

BSA INTERFAITH SERVICE RESOURCE GUIDE



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WB 92-70 Buffalo

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	Page 3
BSA Interfaith Planning Worksheet	Page 4
Calls to Worship or Invocation	Page 5
Responsive Readers	Pages 6 - 7
Meditation	Page 8
Prayers	Pages 9 - 14
Closing Prayer	Page 15
Songs	Page 16 - 20
Completed Scouts Own Services	21-25
Graces	26
Additional Resources	27

INTRODUCTION

Each week we stand together and recite the Scout Oath and we pledge a “Duty to God.” We then state the twelve points of the Scout Law ending with “and reverent.” This document is intended to help Scouts and Scouters live out those words but creating an easy to follow outline of a Scouts Own service and the resources to put one together, as well as prayers, songs, and graces for other occasions.

Having an interfaith worship service should be a part of your Troop’s monthly camping experience. However, most Scouts are somewhat uncomfortable leading such a service, no matter how simple or brief it may be. As we teach Scouts the skills of outdoor cooking and knot tying, so too must we teach them the skill to stand before our neighbors and show reverence. Baden Powell once said, “No man is much good unless he believes in God and obeys His laws. So every Scout should have a religion.... Religion seems a very simple thing: First: Love and serve God. Second: Love and serve your neighbour.”¹

Like anything else in Scouting, practice is the key. I hope you find this document a valuable resource to make it a little easier to practice. Please keep in mind that it is based on an Interfaith Service; many faiths. So while your convictions are clear, your words should include those of many beliefs; words that everyone can share and feel comfortable about.

We are all united not only in the brotherhood of scouting, but in our belief in God.

Yours in Scouting,

Barb Kish
Troop 994 Chaplain

INTERFAITH SERVICE PLANNING WORKSHEET

Either Post this sheet or give copies to all of those serving.

Date: _____
 Location: _____
 Event: _____
 Reader: _____

Helper 1: _____
 Helper 2: _____
 Helper 3: _____
 Helper 4: _____

Include Y/N	Possible Elements in Order of Service	Sequence Number in Order of Service	Assigned to
	Processional with flags		
	Call to worship		
	Opening song (No. 1)		
	Invocation		
	Responsive reading		
	Offering, if appropriate		
	Song (No. 2)		
	Meditation		
	Suitable prayer		
	Song (No. 3)		
	Closing Prayer		

Other Notes:

CALLS TO WORSHIP OR INVOCATIONS

- A Call to Worship is a reading or announcement. It can be a welcoming statement.
 - An Invocation is a type of prayer asking (or invoking) for God's presence for guidance, inspiration, wisdom, etc.
-
- Oh, Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the wind, whose breath gives life to all the world. Hear me; I need your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things you have made and my ears sharp to hear your voice make me wise so that I may understand the things you have taught my people.
*Native American – by Yellow Hawk, Sioux Chief
 - Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made and His praise glorified.
* Baha'i Prayer - *Baha'u'llah*
 - I offer thanks to You,
living and eternal King,
for You have mercifully restored my soul within me;
Your faithfulness is great.
*Jewish Morning Prayer
 - Come let us sing unto the Lord: Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands. Let us serve the Lord with gladness and came into his presence with singing.
*Psalm 100
 - "Om" *(say this: In the Hindu religion this chant is used to introduce our religious works.)
 - **Scout Oath**
When facing deceit and dishonest, let us be **trustworthy**.
If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be **loyal**.
Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevails, let us be **friendly & helpful**.
In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be **courteous**.
Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be **kind**.
Though law-breaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be **obedient**.
While others grumble and grouch, let us be **cheerful**.
In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be **thrifty**.
When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be **brave**.
As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be **clean**.
While witnessing impiety and irreligion, let us remember to be **REVERENT**.
 - **The Scout Law:** A Scout is Reverent. A Scout is reverent towards God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the belief of others.
 - **Outdoor Code:**
 - As an American, I will do my best to --
 - Be clean in my outdoor manners,
 - Be careful with fire,
 - Be considerate in the outdoors,
 - and be conservation-minded

RESPONSIVE READINGS

Boy Scout Promise:

Reader: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart. (Deuteronomy 6:5)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to do my duty to God.

Reader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. (Psalms 33:12)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to do my duty to my country.

Reader: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. (Romans 13:9)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to help other people.

Reader: My son, forget not My law; but let thine heart keep My commandments. (Proverbs 3:1)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to obey the Scout Law.

Reader: Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the ways that I command you. (Jeremiah 7:23)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself physically strong.

Reader: A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (Proverbs 24:5)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself mentally awake.

Reader: Thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:18)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself morally straight.

Reader: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your path. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Boy Scout Law:

Reader: A Scout is Trustworthy, Local, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and ...

Scouts: REVERENT

Reader: Give us clean hands, clean words, and clean thoughts, O God. Teach us the work hard and to play fairly. Forgive us when we are unkind and help us to help others. Send us strength to do a good turn each day and so to live after Thy will.

