

**Prayer of the Church—Responsive Form**  
**Third Sunday in Lent (Oculi)**  
**7 March 2021**

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Merciful God, You do not change and are always ready to hear our prayer. May our eyes be ever fixed on You, that we would always be ready to receive Your forgiveness and help in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the Church, preserve and bless Your Church on earth, and do not let us fall into the sin of pride and self-confidence. Grant boldness to Your ministers as they preach Your Word to all, especially to those in need of repentance. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You call us to live in purity and holiness. Protect and guide Christian families to love and seek chastity and decency, learning to grow in virtue and all godly living. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

King of kings and Judge of the earth, soften the hearts of our nation's leaders and grant them wisdom for the good of those they govern, that Your Word and Church would not be persecuted in our land but protected and allowed to flourish by Your grace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, the strength of the weak, hear our prayers for all who are sick, anxious, lonely or oppressed in any way . Overcome the devil and his demons, that he would not lead any into despair, and grant Your healing and cleansing power to rest upon their bodies and minds. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, the mother of Your Son was blessed because she heard Your Word and kept it. Grant that we who hear Your Word would also treasure it in our hearts and minds, and so receive Your eternal blessing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**