

## Prayer of the Church, Sunday 1 August, 2021 Year B

Heavenly Father, thank you for the calling that you have given us in Christ Jesus. By your Spirit, let us live lives worthy of our calling, so that your humility, gentleness, love, and peace may be evident to all in our life together. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Father: thank you for sending your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to be the Bread of Life for the world. Forgive us for elevating earthly appetites above devotion to you. Feed us with the knowledge of Christ so that we recognise our sin and gladly repent in his name. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Feed those who hunger for righteousness and holiness with the gospel of salvation in Jesus' name, and continue to gather all your people to be fed with his body and blood for eternal life. Please bless Australian Lutheran College, its board, lecturers, students, and staff, and direct all pastors and teachers, evangelists and missionaries in the truth of Christ so that your people may be united in confession and witness. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

We pray for those whose daily need for healthy food, clean water and proper shelter goes un-met, and for those misusing what they have in empty pursuits. Feed them with all the good things of Christ for life now and in eternity. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Have mercy on those whose lives have been broken by violence and crime. Feed them with hope and a new life in Christ. And bless our brothers and sisters in prison and those who minister to them. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Father, please bless with joy and peace Ruth Walter and all those celebrating her birthday with her. Grant Ruth your Spirit so that her life may always be marked by gratitude to you, and love for her neighbour. *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Feed those who are sick or sorrowing with healing and consolation through Christ. We pray particularly for Ross Christiansen, and for others we know personally to be in want and whom we now name silently in our hearts... *(brief silence)* *Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.*

Merciful Father, you heard the prayers of your people in the wilderness and fed them bread from heaven despite their sin. Graciously hear us today and feed us too with the Bread of Life from heaven, even our Lord Jesus Christ, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**