

Prayer of the Church – 9.10.23 – Pentecost 15

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. *A brief silence.*

Hold us accountable, O God. Show your church where repentance is needed and lead us in paths of intentional compassion and listening. Help us extend hands of reconciliation and care, especially in relationships with other Christians and people who yet do not know you.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Reveal your miracles to us, O God. Move us to cherish you as we behold the wonders of creation. Renew the seas and the soil, the forests and the creatures that live in them. Turn us to ways of living that seek Earth's thriving.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Inspire us to lead with honor, O God. Guide judges and legislators, police, and government officials to create and uphold just laws. Move us to treat all people with dignity and guide our conversations with one another. Strengthen our partners, such as **Lutheran World Relief**, and keep safe those who work to safeguard and promote the good across the world, including our own **Patrick, Claire, Nate, Carter, Jonathon, Alex, Carson, Jackson, Stephen, Bryson, and Brendan** as well as our **missionaries** whom we are blessed to support financially and prayerfully.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Help us comfort those who suffer, O God. Reassure any who are harmed by the wicked acts of others. Bring peace to all who are vulnerable, frightened, despairing, or sick, including our own **Donna, Ralph, Bob, Paul, Donna, Esther, Mary, Ray, June, Diane, and Ken as well as our friends and family requesting prayers**. Guard their waking and their sleeping.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Awaken us, O God. Challenge and encourage your people to value the vocation to which each is called. We pray for all discerning new possibilities or changing employment. In all our diverse callings, teach us to love our neighbor above all else.

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of learning and wonder, we pray for children, parents, and teachers. Render this school year one of great learning. Make your presence known in our work and play, and in lively conversation as well as quiet rest.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray faith for this congregation, both those gathered today, in-person and over cyberspace, and those absent from our assembly. Grant safety to travelers, and refreshment and safety for children. Give direction to any experiencing life transitions.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service as examples of following your call.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift up the names today of our brothers and sisters to whom you have given life: **Mary, Sharon, Monika, Grace, Cheryl, Jeannie, Jerry, Kirsten, Tonia, and Michael.** May their birthday celebrations and shared love of Christ reveal the Holy Spirit's power, provision, and peace during the Pentecost season. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**