

Prayer of the Church – 4.14.24 – Easter 3

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. *A brief silence.*

O God our holy one, you feed our deepest hungers. As we share the holy meal that is the body and blood of Jesus given for us, lead us to share all that we have, and find, in generosity, abundant life.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our creator, you bring forth all life on earth. Calm storms, bring water to parched places, and protect the climate, that this planet would sustain life in all its variety.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our savior, you offer wisdom and guidance beyond all human knowledge. Instruct lawmakers, judges, and elected officials to make decisions grounded in your justice and care for all people. Establish peace and justice among the nations, **especially in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, the Indo-Pacific.** Strengthen the work of our partners, such as **Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Social Services**, and keep safe those who work to safeguard and promote the good across the world, including our own **Patrick, Claire, Nate, Carter, Jonathan, Jackson, Stephen, Bryson, and Brendan** as well as our **missionaries** whom we are blessed to support financially and prayerfully.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our elder, you care for all your children. Encourage those who are in times of transition, facing the loss of old ways and routines and anticipating change. Guide those who journey in grief, hope, and uncertainty. We pray for all who are in suffering or pain, **especially Donna, Ralph, Bob, Paul, Donna, Esther, Mary, Ray, Diane, Jan, Helen, and Julia as well as our friends and family requesting prayers, and those whom we name in our hearts.**

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our center, you bring all people together in you. Help us to remember our identity and purpose in our ministry as we build God's people up through His Word for His world. Move us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to share in beloved community.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God of trust, remind us of your faithfulness. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Help us to express Christ's sacrificial love, as we give and serve with our time, treasure, and talents. Prosper the work of our partnerships in our community, including with Cornerstones, the food pantry, the hypothermia shelter, and The Closet. Help us share so that our neighbors have enough food, clothing, resources, and opportunities.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God our resting place, your Son Jesus promised that we are held in your love forever. We remember our beloved who have died. Grant us your peace amid our fears as we seek to join the saints one day and reunite with loved ones.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the names today of our brothers and sisters to whom you have given life: **Dean, Andrew, Abby, Calvin, Leah, Ava, Dan, Mark, and Tina.** May their birthday celebrations and shared love of Christ reveal God's goodness, generosity, and grace.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord. **Amen.**