Scouts: Amen

Interfaith Scout Law responsive reading –

Scouts: A Scout is Trustworthy

Reader: "Three times a day I ask myself: Have I been unfaithful in dealing with others? Have I been untrue to friends? Do I practice what I preach?"
(Confucius I.4 – Chinese Philosopher)

Scouts: A Scout is Loyal

Reader: "Do what is just to your friends." (Koran 33:6 – Muslim book of guidance)

Scouts: A Scout is Helpful

Reader: "Be humble, be harmless, have no pretension. Be upright, forbearing. Serve your teacher in true obedience. (Bhagavad Gita, XIII - Hindu scripture)

Scouts: A Scout is Friendly

Reader: "Can two walk together unless they agree?" (Amos 3:3 – Jewish Torah / Christian Bible)

Scouts: A Scout is Courteous

Reader: "To be hospitable and courteous, this is to be glad and make an end to sorrow." (Dhammapada 376 – Buddhist Scripture)

Scouts: A Scout is Kind

Reader: "Withhold not good from the person to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it." (Proverbs 3:27 - Jewish Torah / Christian Bible)

Scouts: A Scout is Obedient

Reader: "Apply your heart to instruction, and your ears to the words of knowledge." (Proverbs 23:12 Jewish Torah / Christian Bible)

Scouts: A Scout is Cheerful

Reader: "A glad heart is good medicine." (Proverbs 17:22 Jewish Torah / Christian Bible)

Scouts: A Scout is Thrifty

Reader: "[Give to those in need, but] squander not your wealth in the manner of a spendthrift." (Koran 17:26 Muslim book of guidance)

Scouts: A Scout is Brave

Reader: "Neither is a man wise by much speaking: he is called wise who is forgiving, kindly, and fearless." (Dhammapada 258 Buddhist Scripture)

Scouts: A Scout is Clean

Reader: "Keep the mind and body in cleanness, tranquil, steadfast, master of self." (Bhagavad Gita XIII - Hindu scripture)

Scouts: A Scout is Reverent

Reader: "It has been told to you what is good, and what the Lord requires of you; Only to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8 Jewish Torah / Christian Bible)

Psalm of David – Psalm 23

Reader: The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

Scouts: ² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

Reader: ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Scouts: ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Reader: ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Scouts: ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; and I will dwell^[a] in the house of the LORD Forever.

All: Amen

MEDITATIONS

- Meditations can be reflections of the events at camp, the skills learned, or the fellowship of the friends around you. It can be a round of thankfulness (where each scout, in turn, says what they are thankful for about the weekend), a story, or many other ideas.

Quotes from Baden Powell on Religion & God:

- “Religion is essential to happiness. This is not a mere matter of going to church, knowing Bible history, or understanding theology. Religion . . . means recognizing who and what is God, secondly, making the best of the life that He has given one and doing what He wants of us. This is mainly doing something for other people.”¹
- “In doing your duty to God always be grateful to Him. Whenever you enjoy a pleasure or a good game, or succeed in doing a good thing, thank Him for it, if only with a word or two, just as you say grace at a meal.”¹
- “The aim in Nature study is to develop a realization of God the Creator, and to infuse a sense of the beauty of Nature.”²

Quotes from Dr. Seuss:

- Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing's going to get better. It's not. – The Lorax
- Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way. –Oh The Places You'll Go.
- From there to here, from here to there, funny things are everywhere. - One Fish, Two fish, Red fish, Blue Fish

When night ends...

"How can we determine the hour of dawn - when the night ends and the day begins?" the rabbi asked of his students.

"When, from a distance, you can distinguish between a dog and a sheep?," one of his students suggested.

"No" the rabbi answered.

"Is it when you can distinguish between a fig tree and a grapevine?" another student asked.

"No" he replied.

"Please tell us the answer, then" said the students.

"It is when you can look into the face of a human being and have enough light to recognize in him your brother," the wise teacher replied.

"Until then, it is night, and the darkness is still with us."

**by Henri Nouwen*

The Road Not Taken

I shall be telling this with a sigh.

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –

I took the one less traveled by.

And that has made all the difference.

**Robert Frost*

Silent Observance

Let us observe a moment of silent prayer -each
in our own faith.

PRAYERS

CAMPER'S PRAYER

God of the mountains and hills, make me tall and strong;
Tall enough and strong enough to right some wrong.
God of the stars, make me steadfast and sure;
God of every lake and stream, flow through my life & make it clean;
Let me do nothing base or mean.
God of the trees and woods, keep me fresh and pure;
God of the rain, wash from my life all dirt and stain;
Pure and strong let me remain.
God of the seed and soil, plant in my heart thy love;
God of the darkness and day, through shadows or light, be my stay.
Guide thou my way.
God of the radiant sun, light thou my life;
God of the glorious dawn, make each day a fresh start.
God of the evening peace and quiet, keep me free from fear & strife.
God of the gay, free birds, sing in my heart.
God of the surging waves and sea, wide horizons give to me;
Help me to see the world as thou would have it be;
God of the lovely rose, make me lovely, too;
God of the morning dew, each day my faith renew.
God of all growing things, keep me growing, too.

*George Earle Owen

OH, GREAT SPIRIT

O Great Spirit,
Whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me! I am small and weak. I need Your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things You have made, and my ears sharp to hear Your voice.
Make me wise so that I may understand the things You have taught my people.
Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.
I seek strength, not to be greater than my brother, but to fight my greatest enemy; myself.
Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes.
So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to You without shame.

Gaelic Prayer

Be Thou a bright flame before me,
Be Thou a guiding star above me,
Be Thou a smooth path below me,
And be a kindly shepherd behind me,
Today, tonight and forever.

*St. Columba

Welsh Prayer

Grant us, O God, your protection; and in your protection, strength; and in strength, understanding; and in understanding, knowledge; and in knowledge, the knowledge of justice; and in the knowledge of justice, the love of justice; and in that love, the love of existence; and in the love of existence, the love of God, God and all goodness. Amen.

*Iolo Morgannwg

We Thank Thee

We thank Thee
For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass so fresh and sweet;
For song of bird and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear and see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!
*Ralph Waldo Emerson

THE FOUNDER'S PRAYER

"Father of us all, we meet before Thee here today, numerous in the lands we come from and in the races we represent, but one in our Brotherhood under Thy Divine Fatherhood. We come before Thee with hearts grateful and gladdened by the many blessings Thou hast granted us and thankful that our Movement has prospered as acceptable in Thy sight. In return we would lay on Thine Altar, as our humble thank-offering, such sacrifice as we can make of self in service to others. We ask that during our communion here together we may, under Thy Divine Inspiration, gain a widened outlook, a clearer vision of all that lies open before us and of our opportunity. Thus we may then go forth with strengthened faith to carry on our mission of heightening the ideals and powers of manhood, and of helping through closer understanding to bring about Thy happier Rule of Peace and Goodwill upon Earth." --Written by Baden-Powell for use in international events.

