

Prayer of the Church
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
14 January 2024

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

Lord, You manifested Your glory in the sign at Cana. As You restored creation through the shedding of Christ's blood, pour out Your grace in abundance. Give us joy and gladness in the revelation of Your truth in the person of Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Raise, O Lord, the fallen churches of our fellowship. Repair the breaches thereof. Rebuild a firm faith and a holy resolve. Cause Your Holy Word to flourish, and bring forth fruit according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, lead all pastors and church leaders to imitate the servants at Cana and do as Christ instructs. Give them boldness to preach the Law and the Gospel rightly, and graciously provide for all their earthly needs. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You have forged the human family in a wonderful pattern and blessed the sacred vocations of husband and wife. Inspire us to stand out in this world, faithful to this biblical institution, and so show forth the glory of Christ and His Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Almighty, You promise that Your meek ones will inherit the earth and not the wicked who seem to possess it now. Turn the rulers of this world toward the obedience of faith. Draw all nations under the cover of Your Church, that they may receive the abundance of the fruits of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, remember those in need. Be the Father of the lonely and forsaken, the Helper of the sick and needy, and the Comforter of the distressed and sorrowful. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, grant Your Holy Spirit to those who approach the altar this day, that they would receive the Holy Sacrament of Christ's very body and blood in faithful repentance and to their abundant blessing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that of Your grace You have instituted holy matrimony, in which You keep us from unchastity and other offenses. We implore You, send Your blessing on every husband and wife. Do not let them provoke one another to anger and strife, but let them live peaceably together in love and godliness. Strengthen them with Your gracious help in all temptations, and help them to rear their children in accordance with Your will. Grant us all to walk before You in purity and holiness, putting our trust in You and leading such lives on earth that, in the world to come, we may have everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**