

A Study of the Divine Service
Worship: What It Is & Why We Do It

Handout 4

Invocation

Matthew 28:18-20 – God’s Triune Name

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go ¹⁹ therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

Romans 6:3-4 – Baptized into Christ’s Death and Resurrection

³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

1 Peter 2:24 – Jesus Died that We Might Die to Sin and Live to Righteousness

[Christ] ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

1 Corinthians 8:5-6 – One True God

⁵ For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), ⁶ yet for us *there is* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*.

Matthew 18:20 – Gathering in Jesus’ Name

²⁰ For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

Exodus 20:24 – God’s Name Equals God’s Presence

²⁴ An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I record My name I will come to you, and I will bless you.

Genesis 1:1-3 – The Triune God Creates the World

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

1 Corinthians 15:17 – The Christian is a New Creation

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Proverbs 18:10 – God’s Name is Strong and Safe

¹⁰ The name of the Lord *is* a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are ¹⁰ safe.

5. Confession and Absolution

Exodus 3:5 – God Tells Moses that He is Standing on Holy Ground

⁵ Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground.”

Isaiah 6:1-7 – Isaiah Recognizes His Sinfulness in Yahweh's Holy Presence

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy *is* the Lord of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!" ⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ So I said: "Woe *is* me, for I am ^a undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts."

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth *with it*, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

Luke 5:8 – Peter Recognizes His Own Sinfulness in Jesus' Presence

⁸ When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"

Isaiah 64:6 – All have Sinned

⁶ But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Psalms 130:3 – No One Can Stand before God

³ If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Psalms 51:1-2 – Admittance of Sin and Cry for Mercy and Forgiveness

Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.

Luke 18:13-14 – Recognize Sinful Condition, Plead for Mercy, and Receive Forgiveness

¹³ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

1 John 1:8-9 – Confession and Absolution

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

John 20:23 – Absolution

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained."

1 Peter 1:2 – The Triune God's Work of Redemption

² elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

John 20:21-23 – Christ Gives Authority to Forgive Sins

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."
²² And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained."