

## Prayers of the Church

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

A: In the presence of our creator God who calls us to a growth that will transform and support us, let us come together and present our needs.

We pray that all people of every race, nation and class may find a dwelling place of welcome and nourishment with God's family. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray that as the mustard seed, the smallest of all earth's seeds, grows into the largest of shrubs, so may God's kingdom grow in us. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray that as we plant the seeds of the kingdom, we may sow generously, from a full heart. We especially lift up all missionaries, including Kathleen Lutz. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray that as seeds require time to grow, we may continue to water and nourish ourselves with God's word, sacraments, and prayer, that in time we will grow strong and true, and give life and shelter to others. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray to our heavenly Father, from whom all families on earth are named, that He would bless our earthly fathers, and enable them to be examples of faith and Christian living for their children. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray for our graduates, that as they enter a new phase of their life, the seed of God's grace would mature and ripen in their souls. Lord, in your mercy . . .

We pray for the ill, injured and suffering, especially Messiah members Beth Martin, Carol Watkins, Dick Miller, Gordon Ebright, Karen Fox, Marion Bowman; and our friends Abigail, Anna, Barry, Bill & Janet, Brian & Cindy, Carol, Colleen, Dan, Daniel, Pastor David, Doug, Harry, Kathy, Kristin, Matthew, Pastor Mike, Peter, Roberta, Ruth, Scott, Pastor Ted, and those we name silently or out loud before you now (*pause for 30 seconds*) We also remember those who are away from the body and at home with the Lord, and those who mourn them, and we pray that before God's judgment seat we may be found faithful to share eternal life with them. Lord, in your mercy . . .

Precious Savior, sanctify our lives today. Make us holy and wholly yours. Bless the leaders of our church including Brenda and our congregation council. Be with those who lead the NALC, Bishop Dan, General Secretary Amy, our area assistant to the bishop Bill, and our Central Mission District dean Rodney and our brothers and sisters in Christ, including the congregation and ministries of Christ Lutheran Church in Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania. Raise up faithful leaders for the future of our church and the nation. Lord in your mercy . . .

**P: Nurturing Father, teach us to sense deeply your presence as we grow in love and service. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN**