

What is the "Benediction"?

The Benediction (pronounced ben-eh-DIK-shun) is God's blessing for the congregation given through the pastor at the very end of the service. There are several different benedictions that we use in the church. The Aaronic Benediction is the one that we use in the Divine Service. You can find this in Num. 6:24–26. We use the other benedictions in other services like Matins and Vespers. Can you find the benedictions for these services in your hymnal?



Why is there a Benediction in the Divine Service?

The word "benediction" comes from the Latin word "bene" which means "well," and "dicere" which means "speak." When the pastor pronounces the Benediction, God is giving us His blessing, or speaking well to us. He sends us on our way with His blessing after we have received His wonderful gifts through the Word and Sacraments. God sure does a lot of giving to His people!



Parents:

Before or after the Divine Service, direct your children to the various services in the hymnal. Encourage them to find and read the benedictions for each service. Help them to find the Aaronic Benediction.



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