

Prayers of Intercession

Individual congregation members are invited to pray aloud on behalf of the congregation one of the following printed prayer petitions:

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Sharpen its proclamation of the word so that your people learn to reject voices of deception and distraction. Strengthen all who are tempted to believe lies about themselves or others. We pray especially this day for ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton, Synod Bishop Lee Miller, II, and our companion synods of Zambia and Zimbabwe; Transition Pastor Gail Wolling and Trinity in Herkimer; and our congregation of Holy Trinity. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth and all its creatures. Protect wilderness places and all plant and animal species that call them home. Sustain farmers and all laborers who work the land and harvest the fruits of its abundance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Awaken elected leaders and government officials to the needs of those who are oppressed and grant them compassion to deal mercifully with immigrants and refugees who reside among us. Provide hope and strength to the Ukrainian people as they endure the brutalities of war. Guide the leaders of Ukraine and Russia, the US, our NATO allies, and all those whose efforts are aimed at healing our very fragile and fractured world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. Rescue those experiencing mental illness or contending with addiction. Ease the anxiety of those who live with dementia. Command your angels concerning all who are sick, especially those named on our prayer list, along with all those we name either aloud or silently in our hearts. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who have died. Gather them with all the saints into your heavenly dwelling place. Encourage us with the promise that all who call upon your name are saved. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.
Amen