutions.

¹⁸Job 38:11.

natures. And at the conclusion of thy glorious creation thou gavest direction to thy wisdom and formed a reasonable creature, the citizen of the world, saying ‘Let us make man after our image, and in our likeness.’¹⁹ Thou didst form him a body of the dust of the ground, but his soul out of nothing. Thou bestowest upon him senses, over which thou didst set a mind to conduct them by the rule of the soul. But when man had disobeyed thy command, thou didst deprive him of the life which should have been his reward. Yet didst thou not destroy him forever, but laidest him to sleep for a time, promising him a resurrection to eternal life. For thou didst break the bonds of death, O thou reviver of the dead, by Jesus Christ our hope, who unto thee in the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, and now and forever, world without end! Amen!²⁰

II

Great art thou, O Lord Almighty, and great is thy power, and of thine understanding there is no end! Thou art the creator and saviour rich in benefit, longsuffering and merciful bestower of salvation unto thy creatures. Thou art good and gracious by nature, and sparest sinners, inviting them to repent. For thy admonitions are full of compassion. How should we abide if we were required to come to judgment immediately, when after so much longsuffering we can hardly get clear of our miserable condition? The heavens declare thy dominion and with tremblings

which hang upon nothing, show thy unshaken steadfastness. The raging sea which feeds innumerable hosts of living creatures, stand in awe of thy commands which oblige all men to cry aloud. ‘How great are thy works, O Lord, in wisdom thou hast made them all, the earth is full of thy riches.’²¹ And so is the great wide sea also. The heavens know him that fixed it upon nothing, as an arch of stone; who united the land and water to each other, who scattered the vital air abroad, and conjoined light therewith, for warmth and for our comfort in darkness. The choir of stars which strike us with admiration, declare his power who tells their number, and calls them by their names. So do the animals declare him that putteth life into them, and the trees manifest praise, who gives them the power of vegetation. All creatures were made by thy Word, and demonstrate the greatness of thy power. And therefore, since men have authority over them by thy appointment, everyone ought in the name of all, to send up praise from his very soul, to thee, through Christ. For thou art gracious and kind, full of compassion, and lovest to show mercy. Thou alone art Almighty; for when thou willest, to be able is present with thee. Thy eternal power quenches the violence of flames, stops the mouths of lions, raises up the sick, overturns the strong and destroys a host of enemies, and the people that pride themselves in their numbers. Thou art in heaven, on earth, in the sea, in all finite things; things unconfined and infinite. Thy majesty is unlimited, there is no God beside thee alone, there is none holy but thee, the Lord, the God of heaven, the God of the saints, but holy

¹⁹Gen. 1:26.

²⁰Whiston, *Apostolical Constitutions*, Book VII, Sec. xxxiv. JW gives his own translation of the Greek text, differing frequently from Whiston.

²¹Ps. 104:24.

above them all, for they are sanctified, are sanctified by thy hands. Thou art glorious and most highly exalted, invisible in thy nature, and unsearchable in thy judgments. Thy life is their want, thy duration their end. Thy greatness is unlimited, thy excellence perpetual, thy habitation inaccessible, and thy dwelling unchangeable. Thy knowledge is eternal, thy truth immutable, and thy work the immediate effect of thy will. Thy dominion is unmovable, thy kingdom is everlasting, thy strength irresistible and thy army innumerable. Thou art the Father of wisdom, the cause and creator of the universe by the Mediator, the bestower of providence, the giver of laws, the supplier of wants, the punisher of the wicked, the rewarder of the righteous and the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom and with whom all glory, adoration, and praise be unto thee, O Father Almighty, forever and ever, world without end! Amen!²²

²²Whiston, *Apostolical Constitutions*, Book VII, Sec. xxxv. JW gives his own translation of the Greek text, differing frequently from Whiston.

