



## SERVICE OF PRAYER & PRAISE

This evening we gather to hear God's Word and to respond with our prayers and praise. Our prayers flow directly out of God's Word. It is God who graciously invites us to pray, when He says: *"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* (I Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV)

(**Bold type** = congregation)

**PRAISE** (Recognizes God for who He is)

*"You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;*

***I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,  
in a dry and parched land where there is no water.***

*I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.*

***Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.***

***I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.*** " (Psalm 63:1-4, NIV)

+Time of Praise: Offer God your praises in **songs** as we enter a time of prayer.

**CONFESSION** (Clears away roadblocks to our prayer)

*"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.*

***Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.***

*For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.*

***Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.....***

*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

*Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.*

***Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.***

***Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.***" (Psalm 51:1-4, 10-12, NIV)

+Time of Confession: Humbly confess your sins silently before God, confident in His promise of forgiveness.

**INTERCESSION** (Pray for others, particularly those who don't know Jesus)

*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".* (I Timothy 2:1-2, NIV)

***"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*** (Matt 9:37-38, NIV)

+Time of Prayer: Pray for our church and all who are in need—for family, friends, the grieving, the sick, the military, missionaries, those in danger or trouble, those who have no one to pray for them.

**PETITION** (Pray for ourselves and our needs.)

*"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."* (Matthew 7:7, NIV)

***"Give us today our daily bread."*** (Matthew 6:6, NIV)

*"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.*

***And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven."*** (James 5:13-15, NIV)

+Time of Prayer: Pray to God for your personal needs.



**THANKSGIVING** (While “praise” recognizes God for who He is, “thanksgiving” recognizes God for specific things He has done.)

*“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”* (Psalm 100:4)

***“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”*** (Philippians 4:6)

+Time of Prayer: Lift up those things and people you are grateful for in your life.

**CLOSING – OUR LORD’S PRAYER** (Silence for reflection after each petition)

<i>Our Father who art in heaven,</i>	(What does it mean that I address God as “Father”?)
<i>Hallowed be thy name.</i>	(How do I make God’s Name holy?)
<i>Thy kingdom come,</i>	(Am I willing to let go of control and let God rule my life?)
<i>Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.</i>	(Am I willing to follow God’s will and let go of my own?)
<i>Give us this day our daily bread.</i>	(Do I trust that God will always take care of me?)
<i>And forgive us our trespasses,</i>	(Who do I need to forgive?)
<i>as we forgive those who trespass against us.</i>	(Whom do I need to ask for forgiveness?)
<i>And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:</i>	(Who or what tempts you? How will you overcome?)
<i>For thine is the kingdom, and the power,</i>	(Do I praise God with my life?)
<i>and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</i>	

**SINGING**

*“Worship the LORD with gladness;*  
***come before him with joyful songs.*** (Psalm 100:2, NIV)

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things;  
**his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.”** (Psalm 98:1, NIV)

+Time of singing

Go in peace, serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**