**Prayers of Thanksgiving**

• The first two prayers are general thanksgivings based on those in *An Australian Prayer Book*, pp 35-6. They remain familiar, with only slight changes to modernise and simplify language.

• The third and fourth prayers seek to bring together, as does Colossians 1, the themes of creation and redemption in prayers praising and thanking God for all his works.

• Because of its form and language, the fifth prayer is especially suited to less formal occasions, such as a family service. The congregation joins in through the versicle/response pattern, and the leader may add further thanksgivings relevant to the occasion or particular needs.

1. Almighty God and merciful Father,

 we give you humble and hearty thanks

 for all your goodness and loving kindness

 to us and to all people.

 We praise you for creating and sustaining us

 and for all the blessings of this life;

 but above all for your amazing love

 in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,

 giving us grace and the hope of glory.

 Give us such a sense of all your goodness,

 that we may be truly thankful and may praise you

 not only with our lips, but in our lives,

 by serving you in holy and righteous ways;

 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

 be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

2. Gracious God, our heavenly Father,

 we humbly thank you

 for all your gifts so freely given:

 for life and health and safety,

 for work and rest and friendship,

 and for the wonder of creation.

 We thank you for preserving throughout history

 a people for yourself.

 Above all, we praise you for our Saviour, Jesus Christ,

 for his death and resurrection,

 for your life-giving Spirit

 and the hope of sharing in your glory.

 Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;

 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. Almighty God, creator and redeemer,

 we praise you for your work of creation;

 for the beauty of the world around us

 and for every gift we enjoy.

 We bless you for creating us to know you,

 love you and obey you.

 Most of all we thank you

 for your amazing love

 in sending your Son

 to restore your world,

 to die for us

 and to give us life in all its fullness.

 Accept, O God, our praise and thanksgiving

 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4. Lord, you made all things,

 and you made us in your image

 to enjoy and govern them.

 We thank you

 for your work of creation,

 for the beauty we enjoy,

 for human skill and artistry.

 We thank you

 for community, friendship and love,

 for family and marriage,

 for the privilege of parenthood.

 Above all we thank you

 for Jesus, your Son,

 through whom you created all things,

 and by whom you sustain them.

 We thank you

 that he became one of us and died

 to reconcile all creation to you,

in heaven and on earth,

 and to call us into peace with you. **Amen.**

5. Gracious and generous God,

 thank you for providing all our needs.

 **Make us truly grateful, Lord.**

For families and friends,

 **we give you thanks.**

 For enjoyment of all that is good,

 **we give you thanks.**

 For the love of Jesus our Saviour,

 **we give you thanks.**

For his life poured out in sacrifice for us,

 **we give you thanks.**

*Other thanksgivings may be added.*

 Lord, keep us mindful of those in need

 that, as we pray for them,

 we may be generous to them, as you are to us.

 **We ask this in the name of Jesus,**

 who alone gives us life eternal. **Amen**.