

Prayers of the People

- 1) Consider having each petition of the prayers read by a different member. Different voices offering prayer from various areas of the sanctuary contribute to the prayers being those of the people.
- 2) Please note that there are places to 'individualize' the prayers to your congregation: 1st petition: add your pastor's name; 3rd petition: list names of those for whom your community is praying; 4th petition: add your congregation's name.

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Humbly standing in the presence of the Source of life, let us pray for the church, those in need, and for all of God's creation. With the prayer, "Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God," we will respond with the first verse of hymn number 751, *O Lord hear my Prayer*.

~ A brief silence. ~

First person's Prayer of the People:

Holy God, source of power and might—you are full of tender mercy and compassion. Empower your church with that compassion and the strength to live for others. Sustain and encourage our Bishops: Susan, Greg, Larry, Cindy, Elaine and Michael. Bless our pastor, _____, and all who respond to the call to be your presence in the world.

Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God (sung response)

Second person's Prayer of the People:

Holy God, you are the very essence of the universe: creator, redeemer and sustainer. Make us ever mindful of our need to be good stewards of your creation. Shatter our complacency and move us toward genuine awareness and care. Lead us to be advocates for your creation.

Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God (sung response)

Third person's Prayer of the People:

Holy God, healer of our every ill—let your steadfast love come to each of us. We lift up those whose journey is difficult: those without homes or jobs; those suffering with disease of body, mind or spirit; those who long for forgiveness and those who hold onto vengeful feelings. Today we pray especially for: *(list of names from congregation)* and for those we name aloud or quietly in our hearts. *(pause for private prayer)* In this coming week may we be a source of comfort and strength to others.

Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God (sung response)

Fourth person's Prayer of the People:

Holy God, Lord of the church, strengthen all communities of faith in their ministries. We pray for our partner Anglican Church of Canada along with our sister congregations in the ELCIC. We ask your blessing on our church community at *(name of congregation)*, that we may be loving and compassionate; that we may seek your truth and justice; that we may laugh together and cry together, knowing that you are with us.

Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God (sung response)

Fifth person's Prayer of the People:

Holy God, your love has called the very world into being. We thank you for the joy of human love: spouses,

parents, sisters, brothers, grandchildren, extended family and friends. We thank you for those who are celebrating the gift of new life. We thank you for those who have the gift of another birthday or another anniversary. Finally we thank you for those special blessings we name aloud or in our hearts at this time. . . *(pause for private prayer)*. Continue to help us see your presence in our daily lives.

Holy, Mighty and Compassionate God (sung response)

ASSISTING MINISTER:

Most Holy God, hear the prayers of your people, and in your mercy grant us all we need, for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**