

We Worship God

TAKING SUNDAY INTO THE REST OF THE WEEK (LAST BLESSING AND DISMISSAL)

UNIT
5
LESSON
FIVE

From Our Hearts to God

I will bless the Lord at all times. Amen.

MY WORLD

When people gather to see or experience something together, there are always special endings!

For example...

What happens at the end of...

1. A family Thanksgiving?
2. A graduation ceremony?
3. A session of summer camp?



Getting Closer to God

The end of the Badarak is the **Last Blessing and Dismissal**. It starts when the curtain opens after Holy Communion.

The priest holds the gospel book, bows three times and kisses the holy altar and comes down into the chancel. He says the prayer of St. John Chrysostom and we respond with the choir.

- Lord, who blesses those who bless you and **sanctifies** those who put their trust in you.

Blessed is God.

- Save your people and bless your **inheritance**. Guard the fullness of your Church.

Amen.

- **Sanctify** those who have greeted in love the beauty of your house. Glorify us with your divine power and **forsake not** those who put their trust in you.

Amen.



- **Grant** peace to the whole world, to churches, to priests, to Christian rulers and to their armed forces, and to all your people.

Amen.

- For all good gifts and all perfect **bounties** come down from above, from you, the Father of light; and to you is **befitting** glory, **dominion** and honor, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

Amen.

Now we all sing: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth for evermore.

The priest says his final prayer: You are the perfection of the law and of the prophets, O Christ God our Savior, who did fulfill all your **economies** willed by the Father. Fill us also with your Holy Spirit.

The last gospel reading is read and we sing the last hymn of the Badarak: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall at all times be in my mouth.

The priest blesses us before we come forward to kiss the gospel book he holds and then leave. He says: Be blessed by the grace of the Holy Spirit. **Depart** in peace and the Lord be with you always.

As we kiss the gospel book, we should say: May the Lord remember all your sacrifices.



Our Armenian Way

We kiss each other hello and goodbye as a sign of love and respect. Grandparents, uncles, aunts and parents are people we kiss in this way.

In the church we give the Kiss of Peace when the deacon says: "Greet each other with a holy kiss." We kiss the priest's hand cross. At the end of the service, the priest stands before the

chancel and holds the gospel book for all to come up and kiss.

As we leave the church we remember our promise to praise God and keep God with us through the week in everything we do.

RESPONDING IN FAITH

Holy Spirit, guide us through the weeks ahead and all the days of our lives. Amen!



Taking a Closer Look

The language of the church and worship uses words we might not hear in everyday life. Look at the words below and match them with their meaning:

Grant_____

Depart_____

Dominion_____

Dismissal_____

Sanctify_____

Inheritance_____

Forsake not_____

Bounties_____

Befitting_____

Forth_____

Economies_____

1. Make holy

2. Give

3. Gifts

4. Leave

5. Deserving

6. Don't give up on

7. God's ways and plans

8. Forward

9. Leaving

10. Power over all things

11. Your people

Time to Celebrate

An end-of-the-year party!

FAMILY CORNER

Sharing Our Faith

We have finished our unit on the Divine Liturgy. Your child should now have an overall understanding of the Divine Liturgy of the Armenian Church. And we have completed our year together – congratulations to you and your child!

Living Our Faith

Attend church with your child as often as possible. Encourage your child to participate with singing, actions (kissing the hand cross, bowing, making the sign of the cross, standing, kneeling, confession and Holy Communion, kissing the Gospel). Point out items, actions, intentions during the service. Pray together as a family and as a community.