



Prayer Book Worship

By the Very Rev. Dr. Paul F. M. Zahl

Why use a book when worshipping God?

We use a book because the inherited wisdom of the past is often more trustworthy than the moods and opinions of the present moment. Passed down through generations and revised carefully, *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979) has been seasoned by time and use.

Moreover, the prayer book is full of the Bible. Every prayer, every “collect” (or prayer for a specific occasion), every address and verse is imprinted by the Bible. It is Scripture after Scripture connected and held closely together for our benefit.

We do not wish to claim that prayer book worship supplants or even should supplant “free” worship. We do wish to pass on to our children, however, that Bible-grounded “Common Prayer” has the trustworthiness of a legacy experienced in life and tested by centuries of use.

The prayer book is God-centered and not man-centered.

A feature of prayer book worship that commands our attention is its focus on God.

The prayer book has the power to lift us out of ourselves, to focus us on God, and then to return us to ourselves with new perspective, strength, and truth.

How did we get it?

Where did the prayer book come from?

The Book of Common Prayer came to us as a direct result of the Protestant Reformation in England. Until that event, which began in the 1520s, church services were conducted by priests who had been trained to manage a complicated stack of folios and oversized books according to a prescribed order. Everything was in Latin and the average person could not even read English.

Thomas Cranmer and the early Protestant Reformers sought to put the *liturgy*, or public worship, into the common language of the people, therefore making it “common prayer.” Cranmer and the Reformers cut out

IN THIS EDITION

this quarter investigates

**The Book of
Common Prayer**

**Coming up on the
Church Calendar**

**Anglican Family
Edition:**
**Discover the
Prayer Book as a Family**

Lighting the Lamp:
**Anglican Activities
for Toddlers and
Preschoolers**

Lighting the Lamp:
**Anglican Activities for
Elementary Students**

Lighting the Lamp:
**Anglican Activities
for Youth**

Uniting in Prayer

**Creed and Prayer
Reference Sheet**

and recast a lot of old material to make it more biblical in its images and its citations. In 1549, what came out was a thoroughly Scripture-grounded, English-language book, which was also short.

Through 450 years, the original 1549 Book of Common Prayer has gone through several revisions, none of which has changed its content substantially.

The prayer book's star.

The light shed by prayer book worship in the Anglican/Episcopal tradition is considerable. Its light is in direct proportion to its magnificent direct use of the Bible.

Using it is a sign of humility (we didn't make up the Gospel!), wisdom (always check what wise people did before deciding in favor of your own wisdom), and God-centered faith. Use the prayer book and teach your Sunday school students, your children, and your grandchildren how to use it. Over time, it will become part of their splendid foundation also.

Coming Up on the Church Calendar

Early Christians organized their year to remember and celebrate the important events of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, and the beginning of the Church. For more information, consult *The Book of Common Prayer*. Here are a few events that occur this quarter.

St. Michael and All Angels takes place on **September 29**. This is the day that we thank God for His angels who serve Him as messengers. St. Michael is an *archangel*, or an angel that leads other angels, mentioned in Revelation 12:7–9. The traditional color used in churches is white for purity.

St. James of Jerusalem is celebrated on **October 23**. James was the brother of Jesus, but he did not come to faith until after Jesus' death and resurrection. James became the Bishop of the Church in Jerusalem. Known as James the Just, James supported Paul's ministry by allowing Gentiles who believed in Jesus to join the Church without taking on all the traditions of the Jewish people at that time. The traditional color used in churches to remember James is red for martyrdom.

Thanksgiving Day—"November 26," is a national holiday in the United States. Thanksgiving became part of the Church Calendar in the United States in 1789. On Thanksgiving, we reflect on our dependence on God for all of our needs, and give Him thanks for His care and the people He brings into our lives. The traditional color used in churches is purple for royalty.

Anglican Family Edition

Family Discoveries Praying as a Family

Portions taken from "The Family's Prayer Book" by David Mills

As you get back into the groove of school and life settles into a routine once more, consider adding a new family tradition. Spend time as a family discovering *The Book of Common Prayer*. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Use the next Sunday's collect or the next feast day's collect as a grace at meals.
- Use the lectionary for a family devotional reading. Read the lessons for the next Sunday, either divided into seven short daily readings or repeated each day, depending on your children's needs.
- At bedtime, read the collect of the day and say, the Lord's Prayer together, and perhaps the "General Thanksgiving" from Morning Prayer.
- Memorize a short collect as a family.
- Have your children lead your family in a prayer from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

These are just a few of the many ways to use the prayer book as a family. Expand, combine, and personalize these suggestions to create a special time with your family.

