

**Prayer of the Church**  
**Septuagesima**  
**28 January 2024**

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

Heavenly Father, You call Your Church to fruitful labor in Your vineyard. Cause us to recognize our unworthiness for such a gracious gift, to rejoice in the salvation we have in Christ and to remain steadfast in Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father of all, You have built Your one, holy Church upon the rock of Christ and ordered her according to Your gracious will. Instill in her pastors a godly wisdom to know Your Word thoroughly, and in her people a patient spirit that waits on Your heavenly provision. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, bless our congregation, that we would love one another as Christ has loved us. Lead us to give generously in support of Your mission here and abroad, to pray for our enemies, to put away all earthly grumbling, and to bask in Your gracious providence. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Master of the vineyard, You call us by Your grace to work and live in Your kingdom not as slaves, but as sons of the Most High and brothers of Christ. Work graciously through the teaching and example of fathers and mothers to preserve the faith of children, and help them grow in Christ until life's end. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You have established all authority upon earth to be a blessing, not a burden. Remember those entrusted with civil authority here and in all places, and enable them to serve with wisdom and integrity. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, You have given Your children the blessing of vocation. Remember the unemployed and underemployed, especially those suffering serious financial distress. Lead them to productive work, and continue to provide for their earthly needs. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You have made our way blameless by Your Word of absolution. By Your Holy Word, You have equipped us to continue in the labor of our many callings. Now, O Lord, satisfy our hunger and thirst with Your precious Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**