

The Benediction

The last part of our service to talk about is the Benediction. We use what's known as the Aaronic Benediction. It's called that because these are the words God told Aaron to say when he put the name of God on the people of Israel. This comes from **Numbers 6**.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24—26)

Just as we started the service in the name of the Lord, we close it and go on our way in the name of the Lord. Look at what this blessing asks for:

- The Lord bless you and keep you – may God give you everything you need for this life and protect you.
- The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you – may God look upon you in love and give you every good and perfect gift.
- The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace – may God look at you with favor and give you peace with Himself, the peace of forgiveness.

In pronouncing this Benediction, I am assuring everyone in the congregation that this is how God wants to treat you this week.

Prayer:

Lord, you have met with us here in Your house. Send us forth with Your blessings throughout this week that we may give You the glory; we pray this through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

Amen.