Resources to Get You Started

Be sure to have a copy of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer* available for your family. Once children are in second or third grade, they will need to have their own prayer book to use. Check out [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for copies of the prayer book. A free copy of the prayer book can be found online at http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/formatted_1979.htm. *The Book of Common Prayer* iOS and Android apps are available in the *App Store* and on *Google Play*. There are also audiobook versions on *Audible* and *Spotify*.

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Toddlers In Your Toddler/2 Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), copies (one per child) of St. Michael Coloring Sheet on page 11 of this supplement, coloring utensils

■ Bring in several copies of *The Book of Common Prayer*. Let your toddlers look at and touch them. **This is *The Book of Common Prayer*. Sometimes we use the prayers in this book when we talk to God.**

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. As the children color, tell the story of Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26–38) and explain the role angels play as God's messengers. **Angels serve God. In the Bible, they give God's messages to people.**

October Activities

Materials: Copies of the St. James of Jerusalem Coloring Sheet on page 12 of this supplement for each child, coloring utensils

■ Celebrate **St. James of Jerusalem** on Sunday, October 18. **James was in charge of the church in Jerusalem. He agreed that anyone could come to church.** Have the children color the picture.

■ Through the month of October, continue exploring the prayer book. Go through the order of worship using the hand motions. Repeat several times.

When we are in church, this is what we do:

- **We pray to God** [*fold your hands and bow your head*].
- **We tell God we love Him** [*cross your arms over your chest like you are hugging yourself*].
- **We say that we believe** [*stand up straight and state "We believe" loudly*].
- **We say we're sorry when we do bad things** [*look up to Heaven and say "We're sorry"*].
- **We pray to God again** [*bow your head, fold your hands in a praying gesture, and say "Amen"*].

November Activities

Materials: Flashlight, sheet, spray bottle of water

■ Celebrate Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 22. **We can thank God all the time. We're thankful when it is sunny outside** (shine the flashlight, be careful to avoid their eyes) **and we can play. We're thankful when it's windy outside** (wave the sheet up and down to create 'wind'). **And we're even thankful when it rains** (squirt them with the water).

■ Continue to investigate prayer with your toddlers. Have a class prayer time. Pray The Lord's Prayer (page 17 of this supplement). **Jesus gave us this prayer** (Luke 11:1–4).



ST. MICHAEL

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Elementary-Aged Students In Your Preschool Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), copies (one per child) of St. Michael Coloring Sheet on page 11 of this supplement, coloring utensils, glue sticks, white feathers

■ Bring in several copies of *The Book of Common Prayer*. Let your preschoolers look at and touch them. **This is *The Book of Common Prayer*. Sometimes we use the prayers in this book when we talk to God. *The Book of Common Prayer* has special words that we use in church.**

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. Have your children color the angel and decorate with the feathers. As the preschoolers work, tell the story of Mary's visit from the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26–38) and explain the role angels play as God's messengers. **Angels serve God. In the Bible, they give God's messages to people.**

October Activities

■ Celebrate **St. James of Jerusalem** on Sunday, October 18. **James was in charge of the church in Jerusalem. He agreed that anyone could come to church.** Mark off an area of your classroom to be Jerusalem. **This is Jerusalem.** Have one student play James and stand in Jerusalem. The rest of the students will stand outside. **James, go and find someone to bring to the church. Bring them to Jerusalem.** The person who is brought then goes and gets someone else. This continues until everyone has been welcomed into Jerusalem.

■ Through the month of October, continue exploring *The Book of Common Prayer*. Go through the order of worship using the hand motions.

When we are in church, this is what we do:

- **We pray to God** [fold your hands and bow your head].
- **We tell God we love Him** [cross your arms over your chest like you are hugging yourself].
- **We say that we believe** [stand up straight and state "We believe" loudly].
- **We say we're sorry when we do bad things** [look up to Heaven and say "We're sorry"].
- **We pray to God again** [bow your head, fold your hands in a praying gesture, and say "Amen"].

November Activities

Materials: Flashlight, sheet, spray bottle of water

■ Celebrate **Thanksgiving** on Sunday, November 22. **We can thank God all the time. We're thankful when it is sunny outside** (shine the flashlight, be careful to avoid their eyes) **and we can play. We're thankful when it's windy outside** (wave the sheet up and down to create 'wind'). **And we're even thankful when it rains** (squirt them with the water).

■ Continue to investigate prayer with your preschoolers by working to memorize The Lord's Prayer (page 17 of this supplement). Memorize one sentence every week, so that by the end of the month, your preschoolers will have the entire prayer memorized. **Jesus gave us this prayer** (Luke 11:1–4).