**Saturday Morning
From Mr. Clayton¹**

O God, thou great creator and sovereign Lord of heaven and earth, thou Father of angels and men, thou giver of life and protector of all thy creatures; mercifully be pleased to accept this my morning sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which I now desire to offer with all humility to thy divine majesty. Thou art praised, O Lord, by all thy works, and magnified by even that which thou hast created. The sun rejoiceth to run its course, that he may set forth thy praise who madest him. Nor do moon and stars refrain to manifest thy glory, even amidst the silent night. The earth each day breathes forth perfumes, as incense to thee her sacred king, who hast covered her with herbs and trees and beautified her with hills and dales. The deep utters his voice and lifteth up his hands on high to thee the great Creator, the universal King, the everlasting God. The floods clap their hands and the hills are joyful together before thee. The fruitful valleys rejoice and sing thy praise. Thou feedest the innumerable multitude of animals which thou hast made. These all wait upon thee, and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou madest light for our comfort and brought forth darkness out of thy treasures to overshadow the earth, that the living creatures of it might take their rest. The fire and hail, snow and vapour, wind and storm fulfill thy word and manifest thy glory. Inanimate things declare thee, O Lord of life, and irrational animals demonstrate their wise Creator. Amidst this universal jubilee of nature, suffer not, I

¹John Clayton (1709–1773), son of a Manchester bookseller, matriculated at Brasenose, Oxford in 1725, receiving his BA in 1729, and MA in 1732. It was also 1732 when Clayton met JW and became part of the ‘Oxford Methodists’. At his suggestion they began observing stationary fasts on Wednesdays and Fridays. Returning to Manchester in 1733, Clayton was appointed perpetual curate of Sacred Trinity, Salford.

beseech thee, the sons of men to be silent; but let the noblest work of thy creation pay thee the noblest sacrifice of praise. O pour thy grace into my heart, that I may worthily magnify thy great and glorious name. Thou hast made me, and sent me forth into the world to do thy work. O assist me to fulfill this great end of my creation and to show forth thy praise, not only with my lips, but in my life, that I may give myself up to thy service. Prosper the work of my hands upon me, O Lord. O prosper thou my handiwork. Give a blessing to whatever I shall undertake this day, that I may tend to thy glory, the good of my neighbour, and the salvation of my own soul.

Preserve me from all the snares and temptations which continually solicit me to offend thee. Guide me by thy Holy Spirit in all those places wherever my occasions shall this day lead me. And suffer not my communication with the world to dissipate my thoughts, to make me forgetful of thee, or lukewarm in thy service. But let me always walk as one that knoweth he is ever in the presence of his God, in the sight of his judge, to whom he shall one day give an account of all his thoughts, words, and works. Keep me, I beseech thee, undefiled, unblamable, and unreprouvable unto the end. And grant I may so perform thy will in that station of life whence thou hast been pleased to place me, that I may make my calling and election sure, through Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour.

Hear also, O Lord, my prayers for the whole race of mankind. Have mercy on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and guide their feet in the way of peace. Bless thy holy catholic Church, *that mystical Body of thy Son, which is spread over the face of the whole earth.*

Reform her corruptions, heal her divisions, and restore to her her ancient discipline and purity. Bless that part of it which is established in the kingdom, and especially the clergy thereof, whether they be bishops, priests, or deacons. Give them grace as good shepherds to feed the flocks committed to their charge, and rightly to administer thy holy sacraments. Bless the king and all that art put in authority under him. Let them exceed others as much in goodness as greatness, and be signal instruments of thy glory and the public good. Bless the universities, more particularly the college whereof by thy appointment I am a member; together with all schools and nurseries of true religion and sound learning; that in them and all other places immediately dedicated to thy service, whatever is praiseworthy may forever flourish and abound. Keep, O Lord, all the gentry and commons of this realm in constant communion with thy holy catholic Church, in humble obedience to the king, and Christian charity toward one another.

In a particular manner I beseech thee to be gracious to (my friends and). Pardon all their sins, and strengthen all their infirmities. Give them such a share in the blessings of this life as thou knowest to be most expedient for them; and thy grace so to live here as that they may live with thee eternally. With a propitious eye, O gracious Comforter, behold all my enemies and all that are in affliction. Let the sighs of the prisoners (particularly), the groans of the sick, the prayers of the oppressed, the desires of the poor and needy, come before thee; give them patience under their sufferings, and in thy good time a happy issue out of their afflictions. Lastly, I commend to thy mercy the souls of all those who are departed this life in thy true faith and fear (). Give them, O Lord, comfort, peace, joy, and refreshment,

and of thy goodness be pleased shortly to accomplish the number of the elect and to hasten thy kingdom; that we, with all thy whole church, may have our perfect consummation in bliss, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, now and forever. Amen.²

Saturday Evening

O most great and glorious God, who art mighty in thy power and wonderful in thy doings toward the sons of men, accept I beseech thee my unfeigned thanks and praise for my creation and preservation, and all the other blessings which in the riches of thy mercy thou hast from time to time poured down upon me.

Thou Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of thy hands. Thou saidest, 'Let there be light' and there was light. Thou createdest the sun and moon, the day and the night, and madest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.

Thou formedst man of the dust of the ground, and breathedst into him the breath of life, and he became a living soul.

Neither hast thou withdrawn thy mercy from him, but in every succeeding generation dost save, deliver, assist, and protect him. The heavens declare thy glory, O God, and the firmament showeth thy handiwork. Though there be neither sound nor language, yet they sing thy praise; though there be neither voice nor speech among them, yet do they set forth thy glory. Thou hast made man the ruler over all the works of thy hands, and hast put all things in subjection under his feet.

Thou hast instructed him by thy laws, and enlightened him by thy statutes. Thou hast redeemed us by the blood of thy blessed Son and sanctified us by the grace of thy Holy Spirit. What love therefore is sufficient? What duration will be long enough for man to return thee thanks in? To render thee worthy acknowledgements

²JW reproduced this prayer by Clayton in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 74–78.

is impossible. But to praise according to our ability is meet and right and our bounden duty. I will give thanks unto [thee] forever and ever. I will praise my God while I have my being. Blessing and honour and glory and power, might, majesty, and dominion be ascribed unto thee, O most adorable deity, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, by me, all angels, all men, and all creatures, both now and forever. Amen!

Accept, I beseech thee, O Father, my humblest thanks for my preservation this day. O continue thy loving-kindness toward me and take me into thy protection this night. Let thy blessed angels watch over me to defend me from the attempts of evil men or evil spirits. Let me rest in peace and not sleep in sin, and grant that I may rise more fit for thy service and mine eyes present with night watches, that I may be occupied in thy Word.

Then the intercession as in the morning.³

³JW adapted this prayer by Clayton in *Collection of Forms of Prayer* (1738), 79–83.

[The final page in JW's MS Prayer Manual is a set of lists of persons for whom he prayed on a regular basis. He used Wednesday, Friday, and Monday as special days of intercession. The page gives three columns, one for each day, running parallel with each other. JW typically gives only initials. Most can be identified with reasonable confidence. In a published summary of his spiritual practice during the Oxford years, Wesley specified that he prayed for 'those who have particularly desired it' on Wednesday and Friday, and for his students on Mondays.¹]

Wednesday [male family and friends, of London and Lincoln College]

C, 1727 ²	[Charles Wesley]
b W, 1732 ³	[b(rother) (Samuel) W(esley Jr.)]
Mr Riv.	[Charles Rivington, London publisher]
C. Hu	[Captain Hudson; mentioned in Oxford diary, Apr. 8–12, 1733]
Mr Las	[Mr. Laserre, of London; mentioned in Oxford diary, Apr. 1733]
Mr Wo	[William Wogan; mentioned in Oxford diary, Apr. 1733, etc.]
Sir J. P.	[Sir John Philipps; mentioned in Oxford diary, Apr. 1733, etc.]
Mr. M., Oct. 30, 1732	[a Mr. Martin is mentioned on this day in Oxford diary]
Mr. H, Dec. 12 [1732]	[a Mr. Huddleston is mentioned on this day in Oxford diary]
Mr. Fa, Oct. 9 [1733?]	[Abraham Farrer, fellow of Lincoln College, mentioned in Ox. diary]
Hervey, June 1734 ⁴	[James Hervey, of Lincoln College]

