

# Choose Life

## Call to Prayer

**Leader** Let us sing to God a song of life.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Let us live in the love of Yahweh,  
our God.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Let us reverence the earth,  
and every creature in it.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Give us the wisdom to make life-giving  
choices for

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Give us the insight to see the relatedness  
of life issues.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Give us joy in our own lives,  
so we can give it to others.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

**Leader** Keep your word very near to us, O God.

*All For God has said, "Choose life."*

## Reading

Dt. 30:11-14, 19-20

*Silent reflection time, followed by sharing.*

## Litany

In choosing life, we look to those who have gone  
before us.



**Reader 1** Abraham, called by God into the  
unknown, trusting in the darkness.  
We too, have experienced calls in  
darkness.

*All Be with us.*

**Reader 2** Sarah, woman of patience and hope,  
blessed by God.

*All Be with us in our waitings.*

**Reader 1** Moses, called forth from among the  
people to be a leader, while begging  
God to send someone else. It was hard  
to take off your shoes. We understand  
your struggle.

*All Give us the courage to  
investigate burning bushes.*

**Reader 2** Ruth and Naomi, women of strength,  
attentive and loyal to each other. We  
need your kind of loyalty to be good  
for one another

*All Be our guide.*

**Reader 1** David, in need of conversion like  
us, receiving the prophet Nathan's  
challenge to repent.

*All Open us to the prophets in our  
lives.*

**Reader 2** Mary, mother of Jesus, woman  
of deep faith, full of strength and  
courage.

*All You are our model and guide.*

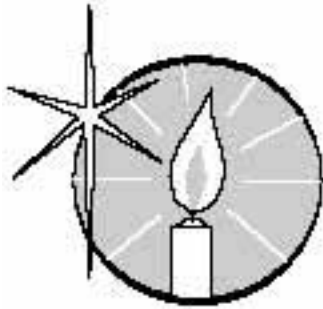
*Pause to allow time for other life givers to be named.*

**Response:** "Be with us."

## Conclusion

**Prayer** *All*

In choosing life, we look to those we have named and to countless ones unnamed and unknown. May their lives offer us the courage, after the example



of your son, to banish from our midst all discord and mistrust. May we never break faith with one another. We ask you today to keep us living and working toward peace within our fragile human community. We rely, not on

our own strengths, but on the invincible power of your Spirit whose goodness working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.

**Side 1** And then all what has divided us will merge.

**Side 2** And then compassion will be wedded to power.

**Side 1** And then softness will come to a world that is often harsh and unkind.

**Side 2** And then both women and men will be gentle.

**Side 1** And then both men and women will be strong.

**Side 2** And then no other person will be subject to another's will.

*All*

And then all will be rich and varied.

And then all will share equally  
in the earth's abundance.

And then all will care for the sick  
and the weak and the old.

And then all will nourish the young.

And then all will cherish life's creatures.

And then all will live in harmony  
with each other and the earth.

And then everywhere  
will be called Eden once again. Amen.

*(Poem by Judy Chicago)*

**Closing Song**

(Suggestions) *Companions on the Journey* or  
*Touch the Earth*

**Acknowledgment**

"Choose Life" ritual from *Hill Connections* (<http://hillconnections.org>),  
a web site linking *Contemplation* and *Social Justice*.