

# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

**P**: LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

## What is the "Prayer of the Church"?



The Prayer of the Church, or the "general prayer" as it's sometimes called, is the part in the service where the pastor leads us through a series of petitions, or prayers, with responses from the congregation. For example, after each petition the pastor may say: **"Let us pray to the Lord,"** and the congregation may respond with **"Lord, have mercy."** See if you can find the Prayer of the Church in your hymnal. Try to find the other response that the pastor and congregation might say.

**R**: LORD, HAVE MERCY



## Why do we do this in the Divine Service?

Do you know anyone who needs praying for? Wouldn't you like to have the rest of the congregation praying for that person too? During the Prayer of the Church, we pray for all of the people of our congregation, particularly those who are sick and shut-in. We also pray for our missionaries, for our government, for all believers and many others. No wonder it's called the Prayer of the Church!



**Parents:** Before the Divine Service, remind your children to pay close attention to the words of the prayers. Encourage them to join in the responses with the rest of the congregation. Try using these responses in your prayers at home.



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