Awakening Prayer

He who gives me morning,
He who brings light to the world,
He who brings heat to the world,
He who has scorching rays,
And he who is the maker of the day,
Give me long life ,health , intelligence and
wealth (of wisdom).
*Hindu prayer – Sloka

Sioux Prayer of a Holy Man

Hear me, four quarters of the world.
A relative I am!
Give me the strength to walk the soft earth.
Give me the eyes to see and the strength to
understand.
Look upon these faces of children without
number, that they may face the winds and walk
the good road to the day of quiet.
This is my prayer; hear me.
*Singing the Living Tradition by Black Elk

Metta Karuna Prayer

Oneness of Life and Light,
Entrusting in your Great Compassion,
May you shed the foolishness in myself,
Transforming me into a conduit of Love.
May I be a medicine for the sick and weary,
Nursing their afflictions until they are cured;
May I become food and drink,
During time of famine,
May I protect the helpless and the poor,
May I be a lamp,
For those who need your Light,
May I be a bed for those who need rest,
and guide all seekers to the Other Shore.
May all find happiness through my actions,
and let no one suffer because of me.
Whether they love or hate me,
Whether they hurt or wrong me,
May they all realize true entrusting,
Through Other Power,
and realize Supreme Nirvana.
*Buddha

Philmont Prayer

Almighty God of hill and plain,
O'er which we hike in sun and rain,
On mountain top and valley low,
Protect us Lord where e'er we go.
And from our grateful hearts we'll raise
Glad hymns of thankfulness and praise.

A SCOUT'S PRAYER II

Dear Heavenly Father,

Help to keep my honor bright and teach me that integrity of character is my most priceless possession. Grant that I may do my best today, and strive to do even better tomorrow.

Teach me that duty is a friend and not an enemy, and help me face even the most disagreeable task cheerfully.

Give me the faith to understand my purpose and life. Open my mind to the truth and fill my heart with love.

I am thankful for all the blessings you have bestowed upon my country. Help me to do my duty to my country and to know that a good nation must be made from good men.

Help me to remember my obligation to obey the Scout Law, and give me understanding, so that it is more than mere words.

May I never tire of the joy of helping other people or look the other way when someone is in need.

You have given me the gift of a body; make me wise enough to keep it health that I might serve better.

You are the source of all wisdom, help me to have an alert mind, teach me to think, and help me to learn discipline.

In all that I do and in every challenge I face, help me to know the difference between right and wrong, and lead me in obedience on a straight path to a worthy goal.

* Michael F. Bowman

An Ancient Prayer

Give us, Lord, a bit o' sun

a bit o' work and a bit o' fun;

give us all in th' struggle and splutter

our daily bread and a bit o' butter.

Give us health, our keep to make

an' a bit to spare for poor folks sake;

give us sense, for we're some of us duffers,

an' a heart to feel for all that suffers.

Give us, too, a bit of a song,

an' a tale, and a book to help us along,

an' give us our share o' sorrow's lesson

that we may prove how grief's a blessing.

Give us, Lord, a chance to be

our goodly best, brave, wise and free,

our goodly best for ourselves and others

till all men learn to live as brothers. Amen.

[Found on the wall of an old Inn in Lancashire, England]

A Muslim Prayer

Let the beauty we love be what we do. There are a hundred ways to kneel and kiss the ground.

*Rumi, a 7th century Sufi mystic

Chief Dan George's Prayer

O Great Spirit! Whose voice I hear in the wind, whose breath gives life to the world ... hear me.

I come to you as one of your many children ... I

am small and weak; I need your strength and

your wisdom. May I walk in beauty. Make my

eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset,

make my hands respect the things that you

have made, and my ears sharp to hear your

voice. Make me wise, so that I may know the

things. You have taught your children, in every

leaf and rock. Make me strong, not to be

suspect to my brothers but to be able to fight

my greatest enemy ... myself. Make me ever

ready to come to You with straight eyes, so,

that when life fades, as the faded sunset, my

spirit will come to You without shame.

Woodruff Prayer

For the **W**orld, and for **O**thers.

For **O**ppportunity, for this **D**ay.

For **R**espect and **U**nderstanding.

For **F**riendship and **F**ellowship

We thank thee O Lord. Amen

Jamboree Prayer

God of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad, God of all races, languages, and creeds, We call upon You with one voice, the voice of a human being, beseeching you with the universal call of love. We recognize and give glory to your majesty. No reality is better established than your love and mercy. We stand here today as your children, an earthly family bonded, beseeching your guidance and protection. As the sun rises on us here today, it sets on others elsewhere; we ask that you protect the people of the world from the ills of despair, poverty, and sickness. We ask that you give us the strength to extend our limbs beyond ourselves, and to hold the hand of our neighbors, both near and far, with reverence and acceptance. We ask that you establish firmly in righteousness and transparency the leaders of every small and grand nation. We pray that our leaders rise to the occasion to defend the rights of their citizens without encroaching on the rights of other nations. That they work to free the shackles of those oppressed through peaceful means. We pray that you whisper into the hearts of powerful leaders' compassion and empathy towards feeble nations. That our global leaders and nations practice the ways of fairness and opportunity by sharing in the richness of the lands that you have provided for all to use. We ask that our leaders protect and maintain the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, and all the treasures from land to sea. More importantly, we ask that you give us the wisdom to accept and understand others peacefully, and to provide for this earthy home a place of peace, security, prosperity, and happiness to its inhabitants. Amen.

