

Prayers of the Church

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Blessed Lord, You have promised that where two or three are gathered in Your name, You are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of Your people, and grant our supplications. Because You have made us our brother's keeper, fill us with care for the members of our earthly families and for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive our sins and strengthen us to live so that we owe no one anything except to love each other. Lord, in Your mercy...

O Lord, You have entrusted the leaders of nations with power and authority. Teach them that they must give an account of their stewardship to you, the King and Lord of all nations. Make them willing and able to accomplish your will for the good of all people entrusted to their care. Teach us all to settle differences peacefully, to act honorably, speak respectfully, and live justly. Lord, in your mercy...

Holy Spirit, Defend the Church from peril, provide for its needs, and lead it in paths of righteousness. Through its ministry, lead many to hear your voice and follow you. We pray for our bishop, Dan Selbo, as well as the staff of the North American Lutheran Church. We pray also for our Central Mission District, for our Atlantic Mission Region, for each of the congregations of the NALC, and especially today for First Lutheran Church of Gray Manor in Dundalk, Maryland and Immanuel Lutheran Church in New York City that together we might faithfully bear witness to God's saving grace in Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy...

Heavenly Father, thank you for your "little ones" who, have died to this world and now live eternally in your embrace. Give us the grace to live as your little ones, too. Help us to trust and obey you. Help us to aid, warn, and forgive each other. Give us your mercy, and for Jesus' sake, lead us into your Kingdom. Grant us the joy of seeing your face and of worshipping you in the company of all you have redeemed. Lord, in your mercy...

Father of all healing, we plead on behalf of all who suffer. Grant them health, hope, guidance, and the joy of your presence in their lives. Fill all who care for them with compassion. Give your salvation to them all. We pray especially for Messiah members Annabel Karnes, Beth Martin, Dorothy Martin, Gordon Ebright, Marion Bowman; and our friends Pastor Bennett and Robin, Bill, Bob, Brian & Cindy, Colleen, Daniel, Dan, Pastor Dan, Kristin, Lee, Liz, Mark, Melissa & Elliott, Michele, Pastor Mike, Peter, Scott, Pastor Ted, and all those we name in our hearts... (pause...) Lord, in your mercy...

Lord of all, we pray that we may always be holy and acceptable to You, that we may understand Your Will for us as a congregation and as individuals. Where we do not understand, help us to patiently wait for Your Time to reveal what You would have us do. Lord, in your mercy...