



Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church

Mooreville, North Carolina
www.saint-patricks.org

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MEDITATION AND PRAYER

*No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice.
My body rests in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead
or allow your holy one to rot in the grave.
You will show me the way of life,
granting me the joy of your presence
and the pleasures of living with you forever.
—Psalm 16:9-11*

Often the fears and difficulties of this life fill our prayers with all kinds of concerns that center on ourselves. In this prayer, David described what it meant for him to enter God's presence. No longer did he have to be concerned about protecting and defending himself, for his loving God was his protector. Entering the Lord's presence released him from self-absorption to a joyful celebration of the King. For in prayer, David encountered one who was so awesome, yet comforting, that he focused not on himself but on his Creator. The joy of God's presence should bring our lives into perspective and supply the power to continue serving the Lord in this life. Ask God to fill life with his presence.

Prayer for the week: *Lord, grant me the joy of your presence ...*