

## **At Camp Services**

These services are meant for use at our weekend camp outs. They can be used on Sunday to bring a reverent moment to the camp out. They are short enough not to interrupt the timing of the day's program. The troop's scout chaplain aide or designated adult should conduct these services.

These services were written to add to the diversity of the troops existing services.

Submitted to Troop 505, Naperville, IL, August 2013.

*William Birch*

## A Boy Scouts Service

- Opening  
Have the group stand in a circle.  
Present the colors while the bugler plays to the colors.
- Invocation  
Welcome to all who join us this morning. Let us give thanks for our time together, this glorious weather, the friendship and fellowship we have shared and the memories we have made.
- Opening Prayer  
Lord Baden-Powell the founder of Boy Scouts believed that faith was an important component of his Scouting program. Let us hear the words of Baden-Powell in "A Scout's Prayer".

### A Scout's Prayer

Our Father, make us Trustworthy, for there are those who trust us.

Make us Loyal, for through loyalty we reach our highest ideals.

Teach us to be Helpful, for through helpfulness do we forget our selfness.

Make us Friendly, for there are so many who need a friend.

Train us in Courtesy, for courtesy is the carpet on life's floor.

Make us kind for kindness is the oil in the cogs of life's machinery.

Insist upon our Obedience, for victory comes only to him who obeys.

Make us Cheerful, for cheerfulness is the green grass among the rocks in the path of life.

Train us in Thrift, for thrifty habits brighten our future.

Make us Brave; brave in the dark and brave in the light; but save us from becoming fakers in bravery.

Help us to be Clean – clean in thoughts, in speech, and in deed.

Above all, O God, help us to be Reverent toward all things which Thou hast made for our enjoyment when we are in Thy great out-of-doors, among the trees, along the streams, and on the Hillsides. May we know it was Thee who made the waters to flow, the trees to reach heavenward, the mountains to endure to all ages.

In all these things we ask that Thou wilt help us. And may we never forget the Scout Oath to which we all have pledged ourselves, so that through Thy help we may live these points of our Scout Law.

Amen

- Responsive Reading  
Please join us in the response reading

Leader: "Honesty is the first chapter of the book of wisdom."

*Thomas Jefferson*

Scouts: A Scout is trustworthy.

Leader: "My country, right or wrong; if right, to be kept right; and if wrong, to be set right"  
*Carl Schurz*

Scouts: A Scout is loyal.

Leader: "The good man is the friend of all living things."  
*Mahatma Gandhi*

Scouts: A Scout is helpful.

Leader: "Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?"  
*Abraham Lincoln*

Scouts: A Scout is friendly.

Leader: "Life is not so short that there is always time enough for courtesy."  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Scouts: A Scout is courteous.

Leader: "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."  
*Aesop*

Scouts: A Scout is kind.

Leader: "Diligence is the mother of good luck."  
*Benjamin Franklin*

Scouts: A Scout is obedient.

Leader: "I am determined to be cheerful and happy in whatever situation I may find myself. For I have learned that the greater part of our misery or unhappiness is determined not by our circumstance but by our disposition."  
*Martha Washington*

Scouts: A Scout is cheerful.

Leader: "The world offers many gifts. A wise man uses them with care."

Scouts: A Scout is thrifty.

Leader: "One man with courage makes a majority."  
*Andrew Jackson*

Scouts: A Scout is brave.

Leader: "A scout is clean of body and mind. A scout is clean but not afraid to get dirty!"  
*Mike Rowe*

Scouts: A Scout is clean.

Leader: "I can do no other than be reverent before everything that is called life. I can do no other than to have compassion for all that is called life. That is the beginning and the foundation of all ethics."

*Albert Schweitzer*

Scouts: A Scout is reverent.

- Song

Michael Row The Boat Ashore

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah

Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah  
Sister help to trim the sail, hallelujah

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah

The river is deep and the river is wide, hallelujah  
Chills the body but not the soul, hallelujah

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah

Jordan's river is chilly and cold, hallelujah  
Milk and honey on the other side, hallelujah

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah  
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah

- Benediction

Bless all those everywhere who contribute to shape the hearts, minds and bodies of young people. Let us remember what they have taught and apply it daily. Remember that days like these are few and far between and that memory is fleeting. Never take for granted the time we have together.

