

## Prayer of the Church - *Sunday 25th October, Year A*

Gracious God, we give You thanks for Your faithfulness in raising up voices in every age and generation to recall Your people to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Martin Luther, and for those who contended with Him for the sake of the Kingdom. Please raise up in our own time faithful pastors and church workers who will preach repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Father, You did not abandon us to sin and its death but delivered up Your own Son to the cross in order to redeem a lost and condemned people. Keep this Gospel as the center of the Church's proclamation to the world, and keep us from abandoning this confession, especially in time of persecution and threat. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, in the first years of the reformation you raised up faithful state leaders who helped in the promotion of the gospel. Raise up faithful leaders in our own time who will honor Your Word, govern according to Your wisdom, and provide freedom to worship without fear. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, You continually look upon us in our weakness and infirmity, and grant grace sufficient for our need. Today we remember before you people in need: Yvonne Allen, Laryssa Anker, Rob Eckermann, Amy Harrison, Todd Harrison, Anthony Noll, Katherine Rembowski, Janice Steinborner, Pastor John Wilksch and those we name in our hearts. Deliver the sick from their afflictions and relieve their suffering. Please give comfort to the families of Tony Male and Pastor Martin Freund and those who mourn; and give peace to those in their hour of death. May Your strength be made perfect in their weakness, Your patience sustain them in their troubles, and Your peace console them until You deliver them with perfect healing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty Lord, You have given us Your Word. Grant that we may teach it and learn it well. Unite your whole church as one people in the faithful doctrine of Your Son. Guide us toward the future You have prepared. Restore the wandering, and bring the lost to repentance and faith by the power of Your Spirit-filled word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Everlasting God, You have chosen to do Your bidding through us, although we are by nature weak and sinful. Keep us from thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought, and keep us focused on the proclamation of the Gospel. Correct, reprove and teach us so that we may reflect Your Word and truth to the world, and so that many may be brought to faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, You know better than we our needs and the needs of Your Church and Your world. Give us faith, that we may not fear in time of trouble nor fall away in time of prosperity. As we have been given this day and this time, give us the wisdom neither to squander the moment nor to become captive to it, but so to use things temporal that we may not be deprived of the things eternal. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**