

PULPIT PRAYERS OF MARK HERZER

Prayed from the pulpit at

**Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church
220 S. Norristown Road
Warminster, PA 18974**

Dear Brother and Sister in Christ,

May the Lord Jesus Christ be exalted. I pray that is your privilege today as your heart will be touched in the hearing of these 97 pulpit prayers of this humble servant of Christ, who himself has prayed, "Let no man be exalted, but Thy people fed .." And here they are in both Mp3 and print.

I had the great privilege of hearing Mark Herzer twice, being a guest minister at a church I attended years back. Having listened several times to a sermon of his on CD a year before, I was just as impressed. My pastor (of years ago) had given me that. A huge huge thank you to him. His name is Andrew Webb, the pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Fayetteville, NC.

Soon after getting that CD I signed up with SermonAudio.com and downloaded every one of his sermons. I listened intently to them. They were and still remain so awesome.

Nevertheless, my desire now is that he would embrace the KJV Bible instead of the ESV, as it seems in the wording and flowing of his prayers by making wide use of the following words: "Thy" 42 times, "Thou" 6 times, "Thee" 5 times, "knowest" 7 times, "beseech" 10 times, and others. Surely he did embrace it in the past and knoweth not he doth indeed miss it very much. Although the ESV does not deny anyone salvation, having the anointed Bible with no copyright does make a tremendous difference. Just look what it has done for his prayers. Should God's true word be denied? Never! We don't need 300 different English translations and wherein you need permission to quote them in a work.

What I found most helpful, interesting and unique was in his praying. It was not just his eloquence and how he worded his prayers. He prayed in 2 minutes what others would take 10 minutes to pray and then still end up

saying less. I believe that it was his humility that made his prayers and also delivered his prayers by the Holy Spirit. Such also testifies that he is indeed a man of prayer.

And thinking I could use such prayers from time to time to help me in my prayers - to encourage me and compel me unto righteousness - I pulled out almost every one of his prayers.

These prayers were from the 1990's. They are old, but they are just as new today as back then. They are from some of his first sermons as a pastor as his church put them up on www.SermonAudio.com. They have since been replaced by newer sermons on SermonAudio.com. You can't find these specific pulpit prayers anywhere online that I know, except here at www.ThyWordWeLove.com.

The audio qualities - though not the best - are enough at most times to clearly distinguish every word. But sometimes, you need help to know what it is he said. For this reason, I most carefully transcribed these as you see herein, that you may be certain that you have heard every word correctly.

The text of each of these prayers have also been placed into the cooresponding Mp3s. You can download and use the "Rocket Player" on the app store for the Android smart phone to be able to view the words (known in Mp3 as lyrics).

His prayers often include what we think of as being questions. But truly questions in prayer are not really questions at all, but rather requests. Therefore, none of his petitions as pastor of his flock do not include a single question mark. And I think that you will distinguish that to be most correct.

There are several places where explanations are needed, such as the name of a person in the Bible or to confirm a context. These I have included within brackets. I also provided a few references to passages that he included in his prayers.

To topically index these would be a massive project, since most every prayer is broad in scope. So simply search for a key word or phrase if you are looking for something specific.

Brethren, God uses humble men to His glory - especially prayerful men in

mighty ways. As you listen to this servant pray, may the LORD use his gift of prayer to both encourage and admonish you. May these prayers help you in your prayers. May they spark new thoughts and words to use in your own prayers. But most of all may they provoke gratitude and humility - to bow before the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ who has saved you from your sins. And by this means of grace (surely it is a means of grace), further you along in your service to God and to others. Please share these prayers as you most assuredly share the word of God which is never superceeded. The word of God is supreme.

One last thought: I have every reason to believe that Pastor Mark wrote out these prayers - at least the most of them - and prayed them at the pulpit. Before you criticize this method, know that Charles Spurgeon wrote out his sermons and preached them - by reading them from the pulpit. Thousands came to Christ under his ministry. For us ministers of His, the Holy Spirit works within us at the desk as well as He works within us at the pulpit. Just ask the Apostle Paul next time you see him. He wrote out his letters (epistles) that were passed from one church to the next to be read before the Congregation, just as if he were standing at the pulpit. (Though some say, the preacher sat while the congregants stood.)

May our LORD and His Christ - our precious Saviour, receive all the glory for every gift excelling in divine calling for His name.

In His precious name I pray. Amen.

Glen McInnis

P.S. The latest update to this text and within all files occurred on December 4, 2022. This removed the duplicate prayer previously at 83, being identical to prayer 81. This update includes the title casing of all titles of our Father and the Lord Jesus, both in scripture and as presented in prayer. Additionally, several phrases were also highlighted in title case for ephasis as you will see, yet many more could have been, but kept to a reasonable minimum, for reading slows cooresponding to title casing increased.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 1

Before we read God's word let us seek God's face (the Author of this word).

Let us pray.

O Sovereign LORD,

We come before your word and ask that you might bless the reading and preaching of it.

We have sung countless times, O LORD, how the minister could reach the ear, but you must reach and touch the heart.

We come as dependent, ever reliant children knowing we can't affect change; knowing these words can roll off, O LORD, with such ease, and Satan can snatch them and the means of grace squandered.

We're mindful of the weakness of this preacher. His sins thou knowest.

We know that none of us have earned any right to even pray to you in of ourselves. But you have saved us for yourself and we're Your People - begging and beseeching you that you might bless, O LORD, this means of grace. That no man would be exalted. But Thy People fed and Thy Glory exalted.

O LORD, hear us for thy name's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 2

Let's pray.

What A Great God You Are. When it appeared that nothing was going on in heaven, O LORD, your heart was turned to Your People.

May you grant us all such faith, that in the midst of our tribulation, our struggles and afflictions, may our hearts be encouraged in the light of thy concern for us. That in your wisdom you withhold your immediate help - to purge - to strengthen. But you have never let us go.

We bless you for such Truth - for such Promises. O LORD, burn it into our souls.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 3

Our Gracious God,

We thank you for your truth. We pray that you might open it up to us: that it might, O LORD, penetrate our hearts; that the saints of God might be nourished; that you might deal with our souls as you have dealt with many souls in years past in this generation and in our lives.

We do not live by bread alone. We're utterly dependent upon Your Very Word. And yet, O LORD, it is not within our control.

You give life and light through your word. O LORD, may you speak to us. Give us light. And give us life, and encouragement and truth.

O LORD, shine your word upon our souls.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 4

Our Great God,

You reveal yourself consistently in history through your word. How faithful you are. How Holy You Are in all your ways.

Forgive us for doubting your faithfulness. May you encourage and enliven our faith to trust you through all our circumstances. Believing that You Who Began the Good Work In Us will bring it to completion on the day of Christ Jesus.

O LORD, exalt your name in our lives.

In Christ's name. Amen. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 5

O Sovereign LORD,

You spoke and the world came into being. You spoke and lives were healed. You spoke and you gave spiritual life - even to us. Your word indeed is food and life.

