

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

**The Prayer of the Church**

This prayer is called the Prayer of the Church for in it the royal priesthood of all believers (Christians), in God's presence, **does its priestly work of making "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving for all men** , for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way" (1 Tim. 2:1). This Prayer includes:

- Thanksgiving and praise for the blessings of God given in the Word which the congregation has heard.
- Prayers for the whole Church.
- The nation.
- The world.
- Those in need.
- Special concerns of the parish.
- Thanksgiving for the faithful departed.

**1 Timothy 2:1-2 – Prayer for all people and leaders**

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

**Acts 2:42 – Early worship included prayers**

<sup>42</sup>And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and the fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers.

**Ephesians 6:17-20 – Prayer for All the Saints and for the preaching of the Gospel**

<sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—<sup>19</sup> and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly

to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

### **Romans 15:30-32 – Pray for ministers**

<sup>30</sup> Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, <sup>31</sup> that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, <sup>32</sup> that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you.

### **Philippians 4:6 – Pray to God about Everything**

<sup>6</sup> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

### **Romans 8:26-27 – The Holy Spirit interceded for us**

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. <sup>27</sup> Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

## **10. The Service of Holy Communion**

### **The Preface**

**The Preface and Proper Preface are a time of giving thanks before the Lord's Supper.**

### **Lamentations 3:40-42 – Lift up our hearts to God that He may make them repentant hearts**

<sup>40</sup> Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the LORD; <sup>41</sup> Let us lift our hearts and hands to God in heaven. <sup>42</sup> We have transgressed and rebelled; You have not pardoned.

### **Luke 21:28 – Look to God for our redemption**

<sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.”

**Psalm 86:4-5 – Lift up your hearts to the Lord for He is loving and forgiving**

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice the soul of Your servant, for to You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. <sup>5</sup> For You, Lord, *are* good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You.

**1 Corinthians 11:23-25 – Jesus gave thanks before eating and drinking the Lord's Supper**

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>25</sup> In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Hebrews 13:15 – Through Christ we continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God.**

<sup>15</sup> Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

**Colossians 3:17 – Do everything in Jesus' name giving thanks to God the Father**

<sup>17</sup> And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

**Isaiah 51:3 – The LORD turns our wilderness into Eden, a place of joy, gladness, and thanksgiving.**

<sup>3</sup> For the LORD will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

**Psalm 34:18 – Our hearts are broken and our spirits crushed, but the LORD is near to save.**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit.

**Hebrews 12:22 – Christians join the angels in the heavenly festival.**

<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,