

A BALANCED DIET OF PUBLIC PRAYER
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The Institute for Christian Worship
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1. Praise and Adoration
 - Praise as the entrance to God's presence
 - Praise as the "Oh, Wow!" experience
 - The difference between praising God and blessing God
 - Examples: Psalm 100 and Psalms 95-96

2. Invocation
 - A particularly Puritan liturgical tradition
 - A 17th century strongpoint
 - Invocations in the Psalms, i.e. Ps. 113
 - Calling on the name: "Our Father who art in Heaven"
 - "In my name": The threefold promise in the Upper Room discourse

3. Lamentations, Confessions, Supplications
 - Solomon's Prayer of Dedication: I Kings 8
 - Prayer in time of need: drought, war, pestilence
 - Confession of Sin
 - Preponderance of Lamentations in the Psalms
 - "Forgive us our debts..."
 - The prayer of Jesus in His passion
 - "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
 - Why art thou cast down, O my soul?"

4. Intercessions
 - Prayer of the Eighteen Benedictions: a comprehensive pastoral prayer
 - John 17: the High Priestly Prayer—for unity, continuity, and purity
 - I Timothy 2--for kings and authorities, all peoples, conversion of the heathen
 - Conceived prayer: Matthew Henry and Samuel Miller
 - William Perkins and the prophetic dimension of prayer

5. Psalm Prayer
 - The oldest and most basic form of public prayer that has come down to us
 - The Psalms are the prayers of the Holy Spirit
 - When the children of Israel went up to their feasts, they sang psalms
 - Examples: Psalm 84, Psalm 42-43
 - The Lord's Song: Psalm 137—divinely inspired prayer
 - The Lord's Song: Psalm 42—"His song is with me..."
 - Prayer of Jesus in His passion:
 - Psalms 42-43
 - Psalm 22 ("My God, my God...")
 - Psalms 113-118

6. Christian hymns
 - The Magnificat* (The Song of Mary)
 - The Benedictus* (The Song of Zechariah)
 - The Song of Simeon
 - I Corinthians 14
 - Christological hymns in Philippians and Colossians
 - Revelation
 - The Odes of Solomon*
 - The Letter of Pliny to Trajan

7. Prayers of Thanksgiving
 - Votive thanksgiving:
 - Examples: The prayer of Hannah in I Samuel 1 and 2, Psalms 107, 136, and 138
 - Thanksgiving prayer and the collection of tithes and alms