We beseech you Our Heavenly Father. Father, that you might take your word and speak to us; that your inerrant word might have a powerful effect upon our lives. Expose our sins. Give comfort to your people. We give glory to your name. This is Thy Word, O LORD.

Do have mercy upon us, O God. Let the words of our mouth - meditation of hearts be pleasing in your sight. O LORD, Our Rock and Our Redeemer.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 6

O Great God,

What A Great God You Are. How determined you are to save a people for yourself.

We do thank you for your condescending mercy to Moses to remind us of your patience and perserverance.

O LORD, may we not take the day of your kindness as a license for sin, but as an opportunity for repentance, an opportunity unto holiness.

O LORD, seal your word in our hearts for thy name's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 7

Our Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your written word which you have given to us; as a revelation of your character; as a revelation of what you require of us.

LORD, may you open it up to us. And may you enable us to rejoice as we begin to understand your truth.

We thank you LORD, that you have not left us blind, but you have opened our eyes to Your Truth. But we beseech you even to open it up more and more, that we might behold the wonders of thy law.

Forgive us our sins, Father. They are many. This minister's sins and the people's sins thou knowest. Do cleanse and purify for Jesus' sake.

In His name we pray. Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 8

O Sovereign God,

We see your great power displayed and promised. And we pray we would never doubt your faithfulness to us.

May you grip our hearts and assure us in such a way that with the Israelites we would be compelled to bow down and worship you.

Because you have seen our plight; you have looked upon our misery of our sin, and you have saved us and demonstrated your great love to us; in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

O Great God. Our Heavenly Father. We bless you.

O may you seal your word in our hearts. Have your way with us.

In Christ's name. Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 9

Our Gracious God,

We thank you for your unerring truth; a revelation of your acts and words in history. You have made known to us who you are and all that you have done.

We pray now, LORD, that you would give us humble hearts to receive your truth; as you deal with sinners - as you deal with men - as you deal with your people. May we have eyes to see, ears to hear.

Forgive us our sins, O Father, and this minister's sins. LORD, you know how many they are. But for the sake of your great name, will you minister your word to your people.

O LORD, hear us, for the sake of Christ the Great High Priest.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 10

Our Father,

We open our Bibles and your word is right before us. And yet we confess, O LORD, the impression it leaves upon our hearts is so faint.

Many things grip our minds and hearts, O LORD. And the clear word that you spoke to Moses he forgot in the thick of it. And your Holy Word, O Father, we forget with such ease. May you forgive us.

May the meat of your word sustain us through the week. May you compel us to meditate upon it day and night. May it be food for our souls.

O LORD. If there is one thing: Help us, O Father, to love your truth above all things; to be men and women devoted to you - in the study of your word with all humility - with prayer and your word.

O LORD, hear us.

For Christ's sake. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 11

Our Father,

We thank you for your word. You speak so tenderly and graciously to our situation. But we're never left alone. You have a word in season for our benefit.

We confess, LORD. We are weak. We are so overwhelmed with the troubles, and the difficulties of life, and the temptations that assault us and the coldness of our hearts.

But we would see Jesus in his word. And we ask, O LORD, that you might speak powerfully to us.

And this week as we spend time with your word, deal with us - minister to us. O LORD, as you alone can.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 12

Our LORD God,

We read of your judgments upon Egypt. We see your power. And we bless you, that you have redeemed us for yourself.

We were once your enemies, but you snatched us and brought us unto yourself.

We could, O LORD, feel the brunt of your wrath if we were left to ourselves, but Christ has borne it in our behalf. What refreshment. What life.

But therefore, knowing the fear of the LORD, may you enable us, O LORD, to preach Christ and make Him known, that others too might be redeemed - set free from their slavery to serve A Good God and A Gracious God.

O LORD, hear our prayers for Christ's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 13

O LORD,

We thank you for your truth which you have given; as a revelation of your character - a revelation of your acts in history. You have given it to us that we might know you. That our souls might be fed from The Very Word of God.

We beseech you, O Father, that you would break open your word to our souls - our hungry souls, O LORD, that need thy truth.

We pray that you would forgive this minister. O God, you know his sins - how many they are. And forgive the sins of your people.

But for the sake of Christ, O LORD, withhold not thy blessings. But feed the souls of your saints, and speak and minister to us according to your good purpose.

O Father, we come humbly - beseeching you that The Light of Your Grace might shine upon us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 14

Our LORD,

We read your word and we're astounded at your majesty and power against a whole nation.

And no god is like you who goes in, and snatches a nation within a nation and takes them away.

May you enable us, O LORD, to never doubt your power - your goodness - your mercy. May you increase our faith in the light of the shed blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ: How he was slain for sinners. And you spared not Your Son. O may that encourage us through all the difficulties we may go through; through all the situations you may place us - may we by faith cling to you and honor you in our situation.

LORD, may you deal with our hearts both individually and as a church, O LORD, help us to be faithful through all that you place us, for the sake of Your Good Glory.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 15

O Majestic Heavenly Father,

We humbly come before you and your truth. And we beseech you that you might open it up to us.

O LORD, we confess we have darkened minds and understanding. And we do not handle holy things well. But, O LORD, by your grace you could enable us to understand these things. And You Alone can apply them to our hearts. So do so Father for the sake of your name.

May you minister to your sheep. And may you give us food for our souls.

We confess we're not deserving of anything. We never have. But you have given us all things freely. And from thy bounty, LORD, in the riches of thy mercy look upon us with kindness, and do have mercy upon us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 16

Our Father,

We could be just like Pharoah left to ourselves. We could perish, and pine away in our sins and wallow in our misery. We justly deserve all that.

But you have saved us for yourself through Jesus Christ. And you have lavished upon us great spiritual blessings and washed away all our sins. And you have made us kings - sons of The Living God, and granted us access to your glorious throne. Always in every day and every moment we have access to you through Christ.

Move in this church, O LORD, that we might pray.

And LORD, if there be a man or a woman that do not know you (that is more like Pharoah), turn his or her heart that they might pray and say, "Father. Have mercy upon me."

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 17

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We come before you ever bowing before you, humbly recognizing how holy you are and how unworthy we are.

And yet, O LORD, we are not accepted because of our own self worth, but because of what your son has done in our behalf.

We pray that you might hear us for his name's sake. And that you might bless the reading of the word. And to instruct not only, but to strike our hearts and to nourish your saints.

And as we study this important truth, O LORD, may you open our eyes to behold your wonder in this world, that we might see afresh your grace in our lives.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 18

Our Father,

How we spend so much time and energy for the things that pass away. And those things, O LORD, you give freely as you see fit in your wisdom.
Material blessings: Some in great abundance - others just enough.
Advancement in life: Some highly advanced and others enough to live on.
Some favored highly. Others not at all.

And you give as you see fit. But to all believers, O LORD, you have given us Our Lord Jesus Christ. And He is enough.

Satisfy us with Him, LORD. Enable us to know the joy of communing with Our Lord. That all our souls might be deeply and thoroughly satisfied in Him alone. That we can say to the rest of these things, "We don't need 'em. Our Lord is good enough."

