

Thanksgiving for the birth of a Child

1 *The minister says:*

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. (*Psalm 105: 1*)

Almighty God, of his great goodness, has been pleased to keep *N* safe in childbirth and has given her and *N* a son, *N*. Let us therefore give heartfelt thanks to God.

2 A PSALM *is said or sung by all.*

PSALM 116 (verses 1,2,5,7,12-14,17-19)

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice:
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.

The Lord is gracious and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.

Be at rest once more, O my soul,
for the Lord has been good to you.

How can I repay the Lord
for all his goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.

I will sacrifice a thank-offering to you
and call on the name of the Lord.
I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord -
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord.

or

PSALM 127

Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders labour in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchmen stand guard in vain.
In vain you rise early and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat -
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

Sons are a heritage from the Lord,
children a reward from him.
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are sons born in one's youth.
Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.
They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their enemies in the gate.

3 THE PRAYERS

Minister Let us pray.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
Minister Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All

Either

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,

or

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today
our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,

the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

the power and the glory,
now and for ever. Amen.

Minister O Lord, save *these* your *servants*;
All and all who put their trust in you.

Minister Be to *them* a strong tower;
All and *their* refuge and strength.

Minister My soul praises the Lord,
All and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

Minister Lord, hear our prayer.
All And let our cry come to you. Amen.

The minister continues in prayer, saying:

Almighty God, we give you humble thanks because you have been pleased to keep *N* safe through childbirth and to give *these* your *servants* a son. Grant, we pray, most merciful Father, that *they* may walk with you; be faithful in teaching *their* child the Christian way of life; and that in the life to come *they* may enjoy eternal glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**