

**Prayer of the Church**  
**Eighth Sunday after Trinity**  
**30 July 2023**

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

Lord God of truth, protect Your flock from the wolves that seek to mislead and devour the sheep through their false teaching. Give us discernment to test them against Your Word and so recognize false prophets by their bad fruit. Preserve Your Church in the pure doctrine of Your Word, that the good fruit of salvation would abound. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God of truth, You send out Your Word, that all people may obtain faith in Your Son. Send out faithful preachers to run tirelessly with Your Word and make known Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God of truth, apart from Your Son and without Your Spirit, we can do nothing good. Keep us steadfast in Your Word, that our lives and teaching may please You and bear abundant fruit. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God of truth, You have purchased us as Your flock by the shedding of Christ's blood. Fill all governing authorities with fear of You, and let their service foster and preserve peace. Have mercy on our people and country. Let our youth be brought up in discipline and in right knowledge of You, that they may recognize both Your Law and the way of Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God of truth, You are a fortress to Your people. In Your temple, we think on Your steadfast love in Christ. Hear us on behalf of all who need healing, strength and comfort that are listed in the bulletin or in our hearts. Defend them from the attacks of the evil one, and cause them to join in Your praise. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God of truth, Your Word is like fire, and You fill heaven and earth. You are not far off, but You are in our midst, announcing the salvation accomplished by Your living Christ, the crucified. Grant to our Synod, gathered in convention, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**