

June 2014

The Didache Prayer, & Notes on the Score

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ISSN: 2472-2596 (print)

ISSN: 2472-260X (online)

Recommended Citation

Dusenbury, Timothy. 2014. The Didache Prayer, & Notes on the Score. *Obsculta* 7, (1) : 225-241.
<https://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/obsculta/vol7/iss1/15>.

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THE *DIDACHE* PRAYER, & NOTES
ON THE SCORE

Timothy Dusenbury

The *Didache* is an early church document dating from the late first or early second century. This version of the *Didache* premiered at the Thursday liturgy for Saint John's School of Theology-Seminary. It was decided that this ancient prayer be used in a new context. The idea was that it serve liturgically as both the closing prayer of the Thanksgiving liturgy and as the "*Maranatha*" gathering prayer. One of the most striking features of the text is its recurring use of two refrains: "to you be the glory forever" and "for yours is the glory and the power forever." In addition to serving as formal markers, these refrains offered a chance for the congregation to participate actively by singing the refrains in response to the choir.

Another formal consideration was the piece's ending. Generally, thanksgiving liturgies are more exultant than contemplative liturgies. This dramatic necessity initially seemed at cross-purposes with the text, which closes with a series of sporadic prayers, no longer united by a refrain. In order to achieve a fuller ending, the final phrase, "*Marana tha*" was used as a re-gathering point. Initially sung by a single, unac-

accompanied voice, the other singers enter at will, improvising repeatedly on the given melody. The hope was that, in addition to meeting a liturgical need, this setting would evoke some of the ecstatic associations of this early invocation.

The Didache Prayer

from *The Didache*
trans. Br. Lewis Grobe, OSB

Timothy Dusenbury
November 2013

Freely
Solo

We thank you, Our Fa - ther, for the Ho - ly Vine of Da - vid your son,



2

whom you made known to us through your son Je - sus; to_ you be the glo-ry for-ev-er,



All w/Congregation

to_ you_ be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to_ you_ be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to_ you_ be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to_ you_ be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

A

mf

We thank you, Our Fa - ther, for the life and know - ledge

mf

We thank you, Our Fa - ther, for the life and know - ledge



7

which you made known to us through your son Je - sus;

which you made known to us through your son Je - sus;



8

f

to — you — be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

to — you — be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

to — you — be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f

to — you — be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

O B S C V L T A

w/Congregation

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

B

11 *mf*

As this bro - ken bread was scat - tered up - on the moun - tains and gath - ered in - to one,

As this bro - ken bread was scat - tered up - on the moun - tains and gath - ered in - to one,

12

may your Church be gath - ered from the ends of the earth in - to your king - dom;

may your Church be gath - ered from the ends of the earth in - to your king - dom;

13

f for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
f for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
f for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,
f for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er,



w/Congregation

for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.
 for yours is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

C

22 *mf*
 We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,
mf
 We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,
mf
 We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,
mf
 We thank you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, for your ho - ly name,

which you have pre - pared in our hearts,
 which you have pre - pared in our hearts,
 which you have pre - pared in our hearts,
 which you have pre - pared in our hearts,

23
 and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,
 and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,
 and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,
 and for the know - ledge and faith and im - mor - tal - i - ty,

DIDACHE & NOTES

24

which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;

which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;

which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;

which you have made known to us through your son Je - sus;



25

f to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

f to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er,

O B S C V L T A

w/Congregation

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er.

D

28

You, Al - might - y Mas - ter, cre - at - ed all things

You, Al - might - y Mas - ter, cre - at - ed all things

for the sake of your name, and you gave food and drink

for the sake of your name, and you gave food and drink

30

to the sons and daughters of men for enjoyment,

to the sons and daughters of men for enjoyment,

E

31

But to us you gave spiritual food and drink

But to us you gave spiritual food and drink

and eternal life through Jesus your son.

and eternal life through Jesus your son.

F

32

mf cresc. A -bove all things we thank you, a -bove all things we thank you, a -bove

mf cresc. A -bove all things we thank you, a -bove all things we thank you, a -bove

mf cresc. A -bove all things we thank you, a -bove

mf cresc. A -bove all things we thank you, a -bove

O B S C V L T A

rit. -----

37 *ff*

all things we thank you be - cause you are

all things we thank you be - cause you are

all things we thank you be - cause you are

all things we thank you be - cause you are



Maestoso

40 ----- w/Congregation

pow - er - ful; to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to

pow - er - ful; to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to

pow - er - ful; to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to

pow - er - ful; to you be the glo - ry for - ev - er, to

ff

42

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

you be the glo - ry for - ev - er. A - men.

G

45

pp Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

pp Re - mem - ber, Lord, your church,

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

to de - liv - er it from all e - vil

O B S C V L T A

and to per - fect it in your love,
and to per - fect it in your love,
and to per - fect it in your love,
and to per - fect it in your love,

mp
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
mp
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
mp
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,
mp
and gath - er it from the four winds, hav - ing been sanc - ti - fied,

in - to your king - dom which you have pre - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - pared for it;
in - to your king - dom which you have pre - pared for it;

H

47 *ff* w/Congregation

for yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

ff

for yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er, for

H

52

yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

yours_ is the glo - ry and the pow - er for - ev - er.

O B S C V L T A

57 Solo
May grace come, and this world pass a - way.

58
A - men. Solo 1
A - men. Ho - san - na to the God of Da - vid.
All
A - men.
A - men.

60 Solo 2
If a - ny - one is ho - ly, let him come;

Solo 3
if a - ny one is not, let him re - pent.

61 Solo 4
let him re - pent.

63

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

First entrance

Solo

Ma - ra - na__ tha, ma - ra - na__ tha, Ma - ra - na__ tha, ma - ra - na__ tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na tha,

Ma - ra - na tha, ma - ra - na__ tha,

1. singers should enter individually
2. they may repeat boxed text or alternate between them
3. singers should freely alter the note values given
4. they may also improvise freely in the mode
5. in general the improvisation should rise and quicken as it continues
6. the organ enters last and repeats its boxed measure three times
7. singers continue improvising through the organ's m. 63

Last entrance

On pedal alone, in successive repeats add staves

mp *ff*

O B S C V L T A

65 **Maestoso** w/Congregation
ff

ff A -
ff A -
ff A -
ff A -
A -

Maestoso



66

men.
men.
men.
men.
men.