# Bible Study 83

June 28th, 2023

The Book of Common Prayer (continued)

The Eucharist Prayer:

The Eucharistic Prayer BCP 361 always begins with **Great Thanksgiving** The. We used to call it the Preface. It is a prayer of thanks to the father and it concludes with the **Holy, Holy Holy**. Otherwise known as the ‘Sanctus’. It reminds us of the words shouted as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Pam Sunday.

The Eucharistic Prayer proper follows. It is either going to be **A, B, C, or D.**

A us the shortest and D is the longest. At the core of each are the words used by Jesus at the last Supper***: “This is my Body, and this is my Blood.”***

Prayer C calls for responses from the congregation all the way through the prayer. How the Prayers are chosen depends on the Season. Frequent references to Christ’s resurrection come after Easter and references to ‘The Holy Spirit’ after Pentecost.

BCP page 375 gives a choice **of NINE Offertory Sentences** which moves the entire service to the Sanctuary and the Altar.

Similarly on BCP 377 the priest can change the Proper for any Sunday or Season. This includes Feasts and special services such as weddings, funerals and Baptisms. Cf. BCP 380.

**The Prayers of the People** on BCP 383 gives Six choices. The one disadvantage of a weekly bulletin is that we tend to stay with a fixed ‘Prayers of the People’ and do not get to enjoy the variety offered by the BCP.

**Communion with no Eucharistic Prayer.**

In other words, communion for Pastoral Visits; Hospitals; Shut-ins or even when a Priest is not available and a Deacon or Lay Leader conducts the service. BCP 396.

The Eucharistic Prayer Ends BCP 363 with **the Doxology**. So, what is the doxology?

***“All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.”***

THAT IS THE DOXOLOGY. It ends with a period.

The AMEN is not a part of the Doxology. The AMEN is the GREAT AMEN delivered by all the congregation participating in the service. It is a shout in Hebrew that concludes the Eucharistic Prayer and it means**: ‘WE AGREED!’**

Next comes the **OUR FATHER.**