Friday [female family and friends – mainly the 'Cotswolds circle']

V, 1727	['Varanese'; Sarah (Kirkham) Chapone]
Asp, 1730	['Aspasia'; Mary (Granville) Pendarves]
Sel, 1730	['Selima'; Ann Granville]
M G, 1730	[Mrs. Mary (Westcomb) Granville]
Ser, 1730	['Serena'; Susanna Boyse]
S P	[sister Patty; Martha Wesley]
S K	[sister Kezzy; Kezia Wesley]
⁵	
M Sk, 1732	[Mrs. Skin; friend of Ann Granville; JW records meeting her in Oxford diary for July 10, 1732]
M P. 1732–33	[most likely Miss Potter, of Oxford, who appears frequently in Oxford dairies starting in Feb. 1732/3]

¹JW, 'Scheme for Self-Examination', *Arminian Magazine* 4 (1781), 319–22.

²1727 would be CW's second year at Christ Church, but also the first year JW was not at Oxford, having become curate to his father. Thus, JW began praying regularly for CW while apart.

³The relationship between JW and his older brother Samuel became notably closer in 1732.

⁴Hervey first appears in JW's Oxford dairies in late February 1734; the specification of June may indicate JW's commitment to pray for Hervey over summer break.

⁵This entry has been struck out and is illegible.

Monday	[students JW tutored and a couple of ‘Oxford Methodists’]
	[likely identification]
Mr ⁶ H	[Westley Hall (c. 1710–76); assigned to JW in Jan. 1731] [less likely: Thomas Hylton; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1732]
[Mr] <u>D</u> ⁷	[Robert Davison; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1732]
[Mr] <u>Gr</u>	[Thomas Greive (b. 1711); assigned to JW in Oct. 1730, BA 1734] [less likely: Joseph Green; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1734]
[Mr] <u>R</u>	[Matthew Robinson (1713–45); assigned to JW in Oct. 1730, BA 1734] [or John Robson (b. c. 1715); assigned to JW in May 1732, BA 1735]
[Mr] <u>G</u>	[John Gambold (1711–71); Oxford Methodist ⁸]
[Mr] <u>Wh</u>	[John Whitelamb (c. 1708–69); assigned to JW in Fall 1731]
[Mr] <u>L</u>	[Joseph Leech; became JW’s student in Dec. 1730; BA Feb. 1733]
[Mr] S	[John Simpson; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1731]
[Mr] B.	[Richard Bainbridge; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1732] [less likely: John Bartholomew; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1731] [less likely: Jonathan Black; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1731] [less likely: Edward Browne; assigned to JW in June 1730, BA 1731]
[Mr] M	[Richard Morgan, Jr. (1714–85); became JW’s student in Nov. 1733] [less likely: William Morgan (c. 1712–32); Oxford Methodist ⁹]
[Mr] I	[Benjamin Ingham (1712–72); Oxford Methodist ¹⁰]

⁶‘Mr’ is aligned to make clear that it precedes each of the initials in this list.

⁷Several of the initials are underlined; the reason is not clear.

⁸The Oxford diaries record Gambold meeting regularly with JW from April 1731.

⁹Given the location near the bottom of the list, William Morgan was likely deceased already.

¹⁰The Oxford diaries record Ingham meeting regularly with JW from April 1733.

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(63v)
(64v)
(65v)
(66v)
(76v)

