

# THE ADORATION (2)

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“To worship the Lord is—in the world’s eyes—a waste of time. It is, indeed, a royal waste of time, but a waste nonetheless. By engaging in it, we don’t accomplish anything useful in our society’s terms.”

Marva Dawn, *Royal Waste of Time*, 1

1. Theology that forms.
2. Preparing our hearts before.
3. The Call to Worship. Calling us to join in with the worship built into creation.
4. Adoration is all about God. We are responding and praising.

## (Testimony).

Testimonies are sometimes engaged to give praise to God for the good that He is doing in our congregation and to celebrate what we want to see more of in maturing believers. *These are acts of adoration, not announcements.*

1. What God is doing. *God is act work in the life of his church, we would be amazed! These are corporate.*
2. What God has done. *Fruit through the ministry.*
3. How Christ is *being* Lord. *Why we do what we do, connecting our worship to our work. Jesus is ruling.*

You: praise. Get it. And get in on it. *Do your part. Always do your part.*

## (Reading).

Corporate readings from the Heidelberg Catechism, Apostle’s Creed, book of Common Prayer or Book of Common Worship, serve to focus our minds and hearts and to unite them with the church across history.

1. Confessions.
2. Creeds.
3. Catechism.

You: Adore, confess his worth with the church – local and universal.

## The Pastoral Prayer.

“In the last century the great English preacher Charles Spurgeon did not mind sharing his pulpit: others sometimes preached in his home church even when he was present. But when it came to the “pastoral prayer,” if he was present, he reserved that part of the service for himself. This decision did not arise out of any priestly conviction that his prayers were more efficacious than others. Rather, it arose from his love for his people, his high view of prayer, his conviction that public prayer should not only intercede with God but also instruct and edify and encourage the saints.”

D. A. Carson, *A Call to Spiritual Reformation*, 34

The Pastoral Prayer is offered in praise of this God, on behalf of the needs of our congregation and in preparation for the offering that follows. *What a pastor is for the church and why a pastor should pray.*

1. Pastor as representative, leading congregation before the throne of grace.
2. Pastor to labor.
3. Pastor to intercede. Cf Horton.

Puritan pastoral prayers changed the world. Prayers are a political act. Jesus is Lord. We need God to act. We need to worship, be shaped by worship. We need to repent of our sin. We need to believe and submit to God. The pastoral prayer is a spiritual battle with the armies of God led by their representative.

### **Collect:**

1. Invocation/ address - *Almighty God*
2. Acknowledgement - *unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid,*
3. Request/ petition - *cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,*
4. Aspiration - *that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name,*
5. Pleading - *. through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

You: Adore God. Join in with the prayer, interact with it. Say Amen.

### **Prayers of the people? BCP 383**

“In the pastoral prayer, the minister intercedes on behalf of the church around the world, the secular rulers, and then on behalf of his own flock.”

Michal Horton, *A Better Way*, 155

## Offering.

We receive an offering from the congregation as an act of gratitude for what God has provided to our families and so that more good can be accomplished with our pooled monies that otherwise might. Offerings are free will for attenders and expected for church members.

1. As an act of thanks for provision.
2. As an act of faith in future provision.
3. 10%? At least.

You: Adore. Receive. Give, regularly and then more. *We kill covetousness, entitlement, self-centeredness.*

### **What should be different on Sunday?**

1. Adore Him! *Be ready and attentive to the purpose of your presence. God demands and deserves praise.*
2. Make the proper connections: theologically, historically. *A more substantial adoration matters.*
3. Join in: the testimony, the readings, the prayers. *Engage! Let Leslie feel charged.*
4. Say Amen to the prayers. *A-men! With every amen. Make the walls shake this Sunday.*
5. Give. *Kill and eat!*

“There is no separation between the liturgy and the church. To be church is to be a worshiping community making a normative response to the revelation of the triune God.”

Simon Chan, *Liturgical Theology*, 42

# The Prayers of the People

Prayer is offered with intercession for

The Universal Church, its members, and its mission  
The Nation and all in authority  
The welfare of the world  
The concerns of the local community  
Those who suffer and those in any trouble  
The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate)

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s) \_\_\_\_\_; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_ ], Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

I ask your prayers for \_\_\_\_\_ .  
I ask your thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_ .

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored [especially \_\_\_\_\_ whom we remember today].  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*