

### **Prayer of the Church – 3.3.24 – Lent 3**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *A brief silence.*

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of the cross. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance, which maybe foolish to many but is the very gift of God unto salvation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth only a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to care for your creation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land (especially in Eastern Europe and the Middle East). Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Strengthen the work of 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, Jackson, Stephen, Bryson, and Brendan** as well as our **missionaries** whom we are blessed to support financially and prayerfully.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, **especially Donna, Ralph, Bob, Paul, Donna, Esther, Mary, Ray, Diane, Janet, Jan, and Allen**, as well as our friends and family requesting prayers, and those whom we name in our hearts.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, separation, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love, as we give and serve generously with our time, treasure, and talents, especially during Lent. Prosper the work of ministry partnerships in our community, including with Cornerstones, the food pantry, the hypothermia shelter, and The Closet. Together, help us share what we have to ensure that our neighbors have enough food, resources, and opportunities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We lift up the names today of our brothers and sisters to whom you have given life: **Ginny, Ted, Paul, Chloe, Charlotte, Cy, Robert, Sophia, Diane, Ron, Wyatt, and Spencer.** May their birthday celebrations and shared love of Christ reveal God's goodness, generosity, and grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**