

Prayers

New Invitations to Prayer:

1. Prayer for those recovering from surgery:

Almighty and gracious God, we give you thanks that you have protected _____+ during surgery. Enable him / her to trust in your goodness, to find comfort in your abiding presence, and to praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 286)

Almighty God, source of all life and health, we give you thanks for wisdom, knowledge, and skill; for nurses, doctors, and all those who have brought the gifts of healing through the exercise of their vocations. Continue to make _____ whole in body, mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 286)

2. Prayer for those who mourn:

Almighty God, we give you heartfelt thanks for the grace you have granted to _____ and to all who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labours. Raise us with them from death to life, that when we die we may rest in our Redeemer, receive the inheritance prepared for us from the beginning of the world, and find perfect fulfillment and joy in your everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 352)

God, the generations rise and pass away before you. You are the strength of those who labour; you are the rest of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the company of your saints. We remember all who have lived in faith, all who have peacefully died, and those most dear to us who rest in you, especially _____. Give us in time our portion with those who have trusted in you and have striven to do your holy will. To your name, with the church on earth and the church in heaven, we ascribe all honour and glory, now and forever. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 353)

3. For those in hospice:

Holy and life-giving God, whose mercy is without end, look with grace upon _____, and their family and friends as they face the future. Guide those who will accompany them in the days to come, so that _____ will be cared for and comforted. Uphold them all in your abiding love, and sustain them with your peace, which surpasses all understanding; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 289)

Loving God, in every age you listen to the cries of lament and the questions about your wisdom from your servants who face suffering and death. In this time of distress and despair, hear the cries and questions of _____ and their family and friends. Stand with them in their suffering, that they may face the future with the confidence that nothing can separate them from your love in Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 289)

4. For those undergoing testing and treatment: \:

God of grace and comfort, enfold _____ and his / her family with your mercy. Strengthen them with the shield of faith, and enable them to trust you in all that lies ahead; heal them and bear their pain, keep them in peace and fix their hearts on you; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 286)

Holy and compassionate God, you send to us in our need those who care for us and look out for our lives. Bless them in their love for us. Bless the hands of those who work for our health. Bless the minds of those who search for our healing. Bless the feet of those who come to us in our need. Bless the eyes of those who look after us. Bless the hearts of all who serve; fill them with compassion and patience; and work through all of them for the betterment and well-being of all your children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 298)

5. Prayer for those recently diagnosed:

Lord Jesus Christ, by your cross and passion you redeemed the world. To _____ and to all who face uncertainty and long-continued suffering grant patience, courage, and the constant assurance of your love. Strengthen them every day and every hour, that having endured with you they may also live and reign with you, now and forever. Amen. (adapted from *EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 288)

O God, who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the troubled heart, bring hope and courage to _____, as they / he / she wait in uncertainty. Bring the assurance that you will be with them in whatever lies ahead. Give them courage to endure all that they now face, for you are our refuge and strength. You are God, and we need you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 287)

6. Prayer for a time of conflict and crisis:

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts;

through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 393)

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 393)

Holy God, out of your great love for the world, your Word became flesh to live among us and to reconcile us to you and to one another. Rekindle among us the gift of your Spirit so that we seek to live in unity with all people, breaking down the walls that divide, ending the hostility among us, and proclaiming peace to those who are near and to those who are far away; through Christ Jesus in whom we all have access in the one Spirit to you, both now and forever. Amen. (*ACS: page 48*)

7. Prayer for those facing uncertain times:

Lord Jesus, who went out from the garden to face the long last day ahead, be with your faithful servants, in this uncertain moment. In the days that lie ahead, be their strength in times of weakness; be their consolation in times of sadness; be their rock in moments of despair. In all that they face, assure them that your unfailing presence is always beside them, behind them, above them, and before them, both now and forever. Amen. (*EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 289)

Merciful God, grant that the spirit of Jesus may dwell and reign in our hearts, that we may enjoy your peace and know the power of your Spirit, bearing witness with our lives that we are indeed your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*LBW: Occasional Services*, page 71)

Continuing in Prayer:

A. Prayer for Those Facing Illness:

Merciful God, in the stillness of our souls we listen for your voice to know again that you are God. Quiet our restless hearts with the knowledge that you are near us, keeping watch over your own. Rekindle our faith and light the lamp of hope within our hearts. Then take us by the hand into each day that lies ahead, for where you lead we can confidently go with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Pastoral Care*, page 182)

Almighty and merciful God, you are the only source of health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace. Grant to _____, an awareness of your presence and a strong confidence in you. In _____ pain, weariness, and anxiety,

surround him with your care, protect him / her by your loving might, and grant to him / her once again the gifts of health and strength and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*EvLW: Pastoral Care, page 171*)

B. Prayer for Those in Need:

God of love, ever caring, ever strong, stand with us in our time of need. Watch over your child _____, look after her / him in every danger, and grant her your healing and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pastoral Care: Occasional Services, Readings, and Prayers, p. 171*)

God, our refuge and strength, our present help in time of trouble, care for those who tend the needs of _____. Strengthen them in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Be with us all, and give us peace at all times and in every way; through Christ our peace. Amen. (adapted from *EvLW: Occasional Services for the Assembly, p. 297*)