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Elementary-Aged Students In Your Early Elementary Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), copies (one per child) of St. Michael Coloring Sheet on page 11 of this supplement, coloring utensils, aprons or paint shirts, glitter glue (you can make or purchase this), white feathers

■ Bring in several copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979). Let your early elementary students examine them. **This is *The Book of Common Prayer*. Sometimes we use the prayers in this book when we talk to God. The prayer book has the special words that we say in church.**

- When you hear “The Peace of the Lord be with you,” what do you say and do?
- When you hear “Go forth in the Name of the Lord,” what do you say?
- When you hear “The Lord be with you,” what do you say?
- At the end of a prayer what does everyone say?

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. As the students work to color and decorate their angels, tell the story of Mary’s visit from the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:26–38) and the role of angels as God’s messengers. **In Bible-times, angels served God by giving messages to people. What was the angel’s message to Mary?**

November Activities

Materials: Several copies of page 15 of this supplement reproduced on heavy paper and cut out to use as patterns, fall-colored construction paper, scissors, a spray bottle of water, writing utensils, yarn, clip clothespins

■ This **Thanksgiving** craft will take two weeks. Have the children trace leaf patterns onto construction paper and then cut out the leaves. After the leaves have been cut out, spray both sides with water so that the entire leaf is damp. Instruct the kids to crumple the leaves and then smooth them out. It will take the leaves a few hours to dry so resume the activity next Sunday. Once the leaves are dry, have your students

October Activities

■ Celebrate **St. James of Jerusalem** on Sunday, October 18. **James was in charge of the church in Jerusalem. He agreed that anyone could come to church. We believe this too. In this tag game, people join together like we do in church.** Two people are “It.” They hold hands and chase people. Any person they catch joins the chain by linking hands. When another person is caught, the group can stay together or split 2 and 2. Groups must split in even numbers and can link together at will. This game is played until nobody is left standing alone.

■ Through the month of October, continue exploring the prayer book. Go through the order of worship with the children; explain what happens during each part of the service and the significance of each part.

- **The Collect:** a special prayer for the day
- **The Psalm:** a psalm from Scripture we sing or say to praise God
- **The Creed:** a statement we say to tell what we believe
- **Confession of Sin:** admitting to God our sin and telling Him we’re sorry
- **The Lord’s Prayer:** the prayer Jesus taught His disciples

write or draw something that they are thankful for on each leaf. Then, attach all the leaves to a length of yarn using clip clothespins. String the leaf banner across your classroom as a reminder to be thankful.

■ Finish up the quarter on *The Book of Common Prayer* by working to memorize The Lord’s Prayer (page 17 of this supplement). Memorize one sentence every week, so that by the end of the month your students will have the entire prayer memorized. **Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples** (Luke 11:1–4).

Reproduce and send home *Praying as a Family—Family Edition* (Page 3 of this supplement).

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Elementary-Aged Students In Your Elementary Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September

- Review the purpose and usefulness of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979).

Sometimes we use the prayers in *The Book of Common Prayer* when we talk to God. The prayer book is what is being used during the litany.

When you hear "The Peace of the Lord be with you," what do you say and do?

When you hear "Go forth in the Name of the Lord," what do you say?

When you hear "The Lord be with you," what do you say?

- Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. Separate your class into groups. Assign each group a passage in which an angel appears [Luke 1:5–25; Luke 1:26–38; Matthew 1:18–25; Acts 5:12–23; Acts 12:6–10]. Each group should read its story, prepare a skit, and act it out in front of the class.

October Activities

- Through the month of October, continue exploring *The Book of Common Prayer*. Go through the order of worship, asking your kids what happens during each part of the service. If they do not know, review each part with them and ask again a different week.

- **The Collect:** a special prayer for the day
- **The Psalm:** a psalm from Scripture we sing or say to praise God
- **The Creed:** a statement we say to tell what we believe
- **Confession of Sin:** admitting to God our sin and telling Him we're sorry
- **The Lord's Prayer:** the prayer Jesus taught His disciples

November Activities

Materials: Several copies of page 15 of this supplement reproduced on heavy paper and cut out, fall-colored construction paper, scissors, a spray bottle of water, writing utensils, yarn, clip clothespins

- This **Thanksgiving** craft will take two weeks. Have the children trace the leaf patterns onto construction paper and cut them out. After the leaves have been cut out, spray both sides with water so that the entire leaf is damp. Instruct the kids to crumple their leaves and then smooth them out. It will take the leaves a few hours to dry, so resume the activity next Sunday. Once the leaves are dry, have your students write or draw on each leaf something that they are thankful for. Attach all the leaves to a length of yarn using clothespins. String the banner across your classroom as a reminder to be thankful.

