Lesson 6

Why Do We Go to Divine Liturgy?

A Journey Through the Divine Liturgy

Scripture Focus: Acts 2:42

Memory Verse:

"They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers." — Acts 2:42

Name: _____ Date: _____



THE DIVINE LITURGY: MORE THAN JUST GOING TO CHURCH

The Divine Liturgy is the central worship service of the Orthodox Church. It is a sacred gathering where we pray, sing, listen to God's Word, remember Christ's saving work, and prepare to receive Holy Communion.

Every part of the service has a meaning. Let's take a journey through the Divine Liturgy!

1. THE BEGINNING: WE GATHER TO WORSHIP



What happens?

- The priest begins with the blessing.
- We respond, "Amen!"
- We make the sign of the cross.

Why does it matter?

We are one Church family, worshiping the Holy Trinity.

Think about it:

Why do you think the priest begins by blessing the Kingdom of God?

_____

_____

2. THE LITTLE ENTRANCE: CHRIST COMES AMONG US

What happens?

The priest carries the Holy Gospel in a procession.

Why does it matter?

The Gospel brings the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Remember:

The Gospel book contains the teachings of Jesus.



3. THE SCRIPTURE READINGS: GOD SPEAKS TO US

What happens?

We listen to the Epistle and Gospel readings.

Why does it matter?

God speaks to us through Scripture.

Think about it:

What is one way you can put something you hear in the Gospel into practice?

_____



4. THE GREAT ENTRANCE: PREPARING THE HOLY GIFTS

What happens?

The priest carries the bread and wine into the altar.

Why does it matter?

The bread and wine will become the Body and Blood of Christ.



5. THE CREED AND ANAPHORA: WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

What happens?

We say the Creed and the priest leads the Eucharistic prayer.

Why does it matter?

We remember Christ's sacrifice and thank God.



6. HOLY COMMUNION: WE RECEIVE CHRIST

What happens?

We receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Why does it matter?

We are united with Christ.



7. THE DISMISSAL: WE ARE SENT OUT TO LIVE OUR FAITH

What happens?

The priest gives the final blessing.

Why does it matter?

The Divine Liturgy sends us to share Christ's love!



2. PUT THE DIVINE LITURGY IN ORDER

Write the correct number from 1–7.

_____ We hear the Epistle and Gospel readings.

_____ We receive Holy Communion.

_____ The priest carries the bread and wine in the Great Entrance.

_____ We gather and begin with prayers and hymns.

_____ We say the Creed and participate in the Anaphora.

_____ The priest gives the final blessing and dismisses the people.

_____ The priest carries the Gospel in the Little Entrance.

3. CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

Match each part to what happens.

1. Little Entrance	___	A.	We receive the Body and Blood of Christ
2. Gospel	___	B.	The priest carries the bread and wine
3. Great Entrance	___	C.	The Gospel book is carried in procession
4. Anaphora	___	D.	We hear the teachings of Jesus
5. Holy Communion	___	E.	We offer thanksgiving

4. THINK LIKE AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

A. Why do you think the Divine Liturgy has different parts instead of one long prayer? _____

_____

B. What is the difference between the Little Entrance and the Great Entrance?

_____

C. Which part of the Divine Liturgy helps you feel closest to God? Why?

_____

5. MY FAITH IN ACTION

The next time I attend Divine Liturgy, I will pay closer attention to:

_____

One thing I understand better about the Divine Liturgy is:

_____

My Challenge:

During the next Divine Liturgy, try to recognize the Little Entrance, the Gospel reading, and the Great Entrance.

Lesson 6 Craft

My Mini Prosphoro

Preparing a Gift for the Divine Liturgy

What are we making?

We are making a small paper prosphoro using a paper plate!

Prosphoro means **offering.** It is special leavened bread offered by members of the Church for use in the Divine Liturgy.

Our Finished Project!



Materials

- Small paper plate (6-inch)
- Tan or light brown construction paper
- Brown crayon or marker
- Printed IC XC NIKA seal
- Scissors and glue
- Markers or colored pencils

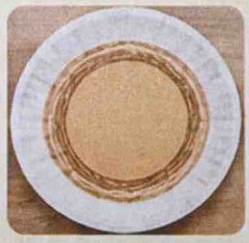
Let's Make Our Prosphoro!

1 Create the Bread



Cut a circle from tan construction paper, slightly smaller than your paper plate. Glue it in the center.

2 Add the Crust



Use a brown marker or crayon to make a bread-like edge.

3 Add the Holy Seal



Cut out the IC XC NIKA seal and glue it in the center.

4 Write Who you Pray For



Write the names of people you are praying for around the edge of your prosphoro.

What Does the Seal Mean?

IC XC
NIKA

IC = Jesus
XC = Christ
NIKA = Conquers

Together:
JESUS CHRIST CONQUERS!

Think About It

1. What does the word Prosphoro mean?

   _____

   _____

2. Why do we bring prosphoro to church?

   _____

   _____

3. What happens to the prosphoro during the Proskomide?

   _____

   _____

My Offering to God

We offer bread for the Divine Liturgy. We can also offer God our love, prayers, and kindness.

One gift I can offer God this week is:

_____

_____

"Let us offer to God a sacrifice of praise."
— Hebrews 13:15