

A TIME OF PRAYER
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Midlothian, Virginia
October 25, 2011

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Our form of prayer this evening flows out of our ACTS of worship and praise. We take time to “listen” to God’s Word and “pray” as His beloved children, confident in the promises of God to hear and answer our prayers.

ADORATION (We praise God for who He is.)

PRAISING IN SONG

LISTENING (read responsively)

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is He who made us, and we are His!; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations. (Psalm 100, NIV)

PRAYING - What blessings in your life and at Good Shepherd cause you to praise God?

CONFESSION (We honestly and openly confess our sins.)

LISTENING (read responsibly)

*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)

CONFESSIONING (silently) - What do you need to confess before God? Who do you need to forgive?

RECEIVING A WORD OF FORGIVENESS

THANKSGIVING (Thanksgiving recognizes God for all that He has done.)

LISTENING (read responsively)

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

(Psalm 100:4, NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

(Philippians 4:6, NIV)

PRAYING - Who and what are you grateful for in your life?



SUPPLICATION (We make our requests known before God for ourselves and others. Read in unison)

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV)
Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.(Luke 11:9, NIV)

PRAYING - What and who do we need to pray for in our congregation, government, community and family?

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>	

PRAISING IN SONG

Rev. Arthur Umbach
October 2011