- Finish the quarter on *The Book of Common Prayer* by memorizing The Apostles' Creed (page 17 of this supplement). Break up the creed and memorize it piece by piece, so that by the end of the month your students will have the creed memorized.

Reproduce and send home *Praying as a Family—Family Edition* (Page 3 of this supplement).

HERO FOR CHRIST

(use on Sunday, October 22)



James Hannington

1847–1885

When James Hannington was a young man in England, a friend told him about how he came to know Jesus' forgiveness of sins. Soon, Hannington also became a follower of Jesus. Later, he would go to Africa to tell people about Jesus. After many adventures, he came home. Then Hannington was appointed a bishop and sent to Uganda in 1884.

But Hannington never got to Uganda. The King of Uganda hated Christians. While Hannington was traveling to Uganda, the king's men captured him and killed him. Later, other people would be killed for being Christians. But still, many people came to know Jesus. Today, there are millions of Christians in Uganda.

Hero for Christ: Activity

Materials: Copies of Hero for Christ: James' Journey (page 13 of this supplement) for each child, coloring utensils, scissors, glue

Have the children color the boat and the map. They can cut out the boat, glue the two sides together, and use it to trace the route.

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Elementary-Aged Students In Your Upper Elementary Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979)

■ Review the purpose and usefulness of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979). **Sometimes we use the prayer book to help us talk to God. We use it in our church service. It has been passed down from generation to generation. For over 450 years, it has been used by Anglicans around the world.** Have the students look through the book. Challenge them to find pieces of the liturgy that are commonly used at your church.

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. Separate your class into groups. Assign each group a passage in which an angel appears [Luke 1:5–25; Luke 1:26–38; Matthew 1:18–25; Acts 5:12–23; Acts 12:6–10]. Each group should read its story, prepare a skit, and act it out in front of the class.

November Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), colored cardstock, markers

■ Celebrate **Thanksgiving**. On pages 836–840 in *The Book of Common Prayer* are prayers of thanksgiving. Instruct your students to write their favorite prayer on a piece of cardstock to remind them to be thankful. As they work, discuss with them the following questions: **Do you ever forget to be thankful? Why do you think it is so easy to forget? Can we work together to remember to be thankful this year?**

■ Finish up the quarter on *The Book of Common Prayer* by memorizing The Apostles' Creed (page 17 of this supplement). Break up the creed and memorize it piece by piece, so that by the end of the month students will have the creed memorized.

October Activities

■ Through the month of October, continue exploring the prayer book. Go through the order of worship. Ask your students what happens during each part. If they do not know, review it with them and ask again a different week.

- **The Collect:** a special prayer for the day
- **The Sermon:** readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Gospels are assigned for each week
- **The Psalm:** a psalm from Scripture we sing or say to praise God
- **The Creed:** a statement we say to tell what we believe
- **Confession of Sin:** admitting to God our sin and telling Him we're sorry
- **The Lord's Prayer:** the prayer Jesus taught His disciples

HERO FOR CHRIST

(use on Sunday, October 15)



Samuel Schereschewsky 1831–1906

Samuel Schereschewsky was born in Lithuania, a small country in Europe. He knew how to read and write several languages, including Hebrew, Greek, German, English, Mandarin Chinese, and Wenli Chinese. He started writing Chinese Bible translations while he was a missionary. Schereschewsky was elected Bishop of Shanghai, China, in 1877. A few years later, he became very ill and was no longer able to use his legs. In fact, he was only able to use the middle finger on one hand. He spent the rest of his life translating the Bible into Chinese, typing around 2,000 words with his one good finger. His Bible translations are still used in China today.

Hero for Christ: Activity

Materials: Copies (one per student) of the God Is Love sheet (page 14 of this supplement), writing utensils, extra paper

Practice writing “God is love” in Mandarin Chinese together. Use the extra paper to practice if you wish.

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Youth In Your Middle School Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), writing utensils, paper

■ Review the purpose and usefulness of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979). **The first “prayer book” is found in Scripture. The Psalms served as a prayer book for the Jewish people in Jesus’ day. Jesus used the Psalms in the synagogue to worship His Father. *The Book of Common Prayer* follows Jesus’ example and assigns us a psalm to say or sing each Sunday. In 1549, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer put together the first prayer book. The word “common” is used because the prayers are coming from everyone in the church. Anglicans have used *The Book of Common Prayer* for over 450 years as a tool to help us communicate with God.** Have the students look through the book. Challenge them to find pieces of the liturgy that are commonly used at your church.