## An Eagle Boy Scouts Service

- Opening  
Have the group stand in a circle.  
Present the colors.
- Invocation  
Welcome to all who join us this morning, Eagle Scouts, future Eagle Scouts and Eagles at heart. We come together today in friendship and fellowship to contemplate the virtues we strive to meet on the trail of the Eagle.
- Opening Prayer  
Hear the words heed them: When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the morning light. Give thanks for your life and strength, for your food and for the joy of living. Be merciful to those who are in your power; it is your part to take care of the weak, the sick the old and the helpless. Show respect to all. Remember: a man is bound by his promise with a bond that cannot be broken. Be hospitable. Be kind. A man tried and proven is at all times clean, courteous, and master of himself.
- What is the Eagle if not a man of honor, a leader with good will to all; loyal to family and country. Courageous to face many challenges, obstinacies and ideas that many think are beyond them. A leader that goes further than he thinks he is capable of and has the vision to take others with him.
- Responsive Reading  
Please join us in the response reading

Scout: I am prepared to stand for virtues of Freedom & Justice.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to serve My God, My country and other people.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to stand for Honesty, Truth and Integrity.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to lead others to the best of my ability.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to cross all lines that separate us as a people.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to speak truth to power and to defend those that can not defend them selves.  
All: I am the Eagle.

Scout: I am prepared to be self-reliant and resourceful.  
All: I am the Eagle.

All: I am the Eagle. I am prepared.

- Song

### **This Land Is Your Land**

*Words and Music by Woody Guthrie*

This land is your land This land is my land  
From California to the New York island;  
From the red wood forest to the Gulf Stream waters  
This land was made for you and Me.

As I was 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.

This land was made for you and me!!!

- Prayer

### **An Eagle Scout's Prayer**

Now that I'm an Eagle Scout  
And look back down the trail I've trod,  
I can see what Scouting's all about,  
And I offer this humble prayer.

I know now the Eagle badge is not the end;  
I know I could never have gotten this far  
Without help from others who served as my stars.

Thank you for home and churches and schools.  
Thank you for parents and teachers and rules.

Thank you for leaders who understand,  
Who always stand ready to give me their hand.  
Let me share with all people my gifts as they grow.  
For I must try to repay the great debt that I owe.

Let me treat everyone as my sister and brother.  
And reward each good turn by doing another.  
Make me fight the good battles though weary and scared.  
Let me meet every crisis by being prepared.

Give me the wisdom and honor and courage to do  
The things that are right  
Remind me if ever I start to sway  
That other Eagles have paved my way.

Their ghosts are watching and waiting to see  
That I live up to all that's expected of me.  
If I should falter and fall toward the ground,  
Stretch forth your arm so I won't let them down.

Keep me sharp as the edge of a whittling knife

To cut through the darkness and doubt.  
Let me never forget as I soar through life  
That I am an Eagle Scout.

Amen.

- Benediction  
In the words of Lord Baden-Powell "Scouting is a man's job cut down to a boy's size."  
So let us all go and take on that job and channel our inner Eagle Scout.

## Lakota Service

- Opening  
Have the group stand in a circle.  
Present the colors.
- Invocation  
Welcome to all who join us this morning. Let us give thanks for our time together, this glorious weather, the friendship and fellowship we have shared and the memories we have made.
- Opening Prayer

### Lakota Instructions for Living

Friend do it this way - that is,  
whatever you do in life,  
do the very best you can  
with both your heart and mind.

And if you do it that way,  
the Power Of The Universe  
will come to your assistance,  
if your heart and mind are in Unity.

When one sits in the Hoop Of The People,  
one must be responsible because  
All of Creation is related.  
And the hurt of one is the hurt of all.  
And the honor of one is the honor of all.  
And whatever we do effects everything in the universe.