A Parent's Prayer

I pray that I may let my child live his own life and not the one I wish I had lived. Therefore, guard me against burdening him with doing what I failed to do.

Help me to see his missteps today in perspective against the long road he must travel, and grant me the grace to be patient when his pace seems to be slow.

Give me the wisdom to know when to smile at the small mischiefs of his age and when to show firmness against the impulses he fears and cannot handle.

Help me to hear the anguish in his heart through the din of angry words or across the gulf of brooding silence; and, having heard, grant me the ability to bridge the gap between us with understanding.

I pray that I may raise my voice more in joy at what he is than in vexation at what he is not, so that each day he may grow in sureness of himself.

Help me to regard him with genuine affection so that he will feel affection for others. Then give me strength, O Lord, to free him so he can move strongly on his way. Amen

**Ken Walker*

The Scout Beatitudes

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught to see beauty in all things around them... for their world will be a place of grace and wonder.

Blessed are the Scouts who are led with patience and understanding...for they will learn the strength of endurance and the gift of tolerance.

Blessed are the Scouts who are provided a home where family members dwell in harmony and close communion... for they shall become the peacemakers of the world.

Blessed are the Scouts who are taught the value and power of truth... for they shall search for knowledge and use it with wisdom and discernment.

Blessed are the Scouts who are guided by those with faith in a loving God... for they will find Him early and will walk with Him through life.

Blessed are the Scouts who are loved and know that they are loved... for they shall sow seeds of love in the world and reap joy for themselves and others.

For Everything There is a Season

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:

A time to be born and a time to die, A time to plant and a time to uproot,
A time to kill and a time to heal, A time to tear down and a time to build,
A time to weep and a time to laugh, A time to mourn and a time to dance,
A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, A time to embrace and a time to refrain,
A time to search and a time to give up, A time to keep and a time to throw away,
A time to tear and a time to mend, A time to be silent and a time to speak,
A time to love and a time to hate, A time for war and a time for peace.

*Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

A Buddhist Prayer

May all beings have happiness and the causes of happiness;

this is immeasurable loving kindness;

May all things be liberated from suffering and the causes of suffering;

this is immeasurable compassion;

May all beings be free of suffering and always stay happy;

this is immeasurable joy;

May all things be free of grasping and aversion toward others, and develop faith in the equality of all beings;

this is immeasurable equanimity.

-The Four Immeasurable Vows, Tantric Buddhism

The Sunset

Then I was standing on the highest mountain of them all, and round about beneath me was the whole hoop of the world. And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell and I understood more than I saw; for I was seeing in a sacred manner the shapes of all things in the spirit, and the shape of all shapes as they must live together like one being.

And I say the sacred hoop of my people was one of the many hoops that made one circle, wide as daylight and as starlight, and in the center grew one mighty flowering tree to shelter all the children of one mother and one father. And I saw that it was holy...

But anywhere is the center of the world.

*Black Elk, Oglala Sioux

Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace.

That where there is hatred, I may bring love.

That where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness.

That where there is discord, I may bring harmony.

That where there is error, I may bring truth.

That where there is doubt, I may bring faith.

That where there is despair, I may bring hope.

That where there are shadows, I may bring light.

That where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted.

To understand rather than to be understood.

To love, than to be loved.

For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.

It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.

It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life.

Amen

The Creation

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." And there was evening, and there was morning--the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground--everything that has the breath of life in it--I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

*Genesis 1

CLOSING PRAYER

Simple Blessing

May you walk in Peace,
Live with Love,
work with Joy,
and May Your God go with you.

A Wood Badge Benediction

And now in your journey, may the trail rise up
to meet your stride,
May the sun shine softly on your backpack,
May the cool, clean waters carry your canoe
safely to your next portage,
May the wind bring warm blessings to your
encampment,
May your Scouts find in you a fine example of
the adult they hope to be.
Peace be with you this day and forevermore.
Amen.

An Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind always be at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rain fall soft upon your friends,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you I the palm of His hand.

Aaron's Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be
gracious to you.
The Lord turn His face toward you and give you
peace.

*Numbers 6

Closing Hindu Prayer

May all be well with mankind
May the leaders of the Earth protect in every
way by keeping to the right path.
May there be goodness for those who know the
Earth to be sacred.
May all the worlds be happy.

*Shri K. Pattabhi Jois

Native American Four Directions Blessing

O Great Spirit:

Bless us from the North with the cool winds
that calm our passions

Bless us from the East with the winds that bring
and renew life

Bless us from the South with the warm wet
winds that invite growth

Bless us from the West with the winds that lead
us through this life to the next

Fill the sky so that we may sense Your presence

And bless us from Mother Earth from which we
have come and to whom we shall return.

*Chief Luther Standing Bear

Go Out with Joy

You will go out with joy and be led forth in
peace; the mountains and hills will burst into
song before you, and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.

*Isaiah 55:12

Scoutmaster Benediction

May the Great Scoutmaster of all Scouts be with
you until we meet again. Amen.

Excerpt from Baden Powell's farewell message:

I believe that God put us in this jolly world to be
happy and enjoy life. Happiness does not come
from being rich, nor merely being successful in
your career, nor by self-indulgence. One step
towards happiness is to make yourself healthy
and strong while you are a boy, so that you can
be useful and so you can enjoy life when you
are a man.

SONGS

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace -- how sweet the sound -- that saved a wretch like me!
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Thru many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures

The River – Garth Brooks

You know a dream is like a river
Ever changin' as it flows
And a dreamer's just a vessel
That must follow where it goes
Trying to learn from what's behind you
And never knowing what's in store
Makes each day a constant battle
Just to stay between the shores...

And, I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry
Like a bird upon the wind
These waters are my sky
I'll never reach my destination
If I never try
So I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry

Too many times we stand aside
And let the waters slip away

I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Til what we put off 'til tomorrow
Has now become today
So don't you sit upon the shoreline
And say you're satisfied
Choose to chance the rapids
And dare to dance the tide...

