

## CHAPTER 3 PRAYER SERVICE

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader:** Let us pray. Lord Jesus, our souls are thirsting for your life and love. As we gather in your name today, be present to us in the words of Scripture, in the prayers of the saints, and in our own hearts and minds. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

**Reader 1:** A reading from the book of Psalms.

O God, you are my God—  
it is you I seek!  
For you my body yearns;  
for you my soul thirsts,  
In a land parched, lifeless,  
and without water.

**All:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Reader 1:** I look to you in the sanctuary  
to see your power and glory.  
For your love is better than life;  
my lips shall ever praise you!  
I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands, calling on your name.

**All:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Leader:** Hundreds of years ago, St. Augustine said, “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.” Today we continue to seek God in the natural world, the people around us, Scripture, and the circumstances of our lives. As we listen to this song, I invite you to bring your restless heart to the Lord. Ask Him to make his peaceful, loving, and merciful presence known to you in this time of prayer.

*Play the contemporary worship song, “Lord I Need You” by Matt Maher, available for free on YouTube.*

**Reader 2:** Eternal God, eternal Trinity,  
You have made the Blood of Christ so precious  
through his sharing in your Divine nature.  
You are a mystery as deep as the sea;

the more I search, the more I find,  
and the more I find, the more I search for you.

**All:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Reader 2:** But I can never be satisfied;  
what I receive will ever leave me desiring more.  
When you fill my soul, I have an ever greater hunger,  
and I grow more famished for your light.  
I desire above all to see you,  
the true Light, as you really are.

**All:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Leader:** Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we seek the comfort of your embrace. Remind us of your love for us. Son of God, we seek the healing and restoration you obtained on the cross. Remind us of your love for us. Holy Spirit, we seek the strength and wisdom of your constant presence. Remind us of your love for us. We ask all of this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.