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. **The word *angelos* means messenger. How have you seen angels pictured in the media? The media often shows them differently than we read in Scripture. Revelation 12:7–12 and Genesis 28:10–17 are two of the places we find the activity of angels described in Scripture.** Divide your class into groups of three or four students. Group members should work together to draw a picture of what angels might do according to Scripture. Have each group present its angel drawing to the class, defending their portrayal.

October Activities

■ Through the month of October, continue exploring *The Book of Common Prayer*. Go through the order of worship. Ask your students what happens during each part of the service. If they do not know, review it with them and ask again another week.

- **The Collect:** a special prayer for the day
- **The Sermon:** readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Gospels are assigned for us to learn from
- **The Psalm:** a psalm from Scripture we sing or say to praise God
- **The Creed:** a statement we say to tell what we believe
- **Confession of Sin:** admitting to God our sin and telling Him we’re sorry
- **The Lord’s Prayer:** the prayer Jesus taught His disciples

■ Review The Lord’s Prayer and the Apostles’ Creed with your students. Then as an extra challenge, work together to memorize the Nicene Creed by splitting it into parts and doing a piece each week until they have learned it all. (All are on page 17 of this supplement.)

November Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), colored cardstock, markers

■ Celebrate **Thanksgiving**. On pages 836–840 in *The Book of Common Prayer* are prayers of thanksgiving. Instruct your students to write their favorite prayer on a piece of cardstock to remind them to be thankful. As they work, discuss with them the following questions: **Do you ever forget to be thankful? Why do you think it is so easy to forget? Can we work together to remember to be thankful this year?**

BACK IN TIME

(use on November 12)

Margaret of Scotland

1045–1093

Margaret was an English princess when King William of Normandy conquered her homeland. She and her family fled to Scotland to stay with King Malcolm. Malcolm fell in love with Margaret. They married and had eight children. Margaret was a wise queen whose faith influenced Malcolm to be a better king. She built schools and churches for Scotland. By her words and example, she reminded others that prayer and worship were important. She encouraged Christians to honor the Lord’s day each week along with special seasons such as Lent and Advent. Most of all, Margaret had the gift of compassion. She fed and cared for the poor, elderly, orphaned, and sick, often bringing them into her own home. She also paid ransom money to set Saxon (English) slaves free. For Margaret, giving was a joy. No matter how much she gave, she always wanted to give more.



Back in Time: Discussion

As a class, discuss ways you could follow Margaret’s example and care for those in need this Thanksgiving season. (You could organize a food drive or collect mittens to donate.) Implement one of the kids’ ideas. Allow them to take ownership of the project.

Reproduce and send home *Praying as a Family—Family Edition* (Page 3 of this supplement).

Anglican Activities for Reaching Out with Jesus' Love to Youth In Your High School Classroom



Lighting the Lamp

September Activities

Materials: Copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979), writing utensils, paper

■ Review the purpose and usefulness of *The Book of Common Prayer* (1979). **The first “prayer book” is found in Scripture. The Psalms served as a prayer book for the Jewish people in Jesus’ day. Jesus used the Psalms in the synagogue to worship His Father. The Book of Common Prayer continues that tradition by assigning us a psalm to say or sing each Sunday. In 1549, Archbishop Thomas Cranmer composed the first Book of Common Prayer. The word “common” is used because the prayers are coming from everyone in the church. Anglicans have used The Book of Common Prayer for over 450 years as a tool to help us communicate with God.** Have the students look through the book. Challenge them to find pieces of the liturgy that are commonly used at your church. **As you look through the prayer book, what are common features that you notice?**

■ Celebrate **St. Michael and All Angels** on Sunday, September 27. **The word “angelos” literally means messenger. How have you seen angels pictured in the media? The media often shows them differently than we see in Scripture. Revelation 12:7–12 and Genesis 28:10–17 are two of the places we find the activity of angels described.** Divide your class into groups of three or four students. Each group should draw a picture of what angels might do, according to Scripture. Have each group show its drawing and defend the portrayal.

October Activities

■ Through the month of October, explore *The Book of Common Prayer*. Discuss the significance of each part of the order of worship.

- **The Collect:** a special prayer for the day
 - **The Sermon:** readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Gospels are assigned for us to learn from.
 - **The Psalm:** a psalm from Scripture we sing or say to praise God
 - **The Creed:** a statement we say to tell what we believe
 - **Confession of Sin:** admitting to God our sin and telling Him we’re sorry
 - **The Lord’s Prayer:** the prayer Jesus taught His disciples
- Work together to memorize the Nicene Creed (page 17 of this supplement). Break it into parts and add a part each week until you have learned the whole thing.

