

FORMS OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

There are different styles of Christian worship, praise and adoration for God. Worship comes in part from the 4th Commandment, “keep the Sabbath day holy”

The traditional form of worship is LITURGICAL WORSHIP which is very formal and follows a set pattern which is often written down in service books and repeated every week. An example of this would be the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH or THE ANGLICAN CHURCH.

NON LITURGICAL WORSHIP or INFORMAL WORSHIP does not follow a set pattern and is more spontaneous. EVANGELICAL churches are more likely to use this.

INDIVIDUAL WORSHIP is usually done in addition to the corporate worship with others in church. It helps secure a personal relationship with God.



For more information open the links below

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/ritesrituals/worship.shtml>

<http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/worship/>

THINGS INCLUDED IN WORSHIP

BIBLE READINGS—often passages are read from the OLD TESTAMENT part of the Bible written before Jesus, the NEW TESTAMENT written after Jesus and which includes THE GOSPELS which contain information about Jesus’ life and his teachings and from the LETTERS written by people in the early churches offering advice and instructing churches on matters of belief and church rules.

PRAYERS—formal written prayers and spontaneous ones.

MUSIC—traditionally hymns, but less formal worship songs and just pieces of music.

A SERMON—a speech by the vicar to explain a piece of the Bible and show how it is still relevant in our lives today.

HOLY COMMUNION, MASS or EUCHARIST—all names given for the taking of the BREAD and WINE during the service reminding Christians of Jesus’ LAST SUPPER with his disciples and the sacrifice they believe he made by dying on the cross.

SILENCE AND REFLECTION—periods of thought or private prayer.

DECLARATIONS OF FAITH—such as the reading of the APOSTLES CREED.

VIDEO—more modern churches use audio and visual technology to play relevant videos

To find out more about prayer and its importance look at the links below

<http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/christian-spirituality-prayer-as-an-act-of-worship/>

<http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/prayer/>



CHRISTIAN PRAYER

Prayer has always been important for Christians and this was clear as Jesus taught his disciples how to pray using the LORD’S PRAYER (see below)

Prayers can be SET which means they are written and often repeated every Sunday, such as the Lord’s prayer.

Some Christians prefer EXTEMPORANEOUS prayers which are spontaneous as they feel the more formal are just repeated without thought, however they might still use the Lord’s prayer. The style of prayer varies but Christians believe it provides a direct access to God building a personal relation with him. This can be done directly but Roman Catholics often pray to Mary the mother of Jesus or the saints asking them to help get to God.

There are different types of prayer:-

ADORATION—deep love and respect for God

CONFESSIONAL—statement of what you believe, your faith

CONTEMPLATION—meditation

PENITENTIAL—saying sorry for sins you have committed

PRAISE—praising God and all he has done

THANKSGIVING—saying thank you to God

SUPPLICATION—asking for something from God for yourself or others.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven,
 Hallowed be thy Name.
 Thy kingdom come.
 Thy will be done,
 On earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 As we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 But deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever.

Amen.