

Prayers of the Church

5th Sunday after Pentecost

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

Almighty God, we thank you that you used your powerful word to create life. As we look at your creation, we are in awe to think of the vast array of life that surrounds us. Remind us to be good caretakers of your earth and the bodies you have given us. Bless all parents as they care for their children including the preborn. Give us a healthy respect for the delicate nature of life and to do our part to be stewards of all that you have given us. Lord in your mercy...

Dear God, we thank you for your protective hand over us. There are so many opportunities for us to feel overwhelmed and we call on you to steady us in the midst of life's challenges. Bless our brothers and sisters in Christ who daily face persecution for their faith in you. Protect them and change the hearts of their persecutors. Renew respect for your name and your ways in our land that we would not exalt what is displeasing to you but would honor you in both religious and civic life. Lord in your mercy...

Holy God, give us compassionate hearts. As we reflect on all of our blessings make us ready to share freely and generously with those in need. We thank you for missionaries and first responders, those in the health care professions, the military and all those who work in dangerous situations for the good of others. Give these workers the energy they need to face the challenges of their vocations and guide each of us to use our talents for the benefit of your kingdom. Lord in your mercy...

Precious Savior, increase our faith. Help us to trust that you are with us and that we have nothing to fear in this life or the next. Increase our desire to worship you and to engage with your holy word so that we may grow spiritually. Give us patience to endure when we are tested and give us wisdom to make decisions that are pleasing in your sight. Bless our times of leisure that they may be done safely and truly refresh us for your kingdom work. 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 Emanuel Lutheran Church in Elmer, New Jersey. Raise up faithful leaders for the future of our church and the nation. Lord in your mercy . . .

Healing Lord, we are so thankful that you continue to minister to us even today. We are weak but you are strong. Send healing and new life to the particular concerns we lift before you now including: especially Messiah members Beth Martin, Carol Watkins, Dick Miller, Gordon Ebright, Karen Fox, Marion Bowman; and our friends Barry, Bill & Janet, Brian & Cindy, Carol, Charlie, Colleen, Dan, Daniel, Doug, Harry, Kristin, Matthew, Pastor Mike, Peter, Robert, Roberta, Ruth, Scott, Pastor Ted, and those we name silently or out loud before you now (*pause for 30 seconds*) Lord in your mecy....

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray trusting in your mercy through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.