

**Prayer of the Church**  
**Fourth Sunday after Trinity**  
**2 July 2023**

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

Lord God, keep us from the self-idolatry that seeks to avenge ourselves on our enemies by repaying evil with evil. Help us instead to overcome evil with good and live peaceably with all. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As Your mercy is poured out in rich measure, so open the mouths of all ministers in the Church to preach Your blessed and saving Gospel. Open the mouths of Christians to proclaim the marvels of Him who called us from darkness into His marvelous light. Let our works of mercy attest to the love we have received from You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach all Your children true humility, that we would learn to confess our sin rather than excuse or deny it. Keep us safe from all pride, which would lead us to disdain our fellow Christians who have received Your mercy. Lead us, rather, to rejoice at the patience You have shown each of us in forgiving our many trespasses. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of all, You raised up Joseph according to Your plan to exercise authority in Egypt, working good from what was meant only for evil. Work by Your power in the leaders and authorities of our nation, whom You have set in place, that many would be kept alive and protected in this life through their governance. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain all who suffer in body or mind. Let them believe firmly that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory to be revealed at Christ's return. Grant them health and healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, You are merciful and through Christ have promised that You will neither judge nor condemn us, but graciously forgive all our sins and abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. By Your Holy Spirit, establish in our hearts a confident faith in Your mercy. Teach us in turn to be merciful to our neighbor, that we may not judge or condemn others, but willingly forgive all and, judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives in Your fear; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**