If you do it that way - that is,  
if you truly join your heart and mind  
as One - whatever you ask for,  
that's the Way It's Going To Be.

*(passed down from White Buffalo Calf Woman)*

- Responsive Reading  
Please join us in the response reading

### Earth, Teach Me

All: Earth teach me quiet  
Leader: as the grasses are still with new light.

All: Earth teach me suffering  
Leader: as old stones suffer with memory.

All: Earth teach me humility  
Leader: as blossoms are humble with beginning.

All: Earth teach me caring  
Leader: as mothers nurture their young.

All: Earth teach me courage  
Leader: as the tree that stands alone.

All: Earth teach me limitation  
Leader: as the ant that crawls on the ground.

All: Earth teach me freedom  
Leader: as the eagle that soars in the sky.

All: Earth teach me acceptance  
Leader: as the leaves that die each fall.

All: Earth teach me renewal  
Leader: as the seed that rises in the spring.

All: Earth teach me to forget myself  
Leader: as melted snow forgets its life.

All: Earth teach me to remember kindness  
Leader: as dry fields weep with rain.

- Song  
**Kumbaya** (Not Lakota)

Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya,  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's laughing, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's laughing, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's laughing, my Lord, kum bay ya,  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's crying, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying, my Lord, kum bay ya,  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's singing, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing, my Lord, kum bay ya,  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

- Prayer  
*(Translated by Lakota Sioux Chief Yellow Lark in 1887)*

Oh, 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.

- Benediction  
*(Lakota Sioux prayer translated July 2012)*

Remember that we are all connected from the earth and water to the clouds above to every bush and blade of grass that grows and every beast that roams the plains. Each of us is connected to the other. Remember this always in thought and deed.

## Native American Service

- Opening  
Have the group stand in a circle.  
Present the colors.
- Invocation  
Welcome to all who join us this morning. Let us give thanks for our time together, this glorious weather, the friendship and fellowship we have shared and the memories we have made. For the gifts of food and freedom, and hills to roam, for crimson sunsets, for the earth, our home. For the stars at night and gentle wind in trees, we thank you, for all of these.

- Opening Prayer

We belong to the earth this we know  
The earth does not belong to us;  
We belong to the earth, this we know  
All things are connected like the blood which unites one family.  
All things are connected.  
Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons and daughters of the earth.  
We did not weave the web of life;  
We are merely a strand in it.  
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves

- Responsive Reading  
Please join us in the response reading

Leader: Honor the sacred.  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Honor the Earth, our Mother.  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Honor the Elders.  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Honor all with whom we share the Earth.  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Four-leggeds, two-leggeds, and winged ones,  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Swimmers, crawlers, plant and rock  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: And all the people of the earth.  
All: We will honor them.

Leader: Walk in balance and beauty.  
All: Amen

- Song: **I Am The Earth**

I am the river flowing  
 I am the desert dry  
 I am the four winds blowing  
 I am the sunset sky

I am the forest breathing  
 I am the ocean wide  
 I am the storm clouds gathering  
 I am the mountain high

I am the Earth  
 I am the Earth  
 I am the Earth  
 I am the Earth

We are the children growing  
 You are the place we live  
 We are the seed you're sowing  
 We are the life you give

We are the future rising  
 We will be your voice  
 We will watch and learn from you  
 We will make the choice

**CHORUS**

I am the Earth  
 You're in our hands  
 I am the Earth  
 We're in your care

I am the Earth  
 Together we stand  
 I am the Earth  
 This moment in time we share

I am the river flowing  
 We are the children growing  
 I am the desert dry  
 You are the place we live

I am the four winds blowing  
 We are the seed you're sowing  
 I am the sunset sky  
 We are the life you give  
 I am the forest breathing  
 We will be your voice  
 I am the storm clouds gathering  
 We will make the choice

**CHORUS**

We share the future  
 Stand side by side  
 One Earth, one people  
 We'll turn the tide  
 And in the future  
 They'll say with pride  
 One Earth, one people  
 We turned the tide

