

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God our Redeemer, bless your church universal and its leaders. Set all hearts on you from generation to generation in anticipation of Christ’s return. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of life, we give thanks for the fruits and grains of harvest, for rivers and streams, for all that is made of rock and iron. Renew the earth’s natural resources and the lands from which they come. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God of justice, we give thanks for the service of our veterans and pray for those needing support for wounds of any kind. Strengthen those charged with the governance and protection of vulnerable populations. Bring an end to war throughout the world. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God who leads us to belief and truth, we give thanks that you are always and already here. Nurture and support those who are unsteady in mind, unsafe in spirit, or unwell in body (*especially*). Comfort those who suffer from trauma and exposure to traumatic events. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God who gathers us together, we give thanks for our pastors and deacons, teachers and musicians, administrators, and building caretakers. May they find joy in leadership as we grow in faith together. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of the saints, we give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). Uplift us as we honor their memory and await your coming in glory. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 123. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397; Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, 1855) 2 John 1-13. **Wednesday** John 5:19-29. **Thursday** Psalm 98. **Friday** 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12. **Saturday** Luke 17:20-37. **23rd Sunday after Pentecost** Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19.



Celebrate

Sunday, November 9, 2025
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord’s day. Our God is the God of the living.

Prayer of the Day

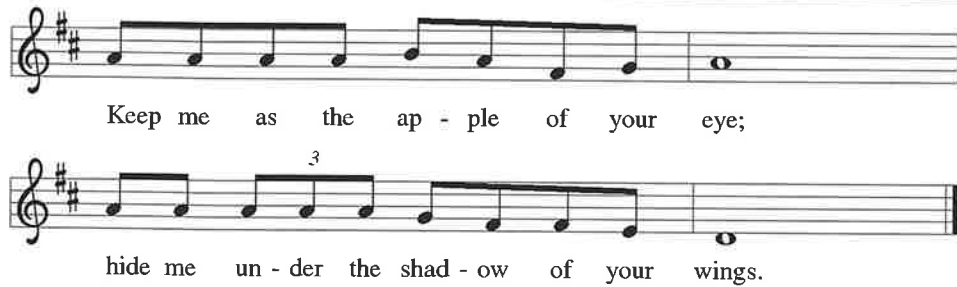
O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives and that one day he himself will see God.

“O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives,	and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; ²⁶ and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, ^{27a} whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”
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Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed ¹ to my cry;
 listen to my prayer, which does not come from ¹ lying lips.
²**Let my vindication come forth ¹ from your presence;**
let your eyes be ¹ fixed on justice.
³Examine my heart, visit ¹ me by night,
 melt me down; you will find no impuri- ¹ ty in me.
⁴**I have not regarded what ¹ others do;**
at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways ¹ of the violent. R
⁵My footsteps hold fast to your ¹ well-worn path;
 and my feet ¹ do not slip.
⁶**I call upon you, O God, for you will ¹ answer me;**
incline your ear to me and ¹ hear my words.
⁷Show me your marvelous ¹ lovingkindness,
 O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand
 from those who ¹ rise against them.
⁸**Keep me as the apple ¹ of your eye;**
hide me under the shadow ¹ of your wings,
⁹from the wicked ¹ who assault me,
 from my deadly enemies ¹ who surround me. R

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ²not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?
¹³But we must always give thanks to

God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Gospel

Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; ³⁰then the second ³¹and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³²Finally the woman also died. ³³In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

³⁴Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; ³⁵but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."