

Prayer of the Church
Sexagesima
4 February 2024

Lord of the harvest, You send Your Word down on earth to give seed to the sower and bread to the eater. You are living and active among us, calling to repentance and raising to new life. Lead us not into temptation, and protect us from the crafts and assaults of the devil, the world and our own sinful flesh, which do not want us to hallow Your name or let Your kingdom come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Send forth laborers into Your harvest, that we may be preserved in the pure teaching of Your saving Word, whereby faith toward You is strengthened, charity increased in us toward all and Your kingdom extended in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Caring Father, visit the homes of Your people. Keep them from all harm and danger, and grant that we would dwell together in peace under the protection of Your holy angels. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, look favorably on the nations of the world and their leaders, that all who receive the sword as Your servants would bear it according to Your command. We pray that war, hate and bloodshed would be overcome by peace, justice and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, have compassion on the sick and suffering. Make them to know Your peace, which the world cannot give, and bring them out of all their troubles. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for the faithful departed. Cultivate the seed of Your Word in our hearts until You bring us to share with them in the joys of Your unending feast. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You have planted Your Word in the hearts of Your children. Grant that we would rejoice to receive this gift and use it to bear abundant fruit in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that through Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have sown Your Holy Word among us. Prepare our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may diligently and reverently hear Your Word, keep it in good hearts, and bring forth fruit with patience; and that we may not incline to sin, but subdue it by Your power, and in all persecutions comfort ourselves with Your grace and continual help; 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.**