Prayers to Open a Meeting

Lord, you have entrusted us as stewards of your creation

Please guide our hearts as we make our decisions

We seek you first in all we do together

We give you our business, our suppliers, our customers and our workforce

May we be always mindful of their service

We confess that we are nothing without you

And our trust is in you completely

Gracious God, thank you for the gift of today. Refresh me. Invite me to discover your presence in each person that I meet and every event that I encounter. Teach me when to speak and when to listen when to ponder and when to share. In moments of challenge and decision attune my heart to the whisperings of your Wisdom. As I undertake ordinary and unnoticed tasks, gift me with simple joy. When my day goes well, may I rejoice. When it grows difficult, surprise me with new possibilities. When life is overwhelming, call me to Sabbath moments to restore your Peace and Harmony. May my living today reveal your Goodness. Amen.

Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace, Lord God, as we make decisions that might affect the students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends of this University. And, continue to remind us that all that we do here today, all that we accomplish, is for the pursuit of truth, for the greater glory of you, and for the service of humanity. We ask these things in your name, Amen.

God, our Creator, You give us life and support us with love. Send your Spirit of compassion to dwell in our midst as we meet here today. Help us to be respectful and just in our discernment and decisions. May we be mindful of the needs of all in our community and help us to honor one another in a courteous manner. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

During this time help us to remember that we are doing your work, not our own. May we see this meeting time as a way of serving you. May all that we do and are give you praise and be for your honor and glory. Amen.

Good and loving God, Source of every grace and blessing, We give You thanks this day for the many gifts you have given us. We seek to be good stewards, Lord. Bless us as we gather here to share Your gifts. Send us Your Spirit and be present among us in the mouths of all who speak, in the ears of all who listen, and at the heart of all we say and do. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen

Let us pray. Lord, we praise you and ask you to guide us in this meeting that we may be united in the spirit of mutual respect and in the healthy exchange of our ideas. Help us to work together for the good of all in our community.

Lord we ask you to preside over our meeting and our labors, and to bless all our endeavors. Help us to build a community united in harmony of love and service. We thank you Lord, for everything which widens our knowledge and equips us more fully for the task of life and living. Teach us to know our own strengths that we may use to the full the gifts and talents which You have given us. Help us to share a loving concern for each other at all times. Above all, Lord, help us to really know You, for this is the beginning and the end of all wisdom, this is eternal life. Amen

God, we give you thanks for the beauty of this day, for the gift of this world, and for the gift of each other. We especially give You thanks for the gift of our vocation to work and serve here at\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. As we gather here at this meeting, we ask You to be with us as we continue to reflect on our work here and seek to advance it for the good of all. Open our eyes, that we may see what You wish us to see. Open our ears, that in our dialogue we may hear what You want us to hear. And, open our hearts, that we may feel as You feel toward those in greatest need of our services. Bless all that we do here in this gathering; may it be a holy work done in Your name. We ask this in the name of Jesus and in the power of the Spirit. Amen.