November Activities

■ To celebrate **Thanksgiving**, read and discuss what Abraham Lincoln had to say when he made his Thanksgiving Proclamation: **“We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.” What causes us to lose perspective at Thanksgiving? How does giving thanks to God help us keep our perspective? What can we be doing to help ourselves and the people around us remember what Thanksgiving is all about?**

Reproduce and send home *Praying as a Family—Family Edition* (Page 3 of this supplement).

BACK IN TIME

(use on Sunday, November 5)

Richard Hooker

1554–1600

Richard Hooker was an important theologian in the Church of England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Hooker wrote the *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* which helped define Anglicanism. He especially defended the importance of “common prayer”—the Christian community praying together with words “in common.” In this way, our prayers are strengthened, and we can encourage one another to faithfulness. Our common prayer unites us and reminds us of our common purpose and identity in Christ.



Hooker affirmed that the world God made was orderly and good. The Scriptures are a special gift from God, because in them, we learn of Jesus Christ and the salvation He offers. Hooker wrote that God gave human beings the gift of reason, not simply the ability to think, but reason to help grasp God’s revelation in the Scriptures. Once grounded in that knowledge and faith, we are called to use our minds creatively and well to understand God’s Word to us and how we can best apply it to our lives.

Back in Time: Discussion

Materials: Copies (one per student) of *Uniting in Prayer* (page 16 of this supplement)

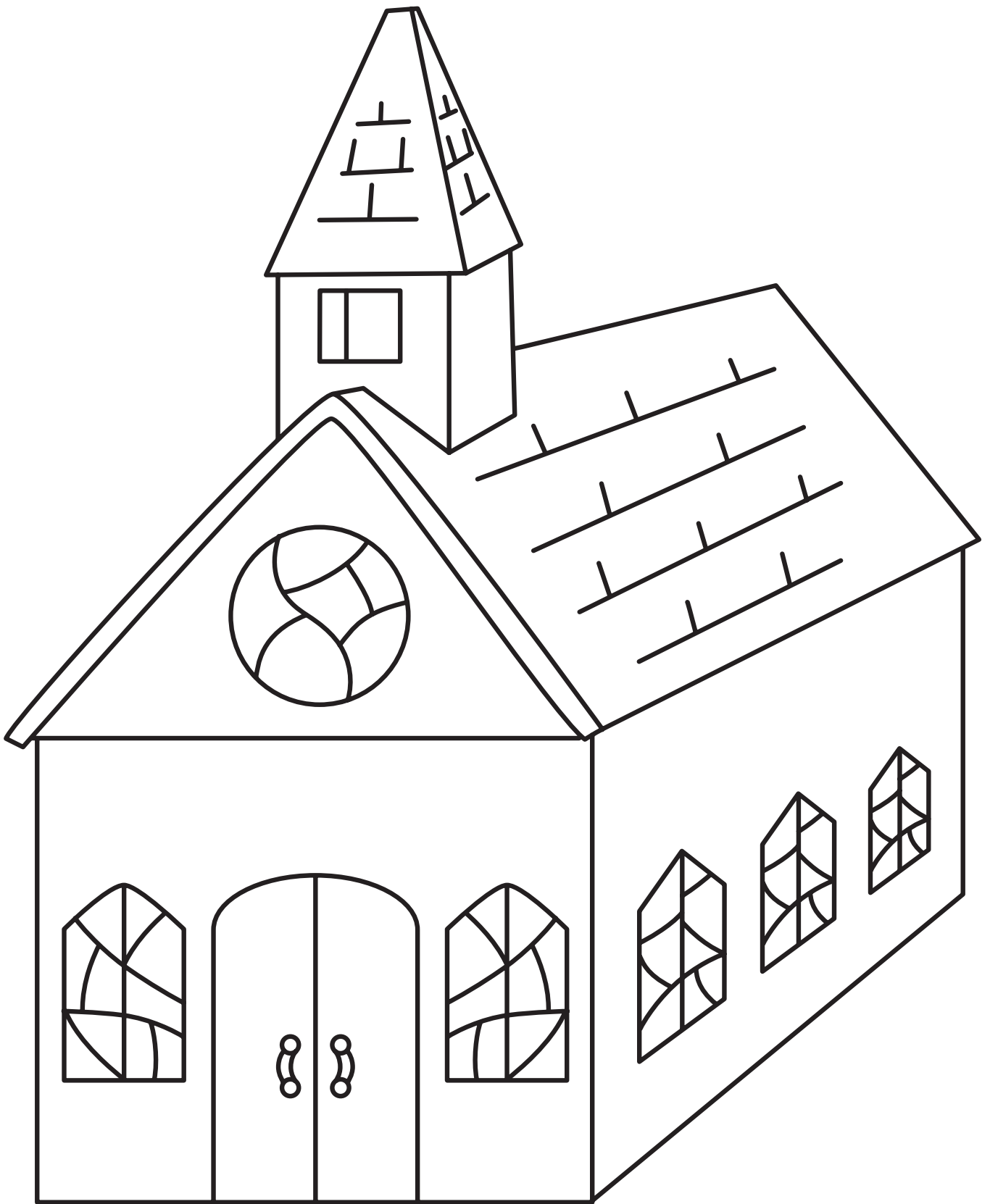
Have your students break up into groups of two or three and pray for one another. *Uniting in Prayer* will provide them with prayers from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

