

# Week 4: Prayer Service

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**L** - Said by Leader    **C** - Said by Congregation    **A** - All

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## OPENING

**L** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**C** **Amen**

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in thee heights!**

**L** Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

**C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

**L** Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

**C** **Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

**L** We join with all the church in confessing

**A** ***I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth***

**L** What does this mean?

**C** **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

**He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.**

**L** Praise the LORD

**C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

**L** Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

**C** **And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**

**L** Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,

**C** **fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!**

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**



# Gospel Lesson

Matthew 6:25-34

**L** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God

**L** Let us Pray

**A** *Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for all you have created. You have blessed the earth, making it fruitful, and through it you have provided for all of our creaturely needs. Bless this time as we gather and attend to what you have created. Create within us a spirit of mindfulness and thankfulness. Amen.*

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**L** Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**C** Beasts and all livestock, creeping things, and flying birds!

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

*Dismissal for time of prayer and observation.*

**During your time of prayer and observation consider:**

- What do you notice that you have never noticed before?
- In what ways are we dependent upon creation here in this area?
- How does this experience “feel”? Is it easy? Hard? Why?

## CLOSING

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**L** Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

**C** Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

**L** Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

**C** He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

**L** Praise the LORD!

**C** Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**L** In the prayer taught to us by our Lord, he commands us to pray,

**C** Give us this day our daily bread.



- L** What does this mean?
- C** **God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.**
- L** What is meant by daily bread?
- C** **Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.**
- L** Let us then give thanks to God for our daily bread. We pray. Almighty Father, maker of heaven and earth, for the food we have eaten today and the clothes we are wearing let us give thanks:
- C** **We thank you for this, our daily bread.**
- L** For the building we worship in let us give thanks:
- C** **We thank you for this, our daily bread.**

*(Petitions may be offered by the people; at the end of each petition the people pray, "We thank you for this, our daily bread.")*

- L** For all of these things we give you thanks praying in the words given to us by your Son our Lord.

*The Lord's Prayer is said by all*

**A** ***Our Father, who art in heaven...***

- L** Let us bless the Lord,
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

- L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C** **Amen.**

- L** Praise the LORD!
- C** **Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**