O LORD. O LORD, show your glory.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 19

O Sovereign God,

We beseech you and come humbly before you, asking that you might bless the reading and preaching of your word. That we might not just be informed in our minds and heads. But that you might stir us and rouse us to love and good deeds.

That you might enable us, O LORD, to see thy glory and see all the rich things you have done for us in Christ.

And that These Truths, O LORD, would penetrate our hearts. That it would deeply effect everything we do. That our passions would be controlled. That the old man mortified. And that the new man would become more evident as you work in us that which is pleasing to you.

Our Father, we know, LORD, we deserve nothing from your hands. But we only come through Christ. That for His sake you would hear us and bless us your people.

Forgive this minister's sins, O God. That thou knowest how many and how much they are. And forgive the sins of your people. But for the sake of your great name, O LORD, bless us.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 20

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

You're The Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. You're The Passover Lamb sacrificed for us. That because of you the wrath of God passes us by and falls upon you.

We pray, O LORD, you would stir our hearts to stand in awe of and admiration of what Our Lord has done. That we would show our devotion to Him Who Has Loved Us and Has Saved Us From Our Sins.

We pray you would search out the hearts of every young man and woman, and everybody in this room. O LORD, enable them to see where they are in relationship to you. And turn them to yourself.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 21

Our LORD God,

We come before your truth. We ask now, LORD, as we read it and seek to understand it; we pray that you might apply it to our hearts.

We have sung in times past, O LORD, how the minister can reach the ear, but you must touch the heart. You alone can.

We pray that you might fall upon us with grace through your truth. That the Spirit and the Word would come into our hearts with power. And that you will help us to see your glory as is revealed in your word.

You've acted in history, O LORD. And you have made it known to us in your word how you have acted. That we might know Thee as The Living God That Has Saved Us.

O LORD, give us eyes of faith. And nourish our souls. And forgive us our sins, for Christ's sake.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 22

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We come before your word. And we ask that you might open it up to us.

As you have saved your people in history, you have reminded us how great you are. And we pray as we read of this and study it, that you might apply it to our hearts, that we might be refreshed and encouraged in the knowledge of what Christ has done for us.

Father, withhold not your blessings from us, for the sake of your great name.

We know, O LORD, our sins are many; as high as the heavens. But, O LORD, forgive and abundantly pardon - You who are full of compassion and mercy.

O LORD, hear us, for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ Our Saviour.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 23

Our Gracious God,

You delivered Israel to show your might and power, that they might always be amazed at your mercy exhibited to them. And we pray, O LORD, in the light of what you have done for us in Christ, that we too would gain an assurance and stand amazed of Such A Great Salvation.

LORD, you have always been faithful. And repeatedly, LORD, we see our faithlessness. And yet you do not deny yourself. We thank you for Your Great Mercy in sustaining us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 24

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your truth. We pray that you might open it up to us that we might understand how we ought to live, and stand in awe of Thy Great Mercy - your display of your attributes and Your Salvation.

Help us to submit to your word, O LORD. We find ourselves to be much like the Israelites in the wilderness: So much murmuring and complaining - and grumbling in our hearts and with our lips.

O search us out, O LORD. And help us to be glad in The Lord, Our Great Saviour.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 25

Our Father,

How we see so much of our own hearts in Israel.

How you have been so patient with us. And how you spread before us so many things - so many good things. And the minor inconveniences, O LORD, we murmur and complain; when our lives have not been dealt with like Job.

Father. Forgive us.

Help us to be a glad people, because we have A Great Saviour. Help us to be a people that are satisfied - immensely so, because of Our Saviour. And count everything as loss that we may know Him better.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 26

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for Your Revelation Which You Have Given To Us.

And as we study, O LORD, your commandments, open wide our eyes and hearts to understand its glorious riches.

Father, if we stand before it without Christ we will be undone; as it reveals our sins. But do open it up that we might see your wisdom and goodness. That we might even, O LORD, recognize the righteousness that is imputed to us through faith in Christ.

Have mercy upon us, LORD, as we struggle through your word - as our sins are exposed - as you call us to holy living, grant us grace.

But ever draw us nearer to Our Dear Saviour, The Great Saviour of Sinners, Jesus Christ.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 27

Our LORD and Our God,

What a Wonderful Covenant we are in. We did nothing and you did it all,
just like you did in the Old Testament.

Our Faithful Savior Has Done It All - to bring us to God.

And Our Father, we pray that our souls would find no satisfaction in this
world - in the things of this world - in its relationships at all, except in
Christ. May he be Our All In All.

O LORD, draw us near that we might feast upon thee by faith.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 28

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for your revelation which you have given unto us for our instruction and edification. We ask, O LORD, you would help us to understand your word better. And apply it to our lives, that we might see, LORD, especially in these various chapters your hand of grace and mercy. And to see how you have condescended to our level to deal with our needs for your glory.

O God, open up thy word. And enable us and strengthen us, O LORD, enable us to receive thy truth.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 29

Our Gracious LORD,

As we read the Old Testament and as we see the severity of the Law we also see sprinkled therein Thy Great Mercy. How you made it known back then how you yearned to fellowship with us. And how you have provided a way when we have lost all the opportunities and spent it all. And yet Christ has died for sinners.

And, LORD, you have paved the way, that we might boldly come into your presence.

And we ask, O LORD, encourage our faith. Enliven our faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ. To resort to thee more and more, for that is Our Birthright In Christ.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 30

O Great and Lofty Heavenly Father, The God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We humbly come before you and your word. We ask that you would open it up to us and apply it to our hearts.

We are mindful, LORD, that we never have achieved any righteousness of our own. We have not earned a right to hear your word clearly. But in spite of our sins, for the sake of Christ Our Saviour - The Great Prophet Who Reigns on High, O LORD, would you speak to us, and address and minister to our souls.

And forgive this minister's sins, O LORD. Thou knowest how many his sins are, and how filthy they are and how filthy all our sins are.

But we do thank you for Christ, The Mediator of the New Covenant. And we petition you through Him, have mercy upon us, O LORD.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 31

Our Sovereign and Great God,

We see so much of ourselves in the life of Israel. Given the right time - the right circumstances we too could fall so quickly.

O LORD, hold us up. And forgive us our sins. And enable us to own them - to come before you, that you might wash us and make us whiter than snow.

LORD, have your way with us and deal mercifully, O LORD, through Christ.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 32

Our Most Heavenly Father,

We come to read your word - and hear it expounded.

We confess, O Father, it can become a vain exercise if done in the flesh, if heard in the flesh and preached in the flesh.

We need your Spirit, O LORD. That our souls might be encouraged and built up in the knowledge of Our Saviour. That our sins might, O LORD, be exposed for what they are. And that we might find healing in The Sovereign Lord.

Have mercy upon this your people and this minister. Make yourself known through the preaching of the Word. Reveal your glory, that we might stand in awe of your majesty and of your goodness.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 33

O God,

You're infinite, eternal and unchangeable. You're The Triune God who conspired to save us; to restore to us a true knowledge of yourself, that our souls might find healing, joy and satisfaction through the redemption that is in Christ.