Yes, I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry
Like a bird upon the wind
These waters are my sky
I'll never reach my destination
If I never try
So I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry

There's bound to be rough waters
And I know I'll take some falls
But with the good Lord as my captain
I can make it through them all...

Yes, I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry
Like a bird upon the wind
These waters are my sky
I'll never reach my destination
If I never try
So I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry

Yes, I will sail my vessel
'Til the river runs dry
'Til the river runs dry

A Scout Is: The Boy Scout's Anthem

Tune: Away in a Manger, By: Bill Hafker
A scout is a young man who lives by a code,
To protect his honor, and take the high road,
He faces temptation, but doesn't give in,
The scout law gives him the foundation to win.

A scout is trustworthy, he's loyal, true blue,
 Helpful, friendly, courteous to me and to you
 Kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty every cent,
 A scout is brave, clean, and reverent.
 A scout is trustworthy, faithful to the end,
 In keeping his promises, you can depend,
 He's loyal to family, school, and to friends,
 And to our great nation that he defends.
 A scout is helpful to all those in need,
 Reward he seeks not, it is just a good deed,
 He's friendly to people, all races and creeds,
 A trait that he knows that the world sorely
 needs.
 A scout is courteous, says "please" and "thank
 you",
 It's something he learned as a child to do,
 He is also kind, he's not spiteful or snide,
 It's strong to be gentle, he knows deep inside.
 A scout is obedient of rules that are there,
 And works from within to change those deemed
 unfair,
 He's cheerful, he smiles, looks for the bright
 side,
 And helps dry the tears of others who've cried.
 A scout is thrifty, of his goods he takes care,
 And protects the world, and the things God put
 there,
 He's brave, but not foolish, does not pick a fight,
 But always defends what he knows to be right.
 A scout is clean in thought, word, and deed,
 Helps others to learn and to share these beliefs,
 He is always reverent of our God above,
 Reaches out to others to share His great love.

Scout Vespers

Softly falls the light of day,
 As our campfire fades away.
 Silently, each Scout should ask,
 "Have I done my daily task?"

"Have I cared and have I tried,
 Can I guiltless sleep tonight?
 Have I done and have I dared,
 Everything to be prepared?"

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken, like the first morning.
 Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.

Praise for the singing, praise for the morning.
 Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from heaven.
 Like the first dew fall, on the first grass.
 Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden.
 Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning.
 Born of the one light Eden saw play.
 Praise with elation, praise every morning.
 God's re-creation of the new day.

Michael Row the Boat Ashore

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
 Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is chilly and cold, Alleluia,
 Kills the body but not the soul, Alleluia.

Jordan's River is deep and wide, Alleluia,
 Meet my mother on the other side, Alleluia.

Gabriel, blow the trumpet horn, Alleluia,
 Blow the trumpet loud and long, Alleluia.

Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia,
 Brother, lend a helping hand, Alleluia.

Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia,
 Michael's boat's a gospel boat, Alleluia.

Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia,
 Michael, row the boat ashore, Alleluia.

God Bless America

God Bless America, land that I love
 Stand beside her, and guide her,
 Through the night with the light from above,
 From the mountains, to the prairies,
 To the ocean, white with foam,
 God bless America, my home sweet home.
 God bless America, my home sweet home.

Disney's it's a Small World After All

it's a world of laughter, a world of tears
it's a world of hopes, it's a world of fear
there's so much that we share
that its time we're aware
it's a small world after all

CHORUS:

it's a small world after all
its a small world after all
its a small world after all
its a small, small world

There is just one moon and one golden sun
And a smile means friendship to everyone.
Though the mountains divide
and the oceans are wide
it's a small small world

(chorus)

America (My Country 'Tis of Thee)

My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing; Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim's pride, from every
mountain side Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee, Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love: I love thy rocks and rills, Thy
woods and templed hills; My heart with rapture
thrills Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze, And ring from all the
trees, Sweet freedom's song: Let mortal
tongues awake, Let all that breathe partake; Let
rocks their silence break, The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To
Thee we sing: Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light; Protect us by Thy
might, Great God, our King!

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves
of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the
fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on

thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea
to shining sea!

O beautiful for Pilgrim feet, Whose stern
impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the
wilderness.
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in
law.

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating
strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And
mercy more than life.
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness And every gain
divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond
the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by
human tears.
America! America! God shed His grace on
thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea
to shining sea!

God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.

From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home

Johnny Appleseed Song

Oh, the Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the apple seed;
Oh, the Lord's been good to me.

This is the Day

This is the day
 This is the day
 That the Lord has made
 That the Lord has made
 We will rejoice
 We will rejoice
 And be glad in it
 And be glad in it
 This is the day that the Lord has made
 We will rejoice and be glad in it
 This is the day
 This is the day
 That the Lord has made.

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin
 with me.
 Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was
 meant to be.
 With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
 Let me walk with my brother in perfect
 harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the
 moment now.
 With every step I take, let this be my solemn
 vow:
 To take each moment and live each moment in
 peace eternally!

Let there be peace on earth
 and let it begin with me.

On Top of Old Smokey (Scout Version)

On top of Old Smokey, all covered with snow,
 I learned a great lesson, all people should know.
 I met a Scoutmaster, a helper of youth,
 He was roaming God's mountain, in search of
 the truth.

He told me he'd found it, in the red sunset's
 glow;
 In the voice of the thunder, in the touch of the
 snow.
 His truth was quite simple, as plain as could be,
 I'll never forget what, that Leader told me.

Do your duty to God, to the red, white, and
 blue.
 To all others be helpful, to thine own self be
 true

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world --- in His hands,
 He's got the whole wide world --- in His hands,
 He's got the whole world --- in His hands,
 He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the wind and the rain ...