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collect: Oxford Diary (Apr. 9–17, 1731)
- Lucas, Richard (1648–1715). *An Enquiry after Happiness*. 3 volumes. London: Samuel Smith, 1685–96.
read: Oxford Diary (Mar. 25–30, 1730; May 10–16, 1730; Dec. 16, 1733)
collect: Oxford Diary (May 22 –June 7, 1730)
- Lucas, Richard (1648–1715). *Practical Christianity; or an Account of the Holiness which the Gospel Enjoins*. London: R. Pawlet, 1677.
read: Oxford Diary (Feb. 12–Mar. 7, 1733)
- Nelson, Robert (1656–1715). *A Companion for the Festivals and Fasts of the Church of England: with Collects and Prayers for each Solemnity*. London: Churchill, 1704.
read: Oxford Diary (Sept. 19–Oct. 30, 1731) [just 'Nelson']
collect: Oxford Diary (Dec. 21–22, 1733) [section on fasting; pp. 337ff.]
- Nelson, Robert (1656–1715). *The Great Duty of Frequenting the Christian Sacrifice, and the Nature of the Preparation Required; with Suitable Devotions*. 2nd edn. London: Churchill, 1707. [JW includes some prayers in MS Prayer Manual found first in this edn.].
read: Oxford Diary (Dec. 23, 1731)
collect: Oxford Diary (Jan. 31–Feb. 19, 1732)
assign: Oxford Reading List (1730–31)
- Nelson, Robert (1656–1715). *The Practice of True Devotion, in Relation to the End, as well as the Means of Religion; with an Office for the Holy Communion*. London: Printed by Joseph Downing, 1715.
read: Oxford Diary (May 16–29, 1729) [just 'Nelson']
assign: Oxford Reading List (1730–31)

- Norris, John (1657–1711). *A Collection of Miscellanies: Consisting of Poems, Essays, Discourses, and Letters, Occasionally Written*. Oxford: Printed at the Theatre for John Crosely, 1687.
read: Oxford Diary (Nov. 17–18, 1726; Nov. 14–15, 1729; Sept. 21–Oct. 14, 1733)
- Norris, John (1657–1711). *A Treatise Concerning Christian Prudence; or the Principles of Practical Wisdom Fitted to the Use of Human Life, Designed for the Better Regulation of It*. London: Samuel Manship, 1710.
read: Oxford Diary (June 10–14, 1731; Apr. 26, 1733; Aug. 7, 1733; Dec. 5–15, 1733)
collect: Oxford Diary (June 15–23, 1731)
- Patrick, Simon (1626–1707). *The Devout Christian Instructed How to Pray and Give Thanks to God*. London: Elizabeth Meredith, 1673.
read: Oxford Diary (Sept. 15, 1734) [just ‘Patrick’]
- Spinckes, Nathaniel (1654–1727). *The True Church of England Man’s Companion in the Closet; or, A Complete Manual of Private Devotions*. 2nd edn. corrected. London: Charles Rivington, 1722.
read/collect: Oxford Diary (Oct. 8, 1732)
- Tate, Nahum (1652–1715), and Nicholas Brady (1659–1726). *A New Version of the Psalms of David, fitted to the Tunes Used in the Churches*. 2nd edn., corrected. London: M. Clark, 1698 [first edition does not have correct version of Psalm 23].
read: Oxford Diary (July 23–26, 1726)
- Taylor, Jeremy (1613–67). *The Golden Grove; or, a Manual of Daily Prayers and Litanies Fitted to the Days of the Week*. London: Richard Royston, 1654 (12th edn. London: Royston, 1680).
read: Oxford Diary (June 16, 1733)
- Taylor, Jeremy (1613–67). *The Rule and Exercises of Holy Living: in which are described the means and instruments of obtaining every virtue ... Together with prayers, containing the whole duty of a Christian*. 4th edn. London: Richard Royston, 1654 [JW uses prayers found first in this edn.].
read: Oxford Diary (July 13–Aug. 2, 1729)
- Thomas à Kempis (1380–1471). *The Christian’s Pattern; or, A Divine Treatise of the Imitation of Christ*. Translated by John Worthington. London: J. Williams, 1677.
read: Oxford Diary (Aug. 21–Sept. 15, 1733)
- Wesley, Samuel Sr. (1662–1735). *The Pious Communicant Rightly Prepared; or a Discourse concerning the Blessed Sacrament*. London: Charles Harper, 1700.
- Whiston, William (1667–1752). *Primitive Christianity Revived, Vol. II. The Apostolical Constitutions, in Greek and English*. London: the author, 1711.
read: Oxford Diary (June 13, 1732)