Ever, O LORD, increase our understanding and knowledge of you. Ever enable us to love you more and more as we learn of you more and more.

Father, we confess we have engaged our minds and affections in the things that are passing away. We boast in them one day and the next day they fail us. But we have never ever, LORD, come to you and left unsatisfied.

O LORD, enlarge our minds. Enlarge our souls in the knowledge of you.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 34

Our Great God,

We thank you for your revelation which you have given to Your Covenant People. It reveals who you are and how you act, that we might stand in awe of your majesty.

We pray that you would take your word and speak to our souls. May our souls be arrested by the knowledge of The Living God, that our idolatrous thoughts might be exterminated. And that The True Living God and the knowledge of him would permeate us as we reflect upon your truth.

O Father, open our eyes. O let us see your glory and delight in your majesty.

Our Father. Have mercy, O God.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 35

O Sovereign God,

We come before you to study your word, to understand your attributes - your essence.

We confess, Father, sometimes we ponder these things and they do not affect us. And we do not tremble at your word as Josiah did.

Yet we know, LORD, you are living and active. And you have in years past taken your word, and a thunder from on high and shattered our hearts. And we have felt - we have seen - and we have understood your truth and the power of your word.

Father, this minister's sins are so many. And this your people, LORD, are not worthy. None of us are - to receive any blessing from your hand. But we have never asked, O LORD, for blessings, because we are righteous. But we are yours, saved by your grace. Your Son has redeemed us.

For His sake, O LORD, will you bless this means of grace. Will you take your word and minister to your people. And where there's weakness, strengthen your people. Where there's a necessary rebuke may you rebuke, O LORD, that you might restore.

God have mercy.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 36

Father,

We have been in the presence of many men and women and in many things. But they have not satisfied our souls. We were not created for such things.

But as your word has promised - in your presence there is fullness of joy. And we do thank you for Christ who has secured An Intimate Relationship Forever where we have access to your throne and to that presence.

Forgive us, Father, that our hearts are not satisfied with that. Forgive us, LORD, where we murmur and complain; when the world knows nothing of this privilege and joy. But This Great Consolation - knowing God and being in his presence.

O LORD, may our souls find satisfaction only in your presence and nothing in this world.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. [Amen]

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 37

O Great Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your truth. We pray now that you might open it up as we read it - as we seek to understand it. That we might even have the spirit of Paul and stand in awe at your infinite majesty - at your incredible knowledge and wisdom.

LORD, I pray that we might come humbly as we seek to know you better. May you open up your word in such a way, that our hearts might be moved, our knowledge not only expanded, but our souls encouraged in the knowledge of you, O God.

O LORD, hear us for Christ's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 38

Our Great God,

We can stand here just like any theist that believes in a God out there and say, "Yes. You know all things." And yet you delight to have your people praise you for your infinite wisdom and knowledge.

Will you create such a heart in us. Will you create such a penetrating insight of these things, that we would gladly submit, and be overwhelmed with who you are, and what you know and What You Have Done.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 39

Holy, Holy, Holy is the LORD God Almighty, The whole earth is full of your glory. [Similar to Isaiah 6:3]

As we embark upon this text and to study it, LORD, we confess we know what the word "Holy" means. Just by its definition we have a slight conception of it.

But Father, we can't penetrate its depth. We can't understand the gravity - the weightiness of your holiness.

You gripped Isaiah. You gripped many men with your holiness.

O LORD, not just with words, but with power will you make known your holiness to us. Maybe to unravel us that our hearts might be laid bare. You and your immaculate splendid holiness. We full of sin.

Have your way with us, O God. O Holy Father, have mercy, O God.

In Jesus' name. [Amen.]

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 40

Our Great God,

Again, we are faced with this fact; that we know so little of this holiness. And as a result, LORD, we know so little of our sins. We can scratch the surface. We can see immediately some things.

But, O Father, how much we need a true side of you, that we might have a true side of ourselves. That we might be forgiven.

LORD, have your way with us. And we pray that our knowledge of you would increase. And our self- knowledge would corespondingly increase, that we might know your healing forgiveness.

O LORD, hear us for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 41

Our Lord God,

We do thank you that you have given us Your Good Word, that we might better understand who you are and what we are to believe concerning you.

Especially today, LORD, as we study such an important attribute - something that has charmed all our hearts. And that has, O LORD, affected us deeply as we have seen and tasted that You Are Good.

LORD, I pray - as we read and study this passage, that it would not just flit about in our heads. And that by your grace, that we would experience the power and glory of your truth in our lives.

No man can do this - save What Your Spirit Can Do.

O LORD, hear us. Open up your word. Speak to us for thy name's sake.

Have mercy upon us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 42

Our Great God,

You are so good to us. In our good times and bad times you're always near. And you have kept us, O LORD, even unto this moment. And we thank you.

Will you forgive us, O LORD, for doubting your goodness - your tenderness to your people. May you enliven and invigorate our faith in this truth. That we might even say with the psalmist, "O taste and see that the LORD is good."

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 43

O Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your written revelation - of your deeds and all that you have done for us, that we might be instructed in matters of faith and conduct - in everything pertaining to life and godliness.

We pray that you might make yourself known through the preaching of the word this day - that the Spirit would minister to the hearts of the saints of God.

And to them that know nothing of The Living God, that you might impart life, that they might know the Free Love in the Lord Jesus Christ.

O LORD, you alone can penetrate the hearts of the saints - hearts of sinners.

God have your way with us. Bless the reading. Bless the preaching. For the glory of your name.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 44

O Gracious Heavenly Father,

We have studied just an aspect of your love. Will you forgive us for doubting your love for us. Will you forgive us, O LORD, for the love we have for things and people better than for you.

How, O LORD, amazing is your love for us.

And we ask, O LORD, that you might fill our hearts anew with the knowledge of this, that we might not only be assured. But being assured, O LORD - might be more holy - might with great hope endure to the end by thy grace and mercy.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 45

Our Great God,

Because of our sinful eyes we sometimes doubt your goodness. And because of our neglect, O LORD, we do not see the brilliance and splendor of thy kindness, mercy and grace to us in the Lord Jesus Christ.

But we pray that your Spirit would open our hearts to its reality and power, that the "truly's" that we have read. That indeed, O LORD, our hearts might be liberated. That we might, O LORD, engage in good deeds to your glory. Not to earn thy favor. But in view of your favor to live a life pleasing.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 46

LORD,

We know, LORD, we don't deserve anything from your hand. And yet, O LORD, you reveal your character - your essential character of how you are patient, longsuffering and forbearing. You treat us that way all the time, LORD.

It's because of your lovingkindness we are not consumed. We're sustained daily by your grace.

And all the justice that is required because of our sins, O LORD, you have given fully to Thy Son Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Blessings upon blessings, O LORD, we have received from you.

We thank you, LORD, for your kindness.

May in the light of this grace, O LORD, we respond with gratefulness and obedience. Not to use this as an opportunity for the flesh - to pursue sinful things. But, O LORD, to live lives of grateful humble obedience.