He's got you and me, brother, ...

He's got you and me, sister, ...

He's got the little bitty baby, ...

He's got Everybody here ...

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, where I in awesome wonder
 Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
 I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
 Thy power thru – out the universe displayed!

Chorus:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
 How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
 How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When thru the woods and forest glades I
 wander
 And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
 When I look down from lofty mountain
 grandeur
 And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze,
 (Chorus)

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
 Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –
 That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
 He bled and died to take away my sin!
 (Chorus)

When Christ shall come with shout of

acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou
art!
(Chorus)

Jesus Loves Me!

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells
me so;
Little ones to Him be long, They are weak but
He is strong.

Chorus: Yes, Jesus loves me!, Yes Jesus loves
me!
Yes Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all
the way;
Thou has bled and died for me, I well hence-
forth live for Thee.

This Land Is Your Land

This land is your land, this land is my land.
From California, to the New York Island.

From the redwood forest, to the Gulf Stream
waters,
This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking that ribbon of highway,
I saw above me that endless skyway,
I saw below me that golden valley,
This land was made for you and me.

I roamed and rambled, and I followed my
footsteps,
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts,
All around me a voice was sounding,
This land was made for you and me.

When the sun came shining, than I was strolling.
And the wheat fields waving, and the dust
clouds rolling,
A voice was chanting as the fog was lifting,
This land was made for you and me.

COMPLETED SCOUTS OWN SERVICES

Theme - Scouting

Call to Worship: The Founder's Prayer

"Father of us all, we meet before Thee here today, numerous in the lands we come from and in the races we represent, but one in our Brotherhood under Thy Divine Fatherhood.

We come before Thee with hearts grateful and gladdened by the many blessings Thou hast granted us and thankful that our Movement has prospered as acceptable in Thy sight. In return we would lay on Thine Altar, as our humble thank-offering, such sacrifice as we can make of self in service to others. We ask that during our communion here together we may, under Thy Divine Inspiration, gain a widened outlook, a clearer vision of all that lies open before us and of our opportunity. Thus we may then go forth with strengthened faith to carry on our mission of heightening the ideals and powers of manhood, and of helping through closer understanding to bring about Thy happier Rule of Peace and Goodwill upon Earth." --Written by Baden-Powell for use in international events.

SONG: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Response Reading: Boy Scout Law:

Reader: A Scout is Trustworthy, Local, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and ...

Scouts: REVERENT

Reader: Give us clean hands, clean words, and clean thoughts, O God. Teach us the work hard and to play fairly. Forgive us when we are unkind and help us to help others. Send us strength to do a good turn each day and so to live after Thy will.

Scouts: Amen

Meditation:

When night ends...

"How can we determine the hour of dawn - when the night ends and the day begins?" the rabbi asked of his students.

"When, from a distance, you can distinguish between a dog and a sheep?" one of his students suggested.

"No" the rabbi answered.

"Is it when you can distinguish between a fig tree and a grapevine?" another student asked.

"No" he replied.

"Please tell us the answer, then" said the students.

"It is when you can look into the face of a human being and have enough light to recognize in him your brother," the wise teacher replied.

"Until then, it is night, and the darkness is still with us."

**by Henri Nouwen*

Prayer: Jamboree Prayer

God of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad, God of all races, languages, and creeds, We call upon You with one voice, the voice of a human being, beseeching you with the universal call of love. We recognize and give glory to your majesty. No reality is better established than your love and mercy. We stand here today as your children, an earthly family bonded, beseeching your guidance and protection. As the sun rises on us here today, it sets on others elsewhere; we ask that you protect the people of the world from the ills of despair, poverty, and sickness. We ask that you give us the strength to extend our limbs beyond ourselves, and to hold the hand of our neighbors, both near and far, with reverence and acceptance. We ask that you establish firmly in righteousness and transparency the leaders of every small and grand nation. We pray that our leaders rise to the occasion to defend the rights of their citizens without encroaching on the rights of other nations. That they work to free the shackles of those oppressed through peaceful means. We pray that you whisper into the hearts of powerful leaders' compassion and empathy towards feeble nations. That our global leaders and nations practice the ways of fairness and opportunity by sharing in the richness of the lands that you have provided for all to use. We ask that our leaders protect and maintain the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink, and all the treasures from land to sea. More importantly, we ask that you give us the wisdom to accept and understand others peacefully, and to provide for this earthy home a place of peace, security, prosperity, and happiness to its inhabitants. Amen.

Closing Prayer: Brotherhood of Scouting

May you leave this place knowing you are part of the great brotherhood of Scouting. Gracious Father, keep us true to our Scout Promise. Help us follow the Scout Law and allow us to be good examples to others. Amen.

Theme - Brotherhood

Calls to Worship

May the time be not too distant, O Lord, when all your children will understand that they are brothers and sisters, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before you. Then shall your kingdom be established on earth, and the word of your prophet shall be fulfilled: "The Lord will reign forever and ever."
Amen

-From the Jewish Sabbath Service

Prayer: Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace.

That where there is hatred, I may bring love.

That where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness.

That where there is discord, I may bring harmony.

That where there is error, I may bring truth.

That where there is doubt, I may bring faith.

That where there is despair, I may bring hope.

That where there are shadows, I may bring light.

That where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted.

To understand rather than to be understood.

To love, than to be loved.

For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.

It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.

It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life. Amen.

Responsive Reading: The Scout Law

Leader: The Scout Law is a guiding light to millions of boys and young adults throughout the world today, but the principles of the Law have been brought to us from ancient days. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exodus 20:16)

Scouts: A Scout is trustworthy.

Leader: He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. (Luke 16:10)

Scouts: A Scout is loyal.

