

“Confession and Petition”

HOLY LORD,

I have sinned times without number,
and been guilty of pride and unbelief,
of failure to find thy mind in thy Word,
of neglect to seek thee in my daily life.

My transgressions and short-comings
present me with a list of accusations,

But I bless thee that they will not stand against me,
for all have been laid on Christ;

Go on to subdue my corruptions,
and grant me grace to live above them.

Let not the passions of the flesh nor lustings
of the mind bring my spirit into subjection,
but do thou rule over me in liberty and power.

I thank thee that many of my prayers
have been refused —

I have asked amiss and do not have,
I have prayed from lusts and been rejected,
I have longed for Egypt and been given a
wilderness.

Go on with thy patient work,
answering ‘no’ to my wrongful prayers,
and fitting me to accept it.

Purge me from every false desire,
every base aspiration,
everything contrary to thy rule.

I thank thee for thy wisdom and thy love,
for all the acts of discipline to which I am subject,
for sometimes putting me into the furnace
to refine my gold and remove my dross.

No trial is so hard to bear as a sense of sin.
If thou shouldst give me choice to live
in pleasure and keep my sins,
or to have them burnt away with trial,
give me sanctified affliction.

Deliver me from every evil habit,
every accretion of former sins,
everything that dims the brightness
of thy grace in me,
everything that prevents me taking delight
in thee.

Then I shall bless thee, God of Jeshurun,
for helping me to be upright.

PRAYER SERVICE

Praying from God’s Attributes

Opening Song of Praise “Holy, Holy, Holy”

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Preparation for Prayer

Read over and reflect on “The Attributes of God” page.

Praising God in Prayer

- Scripture reading: Exodus 34:5-8
- Prayers of praise for God character and saving deeds
- Consider “Attributes of God” handout

Confessing to God in Prayer

- Scripture reading: Isaiah 6:1-7
- Consider how God’s attributes expose our sin (lack of holiness, faith, and love)
- Private confession
- Prayer of confession from *The Valley of Vision* (see back)
- Public confession

Song of Assurance “It Is Well with My Soul”

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well (It is well) with my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Thanking God in Prayer

- Scripture reading
- Church Thanksgiving (ministry-related)
- Public Thanksgiving

Song of Praise “Doxology”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above you heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Petitioning God in Prayer

- For our ministry partners
- For our church (ministries)
- For ourselves (members)
- For others

Song of Response “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not,
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Affirmation of Faith

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
(Ephesians 4:4-6)