We thank you for thy great faithfulness - thy great patience to us, O LORD.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 47

O Righteous and Just God - Our Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your unerring truth and how you speak clearly for our benefit - to cause our hearts to tremble when we sin. But to grant encouragement and light and forgiveness - even through your word, that we might see that in Christ all our sins have been addressed that we might be assured.

And all these things and much more you reveal in your truth.

And we ask, O LORD, as we read this passage, you would open it up to us - as we seek to understand thy justice and thy righteousness.

LORD, give light. Open our hearts. Not that our minds might alone may be filled, but our minds and hearts - our whole being might be infused with your truth. That your word may put gladness in our hearts. That your word would sustain us and serve itself as food in our souls.

O LORD, hear us for Jesus' sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 48

Our Gracious God,

We see how you judged Sodom and Gommorah. And that could have been us. No doubt, there might have been young men and women who thought, "Maybe tomorrow or later I'll get more serious."

But it came. And you judged.

And you were willing to forestall for a few. And yet, O LORD, you have forestallen in Christ. That in him, that all who believe in Him might have life.

We bless you for Christ. Help us to revel in His finished work and to rejoice, because you have demonstrated your righteousness in punishing sin in Him. And you are just in that.

But you are also the justifier of those who believe in Him. And we thank you for that grace and mercy.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 49

O Sovereign God,

We thank you for your truth, that you have given for the edification,
instruction and salvation of your church.

As we ponder this passage we pray for receptive hearts, LORD. For thy
Spirit to apply it to our soul, that we might indeed consider ourselves
servants of the Lord - with all humility.

Father, would you have your way with us. Forgive us our sins. Make us and
help us to be different from the rest of the world.

O God, Our God.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 50

Our LORD,

We are indeed unworthy servants - worthless!

And how kind you are to us, O LORD, when we should of been cast aside,
you snatched us and saved us.

And you call us your children. And you shower upon us love and mercy.
You lavish upon us kindness upon kindness through your Spirit.

LORD. What can we say?

Help us, O LORD, to glory in thy grace. To boast in Christ's finished work -
alone.

In His name we pray.

Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 51

Gracious God,

We thank you for your word which has been given for our instruction - a revelation of your character and your desire.

But also, LORD, a revelation of how sinners ought to respond to your mercy and to your kindness.

We pray that your Spirit would search us out this day. Do not let any of us, O LORD, rest assured in our sins. But do disturb us where disturbance is necessary. And grant comfort where comfort is necessary. That in all things Christ might be glorified.

O LORD, do bless the preaching of the word through this humble vessel, without worthy of anything.

But for the sake of The Great Prophet, Priest and King Our Lord Jesus, O LORD, bless the means of grace.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 52

LORD God,

We look at this Psalm [51]. We see the true fruit of God's conviction on a sinner's heart.

And we pray, O LORD, that we would none of us in this room would play around with sin - as if we can touch it and go unharmed. As if we can play with it and not dishonor you.

May we remember, O LORD, that our sins can turn out just like David's. But you had mercy upon us. In this time of grace grant us the grace to be faithful.

I pray, LORD, if there's a man or a woman - a brother or a sister in here that struggles - that realizes they need forgiveness, would you grant them the faith to seek you. Give them no rest as you gave David no rest, until that person finds his or her rest in the Lord Jesus Christ.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 53

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your great riches. According to your great mercy blot out our transgressions.

We are your people, called by your name - your flock, the sheep of your pasture - whom you have redeemed through Jesus Christ.

And LORD, we confess, daily we spurn [trample or tread upon] thy mercy. And we are amazed that we're not consumed or extinguished. And yet grace reigns, and has preserved us, and kept us and brought us to this point.

And we ask that you might even speak to us through your word.

Forgive this minister's sins. O God In Heaven, you know how many they are. Forgive the sins of your congregation. Father, we have sinned against you.

But we do thank you, there is in Christ plentous compassion and redemption. There is full redemption in Him. And there is an assurance of forgiveness.

We do thank you for Our Lord Jesus Christ.

For His sake - that He might not be shamed by the brethren He has redeemed, would you minister to your people. And exalt your great name this day, O LORD.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 54

Our Gracious Father,

We do thank you for your word. We see a sinner like this [King David] converted and restored. We marvel at the depth of your work in a person like him.

And we see ourselves and our superficiality and shallowness: How we could engage in sin with such ease. And yet, O LORD, as we said before, we are not consumed.

We pray that you might work in us that which is pleasing to you. That we might, O LORD, see afresh your grace - to speak of it freely and joyfully, even as David did. And to love your people even as he did. But moreso, even as our Lord does.

O LORD, forgive us our sins. And restore unto us the joy of your salvation.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 55

Our Father,

We do thank you for Your Truth which you have given as a revelation of Your Character and of Your Gospel, that we might believe and live.

And you have given it to us, LORD, that we might read it and study it and have it preached, that it might nourish our souls and instruct us.

And yet, O LORD, if it's the instruction of mere men - if it's just the voice of a preacher - it can do nothing.

And we ask that whatever truth is preached, that you might use it for your glory. That the saints would be encouraged and challenged. That unbelievers might be converted and brought to faith in Jesus Christ.

Your Word works mightily in hearts.

We ask, O LORD, for thy name's sake - do so today. Work mightily amongst us.

Be exalted.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 56

Our LORD,

These are hard words.

And we see how much of the world has been entwined in our hearts. How easy we are led astray.

Everybody calls for moderation. And you call for total allegiance.

LORD, help us to see our great inheritance. That as we come to the Supper, LORD, remind us afresh of all the joys and blessings that are ours. That we might say to our foot, to our hand, to our eye, "Cut it off. I want to be with My Saviour without these sins." [NOTE: "Cut it off" not to be taken literally]

O Father, hear our prayers for thy name's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 57

Our Great God,

We come before you, recognizing this is Your Eternal Word you have given for our instruction, and benefit, and encouragement and warning.

We pray that you might apply it to our hearts and search us out. And see if there be any hurtful way in us.

Renew us, O LORD. Rebuke where rebuke is necessary. Strengthen and encourage where such is needed.

Have your way with us, O God, through your word.

And do forgive us our sins, O Father. And withhold not your blessings, O Father.

For thy name's sake. Hear us in Christ.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 58

Our Father,

In our fast-paced world; in fast foods and easy toys, we confess it is so difficult to be patient, especially in the light of all our sins.

Father. .. our hopes are dashed. .. we have external struggles. We have internal struggles. May you give us the grace to be patient until you return.

And writ large before our horizon will be your return. And the glorious crown of righteousness which will be awarded to us who eagerly await such a return.

O Father, do not - do not, O LORD, allow us to wallow in our sins. But be gracious to us. And turn us to yourself.

And may the fruit of the Spirit of this patience be found in our lives - in our speech with each other - in our attitude towards each other - in our response to your providence. In our choices in life.

