

Prayer of the Church
Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
3 September 2023

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

Lord God, You served Your people of old through priest and Levite, who of themselves could never heal the curse of the Law. Give us Christ Jesus, the true Priest, who with His oil and wine is able fully to heal all wounds, forgive all sins and bring us to eternal rest. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You gave the old covenant through angels to train Israel in Your Law. Bless the ministers of Your new covenant to proclaim forgiveness, life and salvation to all nations in the stead and by the command of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous Lord, by our wickedness we merit many of the evils that befall us; nevertheless, cut short Your wrath. Make room for repentance, and forgive us for the sake of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, Father of us all, turn the hearts of Christian brother to brother, that those who fall into sin would be brought to repentance and not be rebuked beyond measure, but rather be restored to the communion of the faithful. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, preserve Your gift of marriage against the ravages of sin, the schemes of the devil and the raging of the world. Bless the couples and families of our congregation. Strengthen them in love and care for one another, and establish them on the foundation of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord and King, You appoint our earthly rulers to urge the good and punish the wicked. Grant both justice and restraint in their punishments, that goodness and grace may be established in our land. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, wherever the wicked strip and wound, and wherever the devil seeks our fall, You meet us with healing and grace to endure. Soothe and lift up all in need. Carry them to find rest in You. 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.**