Leader: You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself... (Leviticus 19:18) For the poor will never cease out of the land; therefore I command you, you shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in the land. (Deuteronomy 15:11)

Scouts: A Scout is helpful.

Leader: Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10) Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! (Psalm 133)

Scouts: A Scout is friendly.

Leader: Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 4:29)

Scouts: A Scout is courteous.

Leader: A righteous man has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicket is cruel. (Proverbs 12:10)

Scouts: A Scout is kind.

Leader: Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

Honor thy first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth. (Ephesians 6:1)

Scouts: A Scout is obedient.

Leader: A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. The mind of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly. All the days of the afflicted are evil, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast. (Proverbs 15:13)

Scouts: A Scout is cheerful.

Leader: Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer or ruler, she prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest. (Proverbs 6:6)

Scouts: A Scout is thrifty.

Leader: Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread of them; for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Scouts: A Scout is brave.

Leader: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false, and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of his salvation. (Psalm 24: 3)

Scouts: A Scout is clean.

Leader: And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with your entire mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. (Mark 12:30)

Scouts: A Scout is reverent, he is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

Song: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world --- in His hands,
He's got the whole wide world --- in His hands,
He's got the whole world --- in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the wind and the rain ...

He's got you and me, brother, ...

He's got you and me, sister, ...

He's got Everybody here ...

Closing Prayer: Native American Four Directions Blessing

O Great Spirit:

Bless us from the North with the cool winds that calm our passions
Bless us from the East with the winds that bring and renew life
Bless us from the South with the warm wet winds that invite growth
Bless us from the West with the winds that lead us through this life to the next

Fill the sky so that we may sense Your presence

And bless us from Mother Earth from which we have come and to whom we shall return. *Chief Luther Standing Bear

Theme – Nature

Call to Worship

Outdoor Code:

As an American, I will do my best to --
Be clean in my outdoor manners,
Be careful with fire,
Be considerate in the outdoors,
and be conservation-minded

Responsive Reading

This Land Is Your Land

Reader: This land is your land, this land is my land.
Scouts: From California, to the New York Island.
Reader: From the redwood forest, to the Gulf Stream waters,
All: This land was made for you and me.

Reader: As I went walking that ribbon of highway,
Scouts: I saw above me that endless skyway,
Reader: I saw below me that golden valley,
All: This land was made for you and me.

Reader: I roamed and rambled, and I followed my footsteps,
Scouts: To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts,
Reader: All around me a voice was sounding,
All: This land was made for you and me.

Reader: When the sun came shining, than I was strolling.
Scouts: And the wheat fields waving, and the dust clouds rolling,
Reader: A voice was chanting as the fog was lifting,
All: This land was made for you and me.

Prayer

For Everything There is a Season

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:
A time to be born and a time to die, A time to plant and a time to uproot,
A time to kill and a time to heal, A time to tear down and a time to build,
A time to weep and a time to laugh, A time to mourn and a time to dance,
A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, A time to embrace and a time to refrain,
A time to search and a time to give up, A time to keep and a time to throw away,
A time to tear and a time to mend, A time to be silent and a time to speak,
A time to love and a time to hate, A time for war and a time for peace.

*Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

Meditation

The Road Not Taken

I shall be telling this with a sigh.
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –
I took the one less traveled by.
And that has made all the difference.

**Robert Frost*

Song

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for Pilgrim feet, Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness.
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life.
America! America! May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness And every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears.
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

Closing Prayer

Go Out with Joy

You will go out with joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

*Isaiah 55:12

Theme – Thanksgiving

A Call to Worship

Jewish Morning Prayer

I offer thanks to You,
living and eternal King,
for You have mercifully restored my soul within me;
Your faithfulness is great.

Responsive Reading

Psalm of David – Psalm 23

Reader: The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

Scouts: ² He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

Reader: ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths
of righteousness For His name's sake.

Scouts: ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with
me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Reader: ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence
of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup
runs over.

Scouts: ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All
the days of my life; and I will dwell^[a] in the house of the
LORD Forever.

All: Amen

Song:

Johnny Appleseed Song

Oh, the Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the apple seed;
Oh, the Lord's been good to me.

Oh, and every seed I sow
Will grow into a tree.
And someday there'll be apples there
for everyone in the world to share.
Oh, the Lord is good to me.

I owe the Lord so much
For everything I see
I'm certain if it weren't for him
There'd be no apples on this limb
He's been good to me

I wake up every day as happy as can be
Because I know that with His care
My apple trees, they will still be there
Oh, the lord is good to me

Meditation

Each Scout in his turn says, "I am thankful for...."

Prayer:

Philmont Prayer

Almighty God of hill and plain,
O'er which we hike in sun and rain,
On mountain top and valley low,
Protect us Lord where e'er we go.
And from our grateful hearts we'll raise
Glad hymns of thankfulness and praise.

Closing Prayer:

We Thank Thee

We thank Thee
For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass so fresh and sweet;
For song of bird and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear and see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!
*Ralph Waldo Emerson

Theme – Scouting (Campout)

Call to Worship

Scout Oath

When facing deceit and dishonest, let us be **trustworthy**.

If we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be **loyal**.

Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevails, let us be **friendly & helpful**.

In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be **courteous**.

Where some measure manliness in brutality and crudeness, let us be **kind**.

Though law-breaking and rule-scoffing are common, let us be **obedient**.

While others grumble and grouch, let us be **cheerful**.

In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let us be **thrifty**.

When confronted with danger and temptation, let us be **brave**.

As we see filth and pollution everywhere, let us be **clean**.

While witnessing impiety and irreligion, let us remember to be **REVERENT**.

Responsive Reading

Boy Scout Promise:

Reader: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart.
(Deuteronomy 6:5)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to do my duty to God.

Reader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. (Psalms 33:12)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to do my duty to my country.