In all the circumstances you place us, LORD, help us - Our Dear Saviour who will return - to be patient until He return.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 59

O Heavenly Father,

We come and beseech you that you might open up your word to us. We deserve none of your blessings. And yet, O LORD, every blessing we have received from you have been purchased for us through Our Lord Jesus Christ. And you richly bless us through Him.

Will you for His sake, O LORD, deal mercifully with us your people. And enable us to understand and rightly apply your truth, that your saints might be instructed, encouraged, and edified and built up - to labor diligently in this world.

O Father, for thy grace: To know thee more. To seek thy face. Do enable us. And hear our prayers.

And for thy name's sake, forgive us our sins.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 60

Our Most Gracious Father,

In a fast-paced society, we're so impatient. But you would have us learn to be patient in this world, that we might shine as lights. That the world might know there is A Great Redeemer. A Lover of Sinners.

May you grant us grace, O LORD, in whatever you place us to be faithful in our calling. And to recognize by faith, as you have revealed it in your word: How good you are. How full of compassion and mercy.

May our souls find satisfaction in that knowledge. That, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death", we need fear no evil, for you, O LORD, are with us.

We thank you.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 61

Our Father,

We do thank you for Your Holy Word. We pray, Father, as we read it, may you open it up to us. We pray that the Word preached might penetrate our hearts. And that you might cause us to seek you above all things.

Father, we confess we are easily deluded - easily led astray. And our minds are so easily darkened. But we do thank you for your unerring truth.

Enlighten our minds, O LORD. And enable us to see Christ more clearly and to love thy ways more dearly.

O LORD, hear us. For Christ's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 62

Our Father,

We do thank you that you're Our Great God.

We thank you for reminding us, O LORD: We ought never to resort in creatures or in the things of this world, save in The Living God.

I pray that you would search us out. And if any one of us, O LORD, is depending upon anything in this world - except in you - may you forgive and grant repentance. And help us to rest in Our God.

O God, help us to be mindful not to be like Israel here. But to lean solely upon Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In His name we pray.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 63

Our LORD and Our God,

What a Wonderful Covenant we are in. We did nothing and you did it all, just like you did in the Old Testament. Our Faithful Saviour has done it all to bring us to God.

And Our Father, we pray that our souls would find no satisfaction in this world - in the things of this world - in its relationships at all - except in Christ. May He be our All in All.

O LORD. Draw us near, that we might feast upon thee by faith.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 64

Our Gracious Heavenly Father,

You have given us your word to instruct us. It is laid open. It is laid bare before us. We can read it.

And in one sense we can understand the words. But even as the Psalmist cries out to you - that they might understand your word better - that you might make your way clear - we do the same.

Make your way known to us, O LORD, as we read your word. Will you break it open to us.

We are dumb. We lack understanding. We're as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding. And we need thy grace to counsel us - Thy word to teach us.

O LORD, have mercy. Have your way with us as we read your word and as we hear it expounded.

O search us out, O God. For your name's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 65

Our God,

We confess: Things are not always clear to us. They get very murky.

We fret and we fear - we tremble. And we almost give in.

No more our ways, LORD. But make us know your ways. Because they're full of lovingkindness and truth. You have never failed your people. Because you're The Everlasting God.

You have saved us for yourself through Christ. And you have washed away all our sins. And you are Our Heavenly Father. And you've given the Spirit whereby we can cry out unto you.

Do hear us. And let us see your grand salvation in our lives, that you might get all the glory. That we might be humbled by your kindness.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 66

O Triune God,

You have been gracious to us. And you have not dealt with us as our sins deserve.

We come humbly before you. But that you might speak to us through your word.

And as we ponder this amazing text, O LORD, may you open our hearts to its glorious riches. That you, by your Spirit might convey to us all that we need to know for our nourishment and edification.

Father, we are painfully aware we deserve nothing good from your hands. We have squandered all good opportunities.

But we are not consumed, because you are gracious and compassionate. And you have saved us in the Lord.

We pray that you might have mercy and deal with us graciously this Lord's Day.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 67

Our Father,

We confess we have settled for so little when so much has been given to us.
And that we have satisfied our souls with things that can not satisfy.

Will you forgive us.

And we beseech you LORD, that you might so strengthen us in our inner man. That we would be rooted and grounded in love; in such a way that we might, O LORD, begin to comprehend the limitless love of our Lord Jesus Christ. That we might grow mature unto your glory.

O LORD, help us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 68

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for your truth which you have given for our edification and nourishment; to chide and rebuke. And yet to encourage, and build up and to heal those who are weak.

We pray that you might take your word this day and apply it to our hearts. And that we might tremble under your infinite majesty. And yet by faith to see thy loving hand and good grace. And by faith and see, O LORD, that you have done all things well with everything regarding our lives.

Do open it up to us, O Father, and apply it deeply. Deal with us personally and corporately for the sake of your blessed name, our God.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 69

O God,

How we have taken lightly your discipline. How we have been discouraged and lost heart. Give all your grace and mercy to us.

We know not, O LORD, all thy ways. But what you have revealed is good: That through Christ you have entered into an Everlasting Covenant of Peace and Love To Us In Him. That nothing can sever us from that divine love.

May you grant us eyes of faith in the light of all that you have demonstrated in the Lord Jesus Christ - eyes of faith to not murmur. But to say, "God is in it!" That our hearts might be free to rejoice in your Good Providence.

O LORD, hear us. For Christ's sake.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 70

Our LORD God,

We thank you for your truth which you have given for the edification of your Holy Bride - Your Church.

We are holy, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done in setting aside - even your people [Israel], by the shedding of His own blood.

And you have given us your word that we might be nourished by it - even challenged by it. To be instructed in our lives - in matters of faith - in practice - in all that you will teach.

And we pray as we deal with this weighty difficult topic, that you give us hearts to receive your truth. And to walk humbly before you in faith and dependence.

O LORD, have mercy.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 71

Our Father,

We confess: We have not learned much from our afflictions. Not because you were not a wise God. But because we have such a hard heart.

And yet you have given us your word, that we might know which way to turn. Help us to learn, O God, and to bear a peaceable fruit of righteousness in our lives, that we might share in thy holiness.

We know, LORD, this word that you produce in us will not cause us to be accepted before you. But they're mere evidences of your grace and mercy.

O LORD, may you work in us that which is pleasing to you, that you might get all the glory.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 72

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for your clear word: A revelation of your character - a revelation of your acts in history, to remind us that you are A Faithful God - holy, and just, and merciful and compassionate.

And we pray as we give attention to your word, that you would open it up to us. We pray that you might forgive this sinner that is preaching! God, you know his sins. They are many.

We pray for the sake of your great name, that you would deal graciously with your people.

Bless the preaching of your word.

Though a minister may merely touch the ear. You - by your Spirit - may touch the heart and stir our souls, that we might feel its very truth in our life - in our being. And we beseech you that you would do so.

And let us see with clarity who you are, and what you require of us, and the free and abundant salvation we have in Jesus Christ.

O LORD, hear us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 73

Our Gracious Father,

We know there are many families that are grieving and yet cannot find consolation in you, cause they do not know you.

