All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer! Can we find a Friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our Refuge--Take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer; In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there. Amen.

#### BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Cong: Amen!

#### SILENT PRAYER.



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## The Order of Worship

**OPENING PRAYER:** We ask the Lord's blessings on our worship.

HYMN: #5....."Lord, Open Thou My Heart to Hear"

Lord, open Thou my heart to hear And through Thy Word to me draw near; Let me Thy Word e'er pure retain, Let me Thy child and heir remain.

Thy Word doth deeply move the heart, Thy Word doth perfect health impart, Thy Word my soul with joy doth bless, Thy Word brings peace and happiness.

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Shall glory, praise, and honor be Now and throughout eternity. Amen.

#### **INVOCATION**

*P:* In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Cong: Amen.** 

#### **CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION**

*P:* God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. Cong: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

#### O wondrous Love, to bleed and die, To bear the cross and shame, That guilty sinners such as I Might plead Thy gracious Name! Amen.

#### THE SERMON: Luke 18:1-8

(ESV) And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. (2) He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. (3) And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' (4) For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, (5) yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" (6) And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. (7) And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? (8) I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

# **What Prayer Changes**

**THE PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER:** We offer our petitions to the Lord and join in the prayer our Lord taught us.

**HYMN:** #457...... "What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the

right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: #456..... "Approach, My Soul, the Mercy Seat"

Approach, my soul, the mercy-seat, Where Jesus answers prayer; There humbly fall before His feet, For none can perish there.

Thy promise is my only plea, With this I venture nigh; Thou callest burdened souls to Thee, And such, O Lord, am I.

Bowed down beneath a load of sin, By Satan sorely pressed, By wars without and fears within, I come to Thee for rest.

Be Thou my Shield and Hiding-place, That, sheltered near Thy side, I may my fierce Accuser face And tell him Thou hast died. *P*: *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.* 

Cong: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*P:* Then let us confess our sins to God in prayer and seek His forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Cong: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature and have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

*P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in every need. In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord.* 

Cong: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P:* O Lord God, heavenly Father, we humbly confess to You that because of the corruption of sin within us we have not deserved the least of Your mercies but only Your divine judgment. Yet we thank You that You have poured out upon us such great blessings as we have enjoyed in this land of ours, chief among them is the freedom to proclaim Your Word that we poor sinners might know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You sent to save us. Preserve us by Your Word that in all the trials of life and oppositions to Your truth we might be found faithful until death and receive, according to the promise of Your Son, the crown of life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit—one God, forever and ever.

#### Cong: Amen.

#### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 38:1-14

(ESV) In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus savs the LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die, you shall not recover." (2) Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD, (3) and said, "Please, O LORD, remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. (4) Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah: (5) "Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will add fifteen years to your life. (6) I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and will defend this city. (7) "This shall be the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do this thing that he has promised: (8) Behold, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps." So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined. (9) A writing of Hezekiah king of Judah, after he had been sick and had recovered from his sickness: (10) I said, In the middle of my days I must depart; I am consigned to the gates of Sheol for the rest of my years. (11) I said, I shall not see the LORD, the LORD in the land of the living; I shall look on man no more among the inhabitants of the world. (12) My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me like a shepherd's tent; like a weaver I have rolled up my life; he cuts me off from the loom; from day to night you bring me to an end; (13) I calmed myself until morning; like a lion he breaks all my bones; from day to night you bring

me to an end. (14) Like a swallow or a crane I chirp; I moan like a dove. My eyes are weary with looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed; be my pledge of safety!

#### SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 8:18-28

(ESV) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. (19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope (21) that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. (22) For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. (23) And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (24) For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? (25) But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. (26) Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (27) And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (28) And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the virgin Mary,