Reader: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. (Romans 13:9)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to help other people.

Reader: My son, forget not My law; but let thine heart keep My commandments. (Proverbs 3:1)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to obey the Scout Law.

Reader: Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the ways that I command you. (Jeremiah 7:23)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself physically strong.

Reader: A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength. (Proverbs 24:5)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself mentally awake.

Reader: Thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the Lord. (Deuteronomy 6:18)

Scouts: I promise to do my best to keep myself morally straight.

Reader: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your path. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Song

Scout Vespers

Softly falls the light of day,

As our campfire fades away.

Silently, each Scout should ask,

"Have I done my daily task?"

"Have I cared and have I tried,

Can I guiltless sleep tonight?

Have I done and have I dared,

Everything to be prepared?"

Meditation

Each Scout in his turn tells of the Scout Spirit that he has seen in another boy.

Prayer

CAMPER'S PRAYER

God of the mountains and hills, make me tall and strong;

Tall enough and strong enough to right some wrong.

God of the stars, make me steadfast and sure;

God of every lake and stream, flow through my life & make it clean;

Let me do nothing base or mean.

God of the trees and woods, keep me fresh and pure;

God of the rain, wash from my life all dirt and stain;

Pure and strong let me remain.

God of the seed and soil, plant in my heart thy love;

God of the darkness and day, through shadows or light, be my stay.

Guide thou my way.

God of the radiant sun, light thou my life;

God of the glorious dawn, make each day a fresh start.

God of the evening peace and quiet, keep me free from fear & strife.

God of the gay, free birds, sing in my heart.

God of the surging waves and sea, wide horizons give to me;

Help me to see the world as thou would have it be;

God of the lovely rose, make me lovely, too;

God of the morning dew, each day my faith renew.

God of all growing things, keep me growing, too.

*George Earle Owen

Closing Prayer:

Scoutmaster Benediction

May the Great Scoutmaster of all Scouts be with you until we meet again. Amen.

GRACES

Wilderness Grace – Northern Tier

For food, for raiment,
For life and opportunity,
For sun and rain,
For water and portage trails,
For friendship and fellowship,
We thank thee, O Lord.
Amen.

Philmont Grace

For Food
For Raiment
For Life
For Opportunity
For Friendship
For Fellowship
We thank Thee, O Lord.
Amen.

Sea Base Grace

This Grace is meant for Boy Scouts.
Bless the creatures of the sea.
Bless this person I call me.
Bless the Keys, You make so grand.
Bless the sun that warms the land.
Bless the fellowship we feel,
As we gather for this meal.
Amen

Camp Rainey Mountain Grace - NE GA Council

Through the spirit of camping, may you bless this food,
Great Creator.
May it keep us strong and steadfast,
In service, devotion, and conservation,
For the tranquility of these hills.
Amen

Bovay Scout Ranch Grace

For the trees, lakes, and hills
We Thank Thee, O God
For the fun, friends, and fellowship
We Thank Thee, O God
For the food that has been prepared
We Thank Thee, O God
Amen

The Summit Grace

For this time and this place
For Your goodness and grace
For each friend we embrace
We thank Thee, o Lord
Amen

Camp Avondale Grace

For the food we are about to receive,
The beauty of thy lakes and trees,
The blessings you have bestowed upon us,
And the fellowship if Scouting,
We thank thee, oh Lord.

Gilwell Grace

Oh Lord,
the giver of all good.
We thank thee,
for our daily food.
May Scouting friends,
and Scouting ways.
Help us to serve thee all our days.
Amen.

Bert Adams Scout Reservation Grace

For this feast and friends who share it,
For this day and the Scouting Spirit,
For this land and its adventures,
We thank you, O Lord.
Amen

Woodruff Scout Reservation Grace

For the beauty of the earth,
And the glory of the skies
For the food we are about to receive
We give you thanks, O Lord
Amen

Camp J.K. Orr Grace

For the hills, the valleys,
The lake and the streams.
For the beautiful sun and its glorious beams.
For the friends that we've made
And those that we keep,
And the food we are about to eat
We thank thee, O Lord

OTHER ONLINE REFERENCES

Scout Sunday Observance –

<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/Media/Relationships/ascoutisrevernt.aspx>

<http://usscouts.org/chaplain/scoutsown.asp>

Scouts Own Service (Atlanta Area Council Powderhorn 2005) -

[www.cpbs.org/Docs/Scouts Own Powder Horn 2005.doc](http://www.cpbs.org/Docs/Scouts_Own_Powder_Horn_2005.doc)

Call to Worship – reading or announcement

(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/Media/Relationships/ascoutisrevernt/ss03.aspx>.)

Opening Prayer – (Whatever you'd like to say or read)

Closing Prayer – (Whatever you'd like to say or read)

<http://insanescouter.org/c/161/reverent.html>

<http://scoutermom.com/?s=reverent>

Song/Hymn #1 – find some they know (Johnny Apple Seed, America the Beautiful, Taps, etc.)

<http://www.scoutsongs.com/categories/boy-scout-songs.html>

<http://www.scoutorama.com/song/> (Scroll down to Solemn Songs)

<http://insanescouter.org/c/141/songs.html> (Search for Grace)

Readings –scriptures or others (This could be a statement about nature or God by Baden Powell

http://scout.org/en/about_scouting/facts_figures/baden_powell/b_ps_quotes or a passage about creation from the Bible).

Meditation – can use the Sunday vespers meditation; reflection on the scout oath or law or outdoor code; meditation on lessons of the weekend; a round of thankfulness (where each scout, in turn, says what they are thankful for about the weekend); or many other ideas.

(<http://www.scouting.org/scoutsourc/Media/Relationships/ascoutisrevernt/ss19.aspx>.)

Boy Scout before Meal Graces –

<http://www.boyscouttrail.com/graces.asp>