ST. MICHAEL



COLORING PAGE

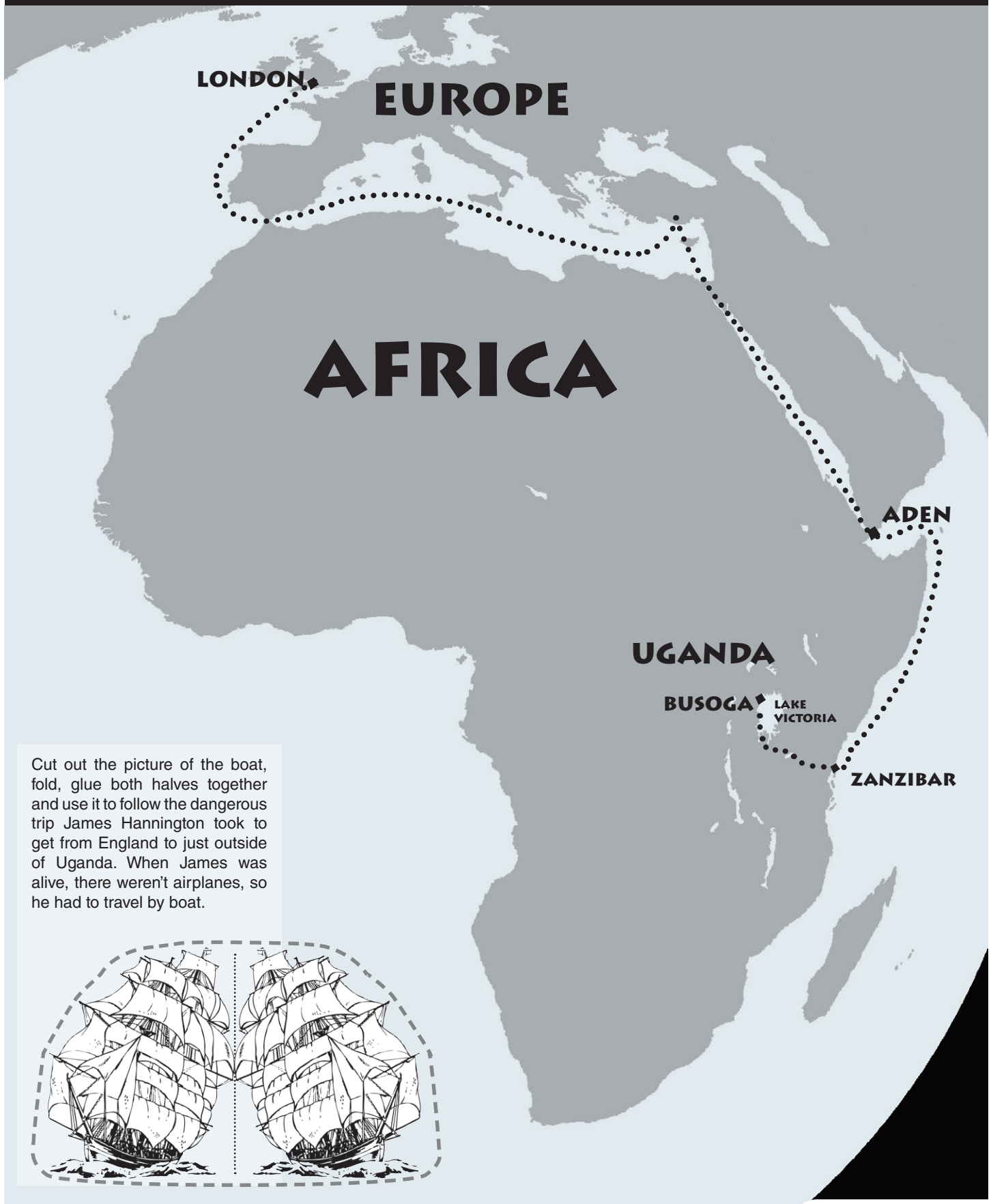
Encourage your students to add whatever elements they desire to their portrayal of St. Michael.



