

Prayer of the Church, 14th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 18A – Father’s Day), 6 Sept 2020

Almighty God and Father, give Your people humility, patience and courage as we deal with sin and conflict within your Church. Make us open to hearing and receiving correction where we need it. Lead us all to repentance and faith, so that can enjoy the forgiveness of sins and the gift of life together as your people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us good and honest leaders in our country who will govern according to Your will. Help us to act as good citizens and good neighbors to one another. Give peace to the nations, and bring an end to violence, prejudice and racism. Deliver us from pandemic and pestilence. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the rain you send upon the earth. We ask you to continue to send rain where it is needed, and to be with those who work in agricultural in this country. Give us wisdom to use Your resources wisely and extend Your care to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, You are the strength of the weak, the healing of the sick, the comfort of those who grieve and the peace of those near death. Be especially with *Marie Adam, Rob Eckermann, Mike Hassold, Katherine Rembowski, and others we name silently to you...* Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the 80th birthday of John Longmire, and we ask you to bless him and Christine in years to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray especially this day for all fathers: for new fathers, coming to terms with both the joys and demands of fatherhood; for those who are uncertain or confused about their role as fathers; for those whose work keeps them from spending time with their children; for those who are afraid of the responsibilities of parenting; for those who are unable to provide for their children through unemployment or sickness; for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities; for those who are violent or unloving towards their children; for those whose own fathers abused them or failed to love them; for those who are separated from their children by marriage breakdown, divorce or death; for those who care for the children of others; for those whose desire to be a father has not been fulfilled; and for those whose children have rejected their love. Bless all fathers, so that their love may be tender and strong, and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good, living not for themselves, but for God and for others. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Hear us, O Lord, who cry to You in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who with the Spirit, You are one God and one Lord, now and forevermore. **Amen.**