We pray as they have been broken that they might turn to you by your grace.

And we pray that you might even work in all of our hearts - reminding us afresh that our citizenship is in heaven - that Our King dwells in heaven and He rules with might.

That you would - by Your Sovereign Spirit - wean our hearts away from our attachment to this world, that we might follow The Heavenly Way. That one day when you return we shall see you and dwell with you forever.

O come, Lord Jesus.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 74

Our Father,

We thank you for your work of grace in the life of Timothy [a church member].

We, O LORD, marvel at how merciful you are to families. And we ask, O LORD, that you would so work in all our families, that every child would be born of God by your Sovereign Mercy.

That they would have personal faith - a faith that is evident - born of Scripture. That Your Word would thoroughly go into their souls.

O LORD, hear us for Christ's sake.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 75

O Sovereign and Great God,

You, who have been thundering from on high through Your Written Word in ages past - You who have brought the Church into life through Your Preached Word:

We ask, O LORD, that you would open it up to us and speak to our very souls, that the saints of God might be encouraged and nourished in the faith. That their hearts and love for Christ would grow deeply.

And that those who are strangers to This Good Lord - This Exalted Saviour - might even this day know Him, and submit to Him and find in Him free forgiveness.

But, O LORD, you alone can do that. And as we read it we pray, "Open it up to us. Search out our hearts, O God. And have mercy upon us."

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 76

Our Sovereign LORD. Great and Glorious One,

May you forgive us - for doubting your power, and your goodness and wisdom in our lives.

As we read of this young lady who was willing to die for the cause of Christ, whose zeal was to see you glorified. May we be able to say with her that your glory will be our reward.

O LORD. May that be our words and our desire.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 77

Our Father,

We could waste away just like these Israelites: Mired in sin - wrapped up in this world.

But we beseech you, O LORD, that you might open the eyes of our heart. That we might know of the great things freely given to us by your glorious grace.

O Father, emblazen before our eyes of faith the glorious things of the Gospel. Create in us deep hunger - a deep calling unto deep. [Psalm 42:7]

O LORD, we confess, O Father, we have eaten of this world. It does not satisfy. But The Gospel always has satisfied us.

O LORD, open the eyes of our understanding for your name's sake.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 78

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for the privilege of coming to your word; its unsearchable riches, O LORD, that would - it's so deep enough that it might, it can and it will engage us for the rest of our lives here and unto eternity in the future where we shall see the God who wrote these words.

And we pray that you might give us an understanding of these things. That our hearts would stand in awe and adoration at your awesomeness and kindness.

And Father, even as we begin to contemplate these matters, we confess, O LORD, our sins. They are many. We have heard things we should of not listened to. We have spoken things we should of not spoken.

And, O LORD, we are corrupt through and through. We tend to do wickedness easily. And yet, O LORD, righteousness seems to flee from us.

But you have redeemed us in Christ. And you have set Your Covenant Upon Us. And we are Your People, called by your name.

O LORD, for your sake, forgive us and heal us. And use your word to encourage us and instruct us, that you might refine us to become more and more like Your Son Jesus Christ.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 79

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for your Holy Word. And we pray that you might bring it home to us as you have done to many hearts before. And even to some of us, that you might speak to us and that we might know that You are God. God, Our Saviour through Christ Jesus.

Forgive us our sins, Father. They are so many. And this minister's sins. And they are so many. And thou knowest, O LORD, extensively how many they are.

And yet, O LORD, we thank you for the forgiveness in Christ. We are Your People - redeemed by His grace. So, LORD, hear us.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 80

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you, that in Your Great Mercy you called us to yourself. We called you not first, but you called us and saved us.

And I pray that if there be anybody in this room who knows nothing of this, that you would disturb them in the softer consciences until they yield, O LORD, and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, as you call them into fellowship with Your Son.

I thank you for my brothers and sisters here, LORD. Enable us to boast in your kindness and goodness to us. And realize were it not for your initiative and work we would all be dead in our sins.

Oh, thank you.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 81

Our Great God,

We thank you for Your Great Salvation and your liberal display which you lavished upon us.

We confess, O LORD, with such [spiritual] riches we ought not to be attracted to anything. And yet, LORD, we see that the heap and the grace of your kindness, we're ashamed, that our souls would find so much satisfaction in lesser things and not in the meat for our soul.

Father, we pray that you might work in us this week, to compel us to enter into your presence and to delight in your grace and kindness. That our souls might be persuaded and assured of all that you have done for us in Christ.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 82

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for Your Gracious Plan in saving us for yourself through Christ Jesus.

We thank you that we added nothing to it, but you have done it all. That you might get all the glory.

We pray that you might enable all of us, LORD, to find in Christ Our Forgiveness - Our Life and Contentment.

And forgive us, O LORD, those of us who have known Christ and believed in Him. O LORD, secretly our hearts yearn for things that are lesser.

O LORD, turn our hearts to you - all of us. That you might get all the glory this day and forever more.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 83

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for your word to us. And we pray that you might take Your Precious Truth and drive it into our souls.

And those of us who have known the power of your word might rejoice with joy unspeakable in view of all the graces you have given us in Christ, that our hearts might be elated all the more this day.

And those that might not know you - that are strangers to its power. That you might, O LORD, rattle them and shake them, and give them new life - even this day. That they might be born anew in the Lord Jesus Christ, and might know something of that joy unspeakable and full of glory - of that communion and union with the Lord Jesus Christ.

And LORD, we pray that you would assist the preaching of your word, that you might be honored through it. And that you would bless your people and forgive the preacher's sins, for they are many.

O LORD, we ask this in Christ's name.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 84

Our Lord Jesus Christ,

We thank you for the revelation of your truth.

And we confess, O LORD, we have taken your great work of mercy too lightly.

We could have been left, O LORD - as we have sung. We could have been left with the thousands who make a wretched choice. They would rather starve than come.

And yet LORD, you have saved us. And we praise you for it.

We praise you that, LORD, it was not what we did, but what you have done that has brought us near.

We pray for your mercy that you would disturb some in this room who may not know it - who may not know anything of this power. That they would feel uneasy within - until they find your sure and certain rest in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Father, we pray that you would also help us with this news of redemption - regeneration - free forgiveness in Christ. Would you help us to share it with others, that they might know and believe in Jesus Christ.

O LORD, hear us in Christ's name.

Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 85

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for your truth in your word. We pray that you might us it for the benefit of your Church - Your Holy People whom you have sanctified in Christ Jesus.

And we pray that it might yield fruit in our souls, and all of us comforted with the fact that your word is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword.

And we pray that you would forgive this minister's sins. O how many they are, O LORD.

But for Christ's sake, O LORD, use this servant and use your word - the preached word - for the edification of the saints and for the conversion of sinners.

O LORD, hear us, for Christ's sake.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 86

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you that we cannot convert ourselves. But that you initiated and prompted along. And you insured that it brings forth fruit until we embrace Christ.

And I pray those of us who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ might rejoice in our salvation.

And if there be a man or a woman or a child who has not believed in Jesus Christ, that you would prick their consciences - until, O LORD, they believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for the remedy of their sins.

