

Prayer of the Church
First Sunday in Lent (Invocabit)
18 February 2024

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

Lord Most High, You are the dwelling place of Your people. For the sake of Jesus, who suffered temptation and death for our redemption, be our refuge. Preserve us from every evil and plague, and strengthen us in faith, that we might be satisfied with Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, the first Adam stood idly by as Eve was tempted in the garden. The last Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, endured the taunts of the devil and overcame him in the wilderness. Embolden those called to serve in Your name to stand against Satan with the weapons of righteousness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, preserve all catechumens and their teachers, all children and their parents, and every Christian home from the assaults of the evil one. As Your Son overcame Satan in the desert by the Word of God, so also give us the victory through Christ and His Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, though we marvel at our own perceived power, Your might surpasses all the might of man. Do not let positions of authority or influence be used toward violent and wicked ends. Bless us with wise and faithful leaders who will preserve our freedom and promote its use for noble purposes. Guide all legislatures, judges and authorities in our nation, state and city. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, though we deserve nothing of Your kindness, You have shown Yourself to be the strength of the weak, the healer of the sick and the hope of those who mourn. Hear us on behalf of those who are troubled in mind or body, the dying and those who grieve. Sustain them through their afflictions and pain, heal them according to Your gracious will, and deliver them at the last to everlasting life in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, the fall of Adam closed the way to the Tree of Life, but the death of Christ on the tree of the cross has opened to us the way of everlasting life. Give us the fruit of His cross: Your forgiveness, life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, see how the adversary continually afflicts us and walks about as a roaring lion seeking to devour us. We implore You for the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, to help us by the grace of the Holy Spirit and to strengthen our hearts by Your Word, that our enemy would not prevail over us, but instead that we may abide evermore in Your grace and be preserved to life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**