

**Prayer of the Church**  
**Third Sunday after Trinity**  
**25 June 2023**

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

Heavenly Father, You have embraced us unworthy sinners in the waters of Holy Baptism where You clothe us with the bright raiment of Christ's righteousness. As Your dear children, help us to serve one another faithfully and live forever in Your forgiving love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we are grieved over those who have wandered from the safety of the fold of Your Church. Send Your Holy Spirit to call them to repentance and faith, that they may return to Your house. Embolden us to seek these lost sheep for whom Your Son died. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless our homes, that parents would teach their children to love You, obey Your voice and hold fast to You. Grant that we and our offspring may live before You forever. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, from whom all fatherhood is named, we give You thanks for fathers of office, especially our president, congressmen and judges. Make their authority respected and honored by all, and let them use it according to its institution for the sake of those under their care, that all may flourish under Your order. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, have mercy on our brotherhood throughout the world who suffer persecution for the sake of Christ. Assure them that after they have suffered a little while, You will restore, confirm and establish them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in the waters of Holy Baptism Your Son laid us on His shoulders and brought us home rejoicing. Give confidence to all who suffer, that they may know that He will bear them through their present trials safely home to the joys of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, Your Son receives sinners and eats with them. Embolden us to come in repentance to His table to receive forgiveness and life in the feast of His body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You crown us with steadfast love and mercy in Your Son. While we live amid many troubles in this sinful world, remind us by Your Word that You do not deal with us according to our iniquities, but are merciful and gracious to us. Call us to repentance and faith, that we may take up our crosses daily and follow You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**