And we thank you for Him - Jesus, who has died - and has been raised for our justification.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 87

Our Gracious Father,

We come to you in Christ's name - knowing that we are not worthy to behold the rich things of your word, and especially this glorious doctrine.

And yet, O Father, because of what Christ has done - all these things are ours and freely given to us.

And that we pray for His sake and for the sake of Your People Whom You Have Redeemed Through Your Son, that you would use Your Word to speak to our souls, and to feed our souls, O LORD, in the knowledge of the finished work of Christ.

And we pray that Your Word would stir us and rouse to obedience in holiness, and gratitude and joy. Because, O LORD, what you have done for us - is Mighty, and Great and Everlasting.

God, forgive us our sins. Forgive this minister's sins. They are so many.

But, for Christ' sake, O LORD, hear us and renew us.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 88

Our Great God,

We thank you for presenting Your Son - for propitiation for our sins. And You have set Him apart, O LORD, to die our death, that you might give us His life and righteousness.

And He took upon, not only our sins, but your curse that was due upon them [our sins]. And now we live, because of Him. We bless you and thank you, Father.

And we pray This Truth would never leave our hearts, O LORD, in causing us to rejoice in our tribulations. That indeed, O Father, through it all we might be thankful, because of what Jesus Christ has done.

Even when we see things around us falling - falling away. When we begin to see the corruption of our body - as we age and grow weak - as we begin to see the frailty of man and the wickedness of men, we thank you that Christ has purchased us, and he has died our death.

And His righteousness has been imputed to us. And we're declared righteous, O LORD, because of what He has done. We bless you for it.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 89

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for the privilege of reading your Holy Word.

We pray that you might bless the reading and exposition of your truth - especially as we search your word regarding the doctrine of Adoption.

And that you might remind us of all the great blessings that are ours in Christ.

That you would encourage our hearts and you would take Your Word, O LORD, and press it upon our consciences and hearts, that we might be refreshed by Your Truth as you so speak to us.

And Father, we are reminded every week, O LORD, how we have forfeited every right. We thank you that it is not by virtue of what we do, but because of what Christ has done, you accept us and, O LORD, you take care of us and you deal mercifully with us for His sake.

O LORD, for His sake again, hear us and bless us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 90

Our Gracious Father,

You are indeed Our Heavenly Father. We say it so many times. We take it lightly and take it for granted, though we look and see the rich blessings of this truth: That we were aliens, and strangers, and orphans and children of wrath. But in Your Great Mercy you brought us to Yourself.

And you not only justified us. You adopted us in Christ. And what a rich inheritance we have in Him.

O Father, may our souls indeed be famished if we find comfort in anything less than what Jesus Christ has purchased for us.

Draw us to yourself. And enable us to boast in this great privilege of adoption that is ours in Christ Jesus.

O LORD, hear us for Your Son's sake.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 91

Our Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the privilege of reading your word and studying it. We pray that you might speak to us this day, and to remind us of the high calling that is ours in Christ.

And especially, LORD, as we look into this deep mysterious doctrine - the Gospel mystery of Sanctification; that you might enable us, O LORD, to see glory in it and not fear.

That we would not be - as it were - beaten down with law. But even a zeal for your holiness, that you might get all the glory in our lives.

Father, forgive us our sins. And the minister's sins - you know them, O LORD. And they are far too many. And you know the secret sins of the people here. Forgive us all, God, and grant us repentance for your sake.

But because we are yours, redeemed by Christ, would you for His sake, LORD, use this Lord's Day as a means of grace to instruct, encourage, and even to stir our souls in holiness.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 92

Our God,

We do thank you for the reminder of this call to holiness. None of us are up to it, O LORD. But you have begun the good work in us.

And we pray that we would stir ourselves as you stir it in us - holy desires and to - O LORD, enable us to not just resolve by this human flesh. But resolve as we see what your work calls us to do - to be obedient.

O may you grant us the victory, that we might give you all the glory and praise. That we might not dishonor you in this world. But that we might indeed be a holy people you have called unto yourself.

We thank you that we're not accepted because we become holy, but we are accepted because of what Christ has done. We bless you for that righteousness.

In His name we pray. Amen and Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 93

Our Most Gracious Father,

We thank you for your word. We pray that you might impress it upon our hearts and enable us to understand not only its truth, but to live its truth. And to be warned, and encouraged and challenged. To persevere to the end.

All our sins - they are many. This minister's sins. They are many. For Christ's sake, forgive them all.

But because you are Our Covenant Head, Jesus Christ - will you not bless Your People for your sake, that we might taste and see that The LORD is Good.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 94

Our Gracious God,

We thank you that you are able and willing to preserve us.

May you remind us of the good fight of faith ahead of us; that we must toil and labor, that in the end we see that Our God Has Preserved Us.

And we do yearn for that day: No more sin - no more shame. The joy, because you have kept us from falling and from all faults and stain.

O come Lord Jesus. And may you preserve us all in this room: Every adult and every Covenant Child. May every one of us make it to behold Our Saviour.

In His name we pray. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 95

Our Gracious Father,

We come before your Holy Word. As we deal with these Holy Things, O Father, we are reminded of our unholiness and how unworthy we are to deal with these eternal matters.

But it is not because of the virtue of our righteousness, O LORD, we are enabled to come before you, but through Jesus Christ - His Finished Work. That is our boast. And it because of Him we're enabled to come and beseech your face.

We pray that you would forgive us our sins and for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ. And because of Him we are Your People.

Would you bless the preaching and the reading of Your Word for the glory of Your Holy Name.

May our souls be stirred to it, LORD, yearn for The Glorious Things That Is Ours In Christ. And that you would set our hearts aflame for the world to come - and not for this world which is passing away.

O LORD, hear us for your Son's sake.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 96

Our Gracious Father,

We do thank you for the promises set out before us.

We thank you that Christ has purchased them. And it almost seems like a dream - that the wicked people that we are, O LORD, and the fickleness that seems to be so engrained into us - that we shall one day be blameless.

O Father, may you emblazen into our consciences and into our hearts - may you enliven our faith unto this reality - that we might pursue the eternal world to come - where Christ dwells.

O God, preserve us and keep us unto the end as you promised. And may we bring no dishonor to your glorious name.

May you keep us faithful unto the end - that at the end we may be with You forever and ever.

O come Lord Jesus.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

MARK HERZER
PRAYER 97

Our Gracious Father,

We thank you for The Atonement of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank you He has dealt a death blow to all our sins. That He will come not with our sins in view, but with mercy to bring us home for all who eagerly await His return.

We pray that you might send Him and snatch us from this world, that we might be glorified with Him as He comes to reign and judge the world.

We confess we're not worthy of anything we have received, but we also boast and thank you that Christ Has Done It All For Us.

O LORD, may you cause our hearts to stand in awe and enjoyment of What Christ Has Done. May our hearts learn to feast on The Finished Work of Christ, that we may gain all our confidence in Him.

O LORD, hear us.

In Christ's name. Amen.