

Prayer of the Church – 9.5 – Pentecost 15

Leader – Pastor James (Outdoor) & Georgia Thorstenson (Indoor)

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world, especially as we celebrate Labor Day weekend, and unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. We pray for countries experiencing violence, disease, hunger, and unrest (**especially Haiti and Afghanistan, and many of the nations of Latin America, and South Asia**). Guide worldwide and local community organizations in their efforts to aid those in need. Sustain and keep safe all who work to defend, safeguard, and promote the common good across the world, including our own **Patrick, Claire, Scott, Nate, Carter, Jonathon, Alex, Carson, Jackson, and Erica.**

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of ventures, anoint us with the missionary zeal of the early church. Bless our missionaries: **Megan, Mark, Krista, and Joel in Africa, Gustavo and Ruth in Puerto Rico, Bethania Kids in India, Jon and Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Braille Workers worldwide, and the many other missionaries** and relief workers we support financially and prayerfully.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. We pray for the ill and hurting, **especially our own Lesley, Donna, Michael, Alison, Lisa, Lilli, Jim, Donna, Pastor Eric Peterson, Pastor Ralph Wiechmann, Alyce, Bob, Carolee, Chip, Ruth, and Matt as well as our friends and family requesting our prayers.** Keep our children safe until they have opportunities to be vaccinated. Surround them with your unwavering presence.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and strengthen our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You dwell with us in this faith community. We pray for our staff members, board members, core ministry and support leaders, and elders. Grant them knowledge, patience, and kindness, that through their servant leadership you may be exalted in this assembly.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the faithful ancestors in every age whose lives have pointed us towards you especially **Helen Linnemann (Steven Linnemann's mother) and Jim Liles (Julia Adams's nephew)**. Envelop them and us in your love, that with all your saints, we may be reunited with one another in the last days.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift up the names today of our brothers and sisters to whom you have given life: **Allison, Ryan, Maya, Jack, Silas, Merridy, Susanna, Davey, Phil, Grace, Sharon, Monika, and Mary**. May their birthday celebrations and shared love of Christ reveal the Holy Spirit's love, life, and light in the midst of disease, destruction, desperation, and despair.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**