

Prayer of the Church - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, 8th November, Year A

Heavenly Father: thank you for bringing about a new creation through you Son, Jesus Christ, and thank you for giving us a place in your kingdom by the power of the Holy Spirit. Keep us and all your people awake to the temptations of unbelief, and supply us with faith. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Bless all pastors and evangelists. Bring fruitful growth to the word they sow. Guide bishops John and David as they oversee our church. Keep us and all your people awake to error and division, and supply us with unity in the truth and with love for one another. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Let your Spirit guide us today and in the week ahead as we go about our daily lives. Thank you for the many blessings you have showered upon us, and give us confidence as we look ahead. Keep us and all your people awake to skepticism and confusion, and supply us with listening hearts and sound judgment. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Supply the people of this world with all they need for life lived fully. Bless all people in legitimate daily work. Keep us and all your people awake to true and honest service in the world. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Thank you for those in our armed forces, past and present, and thank you for the peace we have enjoyed for so long. Restrain the hand of evil and destruction in the world. Direct our Prime Minister and other government leaders in their response to violence and terror. Keep us and all your people awake to our duties as citizens and neighbours, and supply us with clarity in distinguishing law and gospel. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Father, we rejoice with Greg Janzow and Betty Mattiske as they celebrate significant birthdays. Continue to sustain them in the gift of faith, so that they may live life to the full. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Thank you for adopting Raphael Azadeh-Lewis as your child in holy baptism. Please give your Spirit of wisdom to Arman and Genevieve so that they may faithfully hand on your word to Raphael, and support him as grows. *Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.*

Have mercy, Lord, on the sick and bereaved, and on all who are in despair. Help us to see and respond to the needs of others, and supply us with compassion for those who suffer, including Laryssa Anker, Elaine Bourne, Rob Eckermann, Amy Harrison, Todd Harrison, Marilyn Lindholm, Anthony Noll, Janice Steinborner, Pastor John Wilksch, and those 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.*

Heavenly Father, when we are tired, give us strength; when we are careless, make us alert; and when we feel like giving up, fill us with the hope of the day your Son will be revealed in glory. So hear the prayers we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**