

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Risen One, we give you thanks for congregations and ministries throughout the world that serve as centers of prayer and action. Empower missionaries, teachers, healers, evangelists, and all who are sent to share your song of joy. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Holy One, we give you thanks for generous land that produces abundant harvests. Strengthen and protect all soils, from rooftop gardens to prairie farmlands, to patio planters to fertile valleys, and bless all who lovingly tend them. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Ruling One, we give you thanks for leaders of nations who work to build up the common good. Strengthen efforts of reconciliation among all nations (*especially*), that peace extends

in every direction. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Healing One, we give you thanks for all who labor for the health of others. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain. Send healing and relief to all who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Providing One, we give you thanks for all who provide for others. Inspire generosity in your people, so that we carry out the work of making disciples of all nations. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living One, we give you thanks for the saints who have increased our faith. Give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 119:17-24. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Philipp Nicolai, 1608; Johann Heermann, 1647; Paul Gerhardt, 1676; hymnwriters) Acts 9:32-35. **Wednesday** Matthew 20:29-34. **Thursday** (Simon and Jude, Apostles) John 14:21-27. **Friday** Leviticus 19:32-37. **Saturday** Romans 3:19-28. **Reformation Day** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36.

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Celebrate

Sunday, October 24, 2021
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as "Son of David" he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Prayer of the Day

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-9

This passage speaks not only of the southern kingdom, Judah, and its homecoming from exile in Babylon, but also of the northern kingdom ("Israel" or "Ephraim") and its restoration. The northern tribes of Israel had been lost in exile to Assyria more than a century before Jeremiah prophesied.

Thus says the LORD:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of
the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."
⁸See, I am going to bring them from
the land of the north,
and gather them from the
farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the
lame,

those with child and those in
labor, together;
a great company, they shall
return here.
⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead
them back,
I will let them walk by brooks
of water,
in a straight path in which they
shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