Side by side

- Prayer

**The True Peace**

*Black Elk, Oglala Sioux & Spiritual Leader (1863 - 1950)*

The first peace, which is the most important,  
 is that which comes within the souls of people  
 when they realize their relationship,  
 their oneness, with the universe and all its powers,  
 and when they realize that at the center  
 of the universe dwells the Great Spirit,  
 and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us.  
 This is the real peace, and the others are but reflections of this.  
 The second peace is that which is made between two individuals,  
 and the third is that which is made between two nations.  
 But above all you should understand that there can never  
 be peace between nations until there is known that true peace,  
 which, as I have often said, is within the souls of men.

- Benediction  
(Cherokee Prayer Blessing)

May the Warm Winds of Heaven  
Blow softly upon your house.  
May the Great Spirit  
Bless all who enter there.  
May your Mocassins  
Make happy tracks  
in many snows,  
and may the Rainbow  
Always touch your shoulder.

## Freedom Service

- Opening  
Have the group stand in a circle.  
Present the colors.
- Invocation  
Welcome to all who join us this morning. Let us give thanks for our time together, this glorious weather, the friendship and fellowship we have shared and the memories we have made. As we enjoy the freedom of nature today we going to reflect on the writings of two of the great men without whom we would not be this far in our journey to freedom for all.

Abraham Lincoln our 16<sup>th</sup> President, the master politician that held our country together during the civil war. He led us to the moral decision to break the bonds of slavery. His life was taken from us because of his efforts to further freedom for those enslaved for so many generations.

Let us read from one of his greatest speeches The Gettysburg Address.

- Opening Reading  
The Gettysburg Address (November 19, 1863)

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

Martin Luther King, Jr. clergyman, activist, and civil rights leader jarred the American consciousness to attention bringing to the forefront racial inequality that had gone on way to long setting the stage for civil rights legislation that changed this country forever.

Dr. King's most important speech "I Have a Dream" was delivered on August 28, 1963 in front of the Lincoln Memorial to more than a million people. Let us listen to an excerpt from "I Have a Dream"

- Reading  
I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.  
I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."  
I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "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 mountainside, let freedom ring."

- Responsive Reading

Please join us in the response reading

Leader: Let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire.

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York.

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado!

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California!

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring for all my brothers and sister.

All: Let freedom ring.

Leader: Let freedom ring that we may end all lines that separate us as a people.

All: Let freedom ring.

- (Song) Please join me in singing My country, 'tis of thee'  
*Lyrics by Samuel Francis Smith*

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 fills  
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

- Reading  
"And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"
- Song

**None Of Us Are Free**  
*Lyrics by Solomon Burke*

Well you better listen my sister's and brothers  
'Cause if you do you can hear  
There are voices still calling across the years  
And they're all crying across the ocean, and they're cryin' across the land  
And they will till we all come to understand

None of us are free, none of us are free  
None of us are free, one of us are chained  
None of us are free

And there are people still in darkness, and they just can't see the light  
If you don't say it's wrong then that says it right  
We got try to feel for each other, let our brother's know that we care

Got to get the message, send it out loud and clear

None of us are free, none of us are free  
None of us are free, one of us are chained  
None of us are free

It's a simple truth we all need, just to hear and to see  
None of us are free, one of us is chained, none of us are free  
Now I swear your salvation isn't too hard to find  
None of us can find it on our own  
We've got to join together in spirit, heart and mind  
So that every soul who's suffering will know they're not alone

None of us are free, none of us are free  
None of us are free, one of us are chained  
None of us are free

If you just look around you, your gonna see what I say  
'Cause the world is getting smaller each passing day  
Now it's time to start making changes, and it's time for us all to realize  
That the truth is shining bright right before our eyes

None of us are free, none of us are free  
None of us are free, one of us are chained  
None of us are free

...

- Prayer  
**Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,  
Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;  
To be understood, as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love.

- Benediction  
All join hands in a circle. Let us remember how far we have come as people. But our journey is not completed. We still have far to go until all our brothers and sisters are truly free. Let us go forth with open minds.