

◆ What is a COLLECT?

*Collect* originates from the Latin term *collecta*, which means “the *gathering of people together* as well as to the *collecting up* of the petitions of individual members of the congregation into one prayer.”

- *from* The Collects of Thomas Cranmer by C.F. Barbee & Paul Zahl

- ◆ Collects generally reflect the *theme of the day*. More so during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Saints’ days, than during the Propers after Pentecost.
- ◆ **The Collect of the Day** [See BCP, page 231 *Collects, Contemporary*]

**Proper 11**            *The Sunday closest to July 20*

(1) Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, (2) you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: (3) Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; (5) through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Preface of the Lord's Day*

The Proper Preface corresponds to the Collect and Lessons – see BCP 377-382

**Note:** *Proper 11* was originally written by Abp Thomas Cranmer for the 1549 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) as a closing prayer to the Liturgy of the Word, when the Eucharist was not going to follow. The scriptural antecedents for the prayer are found in Ecclesiasticus 1.5, Matthew 6.8 and Romans 8.26. This collect was included with the occasional prayers, for the Daily Office in the 1928 BCP.

- ◆ Collects are written according to the following structure:

1. The Address
2. The Acknowledgement
3. The Petition
4. The Aspiration (does not appear in all collects – note Proper 11, above)
5. The Pleading

**Example**            **The Collect for Purity**

(1) Almighty God, (2) to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: (3) Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, (4) that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; (5) through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*References:* The Collects of Th. Cranmer by Barbee & Zahl, Commentary on the American Prayer Book by Hatchett, The Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary by Shepherd.