COLORING PAGE

St. James of Jerusalem agreed that all people could come to church.

Hero for Christ: James' Journey



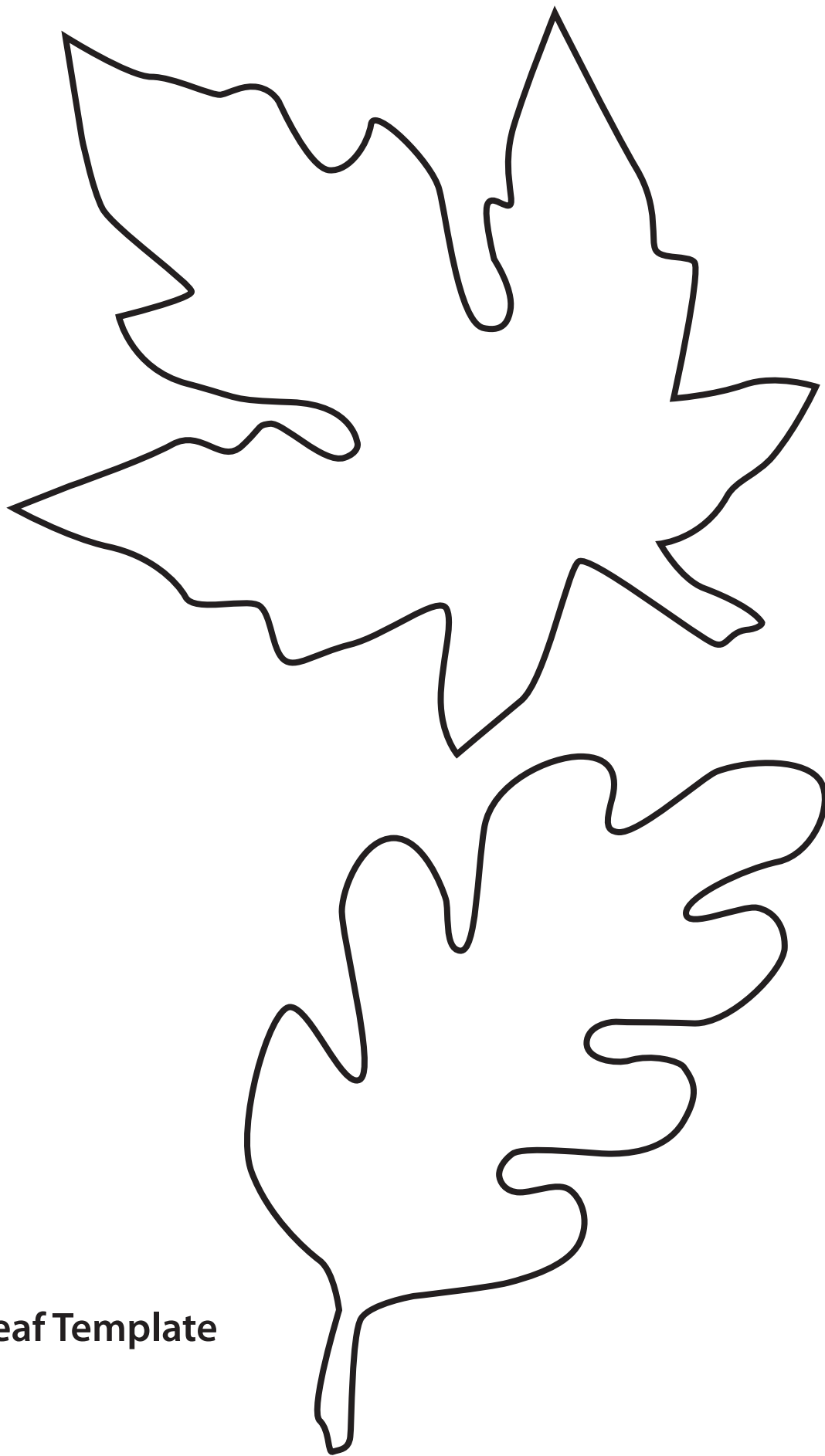
GOD IS LOVE

神是爱

神是爱

NOW YOU TRY IT!

Learn how to write *God Is Love* in Mandarin Chinese.
Copy the letters in the boxes at the bottom.



Leaf Template

UNITING IN PRAYER

Almighty and gracious Father, we give thee thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Savior, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions; take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one Body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

UNITING IN PRAYER

Almighty and gracious Father, we give thee thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we beseech thee, faithful stewards of thy great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Almighty God, whose loving hand hath given us all that we possess: Grant us grace that we may honor thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of thy bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CREED AND PRAYER REFERENCE SHEET

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with

the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Luke 11:1-4)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.