The following Celebration for the Home provides an antiphon and a prayer for each room of your house. Move from room to room saying the prayers, then return to the entrance to say the Blessing of the Home. Consider “chalking your door,” writing the symbols + 20 C M B 24 + on the frame above your door (or elsewhere on the outside of your home). The numbers indicate the year and the initials or the traditional names of the magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. (Adapted from *Celebration for a Home*, Book of Occasional Services)

**To Begin**

*We suggest starting the service in the entryway of your home. Take a moment to center yourself, then begin with the prayers below. Proceed to pray in and for the spaces of your home. Create prayers as needed for additional spaces not included in this service. At the end of the Celebration for a Home, you will find a prayer for chalking your door.*

Almighty and everlasting God, grant to this home the grace of your presence, that you may be known to be the inhabitant of this dwelling, and the defender of this household; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**At the Entrance**

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come into the house, and eat with you, and you with me.

Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, you are Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end: Send us, your servants, out from this place on many errands, be our constant companion in the way, and welcome us upon our return, so that coming and going we may be sustained by your presence, O Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Study or Library**

Teach us, O Lord, where wisdom is to be found, and show us the place of understanding.

Let us pray.

O God of truth, eternal ground of all that is, beyond space and time yet within them, transcending all things yet pervading them: Show yourself to us, for we go about in ignorance; reveal yourself to us, for it is you that we seek, O Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**In a Bedroom**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Let us pray.

O God of life and love, the true rest of your people: Sanctify to us, your servants, our hours of rest and refreshment, our sleeping and our waking; and grant that, strengthened by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we may rise to serve you all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**In a Child’s Room**

Jesus said, Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to those like them belongs the kingdom of heaven.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, your Son our Savior took young children into his arms and blessed them: Embrace [name(s) of the child(ren) whose room this is] with your unfailing love, protect [him/her/them] from all danger, and bring [him/her/them] in safety to each new day, until [he/she/they] greet(s) with joy the great day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Guest Room**

Do not neglect to show hospitality, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Let us pray.

Loving God, you have taught us to welcome one another as Christ welcomed us: Bless those who from time to time share the hospitality of this home. May your fatherly care shield them, the love of your dear Son preserve them from all evil, and the guidance of your Holy Spirit keep them in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Bathroom**

I will sprinkle you with clean water, and you will be cleansed.

Let us pray.

O holy God, in the incarnation of your Son our Lord you made our flesh the instrument of your self-revelation: Give us a proper respect and reverence for our mortal bodies, keeping them clean and fair, whole and sound; that, glorifying you in them, we may confidently await our being clothed upon with spiritual bodies, when that which is mortal is transformed by life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Workroom or Workshop**

Many there are who rely upon their hands and are skillful in their own work.

Let us pray.

O God, your blessed Son worked with his hands in the carpenter shop in Nazareth: Be present, we pray, with those who work in this place, that, laboring as workers together with you, they may share the joy of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In the Kitchen**

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the Name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, you supply every need of ours according to your great riches: Bless the hands that work in this place, and give us grateful hearts for daily bread; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Dining Room or Area**

The living God gave you from heaven rain and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O Lord, King of the universe, for you give us food and drink to sustain our lives: Make us grateful for all your mercies, and mindful of the needs of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**In a Terrace or Garden**

As the earth puts forth its blossom, or bushes in a garden burst into flower, so shall the Lord God make righteousness and praise blossom before all the nations.

Let us pray.

Jesus, our good Companion, on many occasions you withdrew with your friends for quiet and refreshment: Be present with your servants in this place, to which they come for fellowship and recreation; and make of it, we pray, a place of serenity and peace; in your Name we ask it. Amen.

**In the Living Room or Family Room**

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when God’s people live together in unity!

Let us pray.

Give your blessing, Lord, to all who share this room, that they may be knit together in fellowship here on earth, and joined with the communion of your saints in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing of the Home**

*When the procession has returned to the living room, the leader completes the blessing of the home as follows:*

The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness tranquility and trust for ever. My people will abide in secure dwellings and in quiet resting places.

Let us pray.

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love [to each other and] to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us; and preserve us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

**Prayer for Chalking the Door**

*Mark the doorway with symbols (+ 20 C M B 24 +) in chalk blessed with this prayer:*

Loving God, bless this chalk which you have created, that it may be helpful to your people; and grant that through the invocation of your most Holy Name that we who use it in faith to write upon the door of our home the names of your holy ones Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, may receive health of body and protection of soul for all who dwell in or visit our home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.