

# A Prayer of Thanksgiving



## ***PRAYER ONE***

Jesus Christ, my Lord and God, I give thanks for your loving kindness and all the blessings You have richly bestowed upon me.

I fall down in worship and adoration before You, the King of Glory.

I praise You, I glorify You, I bless You and I give thanks to You for Your great goodness and tender mercy. To You I come, my sweet Lord and loving Master.

Shine in my heart the light of Your grace. Enlighten my mind, that I may walk uprightly all my life by keeping Your commandments.

Glorified and exalted is Your holy name, now and forever. Amen.

## ***PRAYER TWO***

O Lord my Savior and my Master, I, Thine unprofitable servant, with fear and trembling give thanks unto Thy loving goodness for all Thy benefits which Thou hast poured so abundantly upon me, Thy servant. I fall down in adoration before Thee and offer Thee, O God, my praises; with fervor I cry to Thee:

O God, deliver me from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in me such of my desires as may be expedient for me. Hear me, I entreat Thee, and have mercy, for Thou art the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and unto Thee, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

I praise Thee, O God of our Fathers, I hymn Thee, I bless Thee, I give thanks unto thee for Thy great and tender mercy. To Thee I flee, O merciful and mighty God. Shine into my heart with the True Sun of Thy righteousness.

Enlighten my mind and keep all my senses, that henceforth I may walk uprightly and keep Thy commandments, and may finally attain unto eternal life, even to Thee, Who art the source of life, and be admitted to the glorious fruition of Thy inaccessible Light; for Thou art my God, and unto Thee, O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **PRAYER THREE**

Lord Jesus Christ our God, the God of boundless mercies and compassion, Whose love for mankind is indescribable and immeasurable: I fall before Your glory with fear and trembling as I offer You thanks for all the good things You have granted me, Your unworthy servant. I glorify You, praise You and sing to You, the only Lord, the Master, and Benefactor.

Again, falling before You, I offer thanks for Your unspeakable compassion and pray that from this day forth, as before, You continue to work Your wonders for me, that thus I may grow in love for You and to cry out and sing to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Excerpts from*

## Akathist of Thanksgiving, 'Glory to God for All Things'

### **Kontakion 2**

O Lord, how lovely it is to be Thy guest. Breeze full of scents; mountains reaching to the skies; waters like boundless mirrors, reflecting the sun's golden rays and the scudding clouds. All nature murmurs mysteriously, breathing the depth of tenderness. Birds and beasts of the forest bear the imprint of Thy love. Blessed art thou, mother earth, in thy fleeting loveliness, which wakens our yearning for happiness that will last for ever, in the land where, amid beauty that grows not old, the cry rings out: Alleluia!

### **Ikos 2**

Thou hast brought me into life as into an enchanted paradise. We have seen the sky like a chalice of deepest blue, where in the azure heights the birds are singing. We have listened to the soothing murmur of the forest and the melodious music of the streams. We have tasted fruit of fine flavour and the sweet-scented honey. We can live very well on Thine earth. It is a pleasure to be Thy guest.

Glory to Thee for the Feast Day of life  
Glory to Thee for the perfume of lilies and roses  
Glory to Thee for each different taste of berry and fruit  
Glory to Thee for the sparkling silver of early morning dew  
Glory to Thee for the joy of dawn's awakening  
Glory to Thee for the new life each day brings  
Glory to Thee, O God, from age to age

[...]

## **Kontakion 9**

Why is it that on a Feast Day the whole of nature mysteriously smiles?  
Why is it that then a heavenly gladness fills our hearts; a gladness far  
beyond that of earth and the very air in church and in the altar becomes  
luminous? It is the breath of Thy gracious love. It is the reflection of the  
glory of Mount Tabor. Then do heaven and earth sing Thy praise:  
Alleluia!

## **Ikos 9**

When Thou didst call me to serve my brothers and filled my soul with  
humility, one of Thy deep, piercing rays shone into my heart; it became  
luminous, full of light like iron glowing in the furnace. I have seen Thy  
face, face of mystery and of unapproachable glory.

Glory to Thee, transfiguring our lives with deeds of love

Glory to Thee, making wonderfully Sweet the keeping of Thy  
commandments

Glory to Thee, making Thyself known where man shows mercy on his  
neighbour

Glory to Thee, sending us failure and misfortune that we may  
understand the sorrows of others

Glory to Thee, rewarding us so well for the good we do

Glory to Thee, welcoming the impulse of our heart's love

Glory to Thee, raising to the heights of heaven every act of love in earth  
and sky

Glory to Thee, O God, from age to age

# Thanksgiving Prayer

*(suitable for praying with non-Orthodox)*

Master, Lord, God Almighty, we have gathered together to praise Your majesty, to bless You, to glorify You, the only true God, and to offer thanks to You with a grateful heart for all the blessings You have bestowed upon us, and You continue to do.

O Lord, we find ourselves in this land as Jonah did in the boat, when, in time of danger, all of the sailors and passengers, though of different faiths, yet with one heart, they raised supplicatory arms, each to their respective god. You, the only true and living God, did not despise their prayers, because of the confusion of their minds and lack of knowledge, but answered their prayers, revealing to them Your holy will, and rescuing them from danger.

We too, O God of our fathers, as we are about to sit down and partake of these gifts You have set before us, we raise up our arms to You and ask You to accept our prayer of thanksgiving, along with people of every faith on this land. We unite our prayer together with every American, thankful for the religious freedom we enjoy — if only we use it to learn about You, the true God, in order to know You, love You and worship You in truth.

We are especially thankful, Almighty God, for Your ineffable love toward us, Your ungrateful and unworthy servants, and for the sacrifice on the Cross of Your only begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, and for the gifts of Your all Holy Good and Life-giving Spirit.

Gratefully we unite our voices and we pray to You, with the prayer taught us by Your Son and our God Jesus Christ, saying, [Our Father]

Source: <http://www.orthodoxwitness.org/orthodox-thanksgiving-day-prayer/>