Prayers of Intercession

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

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Fill your church with mercy and humility as we proclaim the gospel in our worship and witness in the world. Renew and inspire all who preach and teach among us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Restore all lands suffering from ecological degradation. Protect soils and waterways (*local places may be named*). Point us toward innovative ways of living in harmony and joy with creation. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Unite the nations in their actions toward justice and peace. Raise up leaders who listen deeply for the needs of their communities, and surround the election process with wisdom and discernment. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bring comfort and care to all who are in need, especially all who mourn this day. Sustain any who are weary, experiencing loneliness, or struggling with chronic illness (*especially*). God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Nurture programs and communities that support elders and those who are homebound. Bless caregivers, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and hospice staff. Guide this congregation's ministry with seniors and their families. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With grateful hearts we remember all who have died and now rest from their labors (*those who have died in the past year may be named*). Fill us with songs of praise until we too are gathered at your side. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 5. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Martín de Porres, renewer of society, died 1639) Lamentations 2:13-17. **Wednesday** Proverbs 16:21-33. **Thursday** Psalm 70. **Friday** Amos 3:1-12. **Saturday** (commemoration of John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries) Matthew 24:1-14. **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost** Amos 5:18-24 *or* Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16; Psalm 70 *or* Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13.

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Celebrate

All Saints Day
November 1, 2026

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading — Revelation 7:9-17

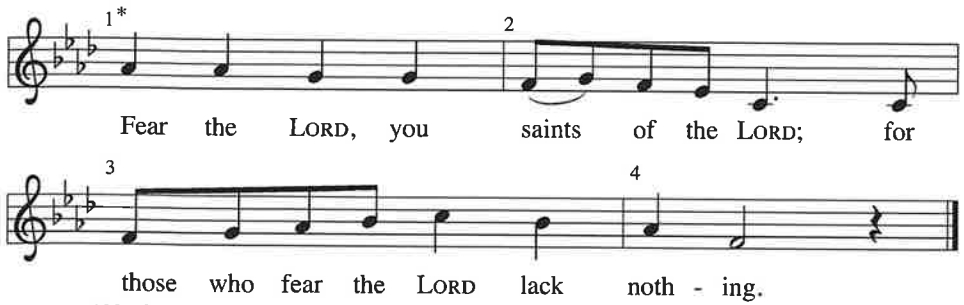
The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

After this I looked, and there was a great
multitude that no one could count,
from every nation, from all tribes and
peoples and languages, standing before
the throne and before the Lamb, robed
in white, with palm branches in their
hands. [10]They cried out in a loud voice,
saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who
is seated on the throne and to
the Lamb!"
[11]And all the angels stood around the
throne and around the elders and the
four living creatures, and they fell on
their faces before the throne and wor-
shiped God, [12]singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and
wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever!
Amen."

[13]Then one of the elders addressed
me, saying, "Who are these, robed in
white, and where have they come from?"
[14]I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who
knows." Then he said to me, "These are
they who have come out of the great or-
deal; they have washed their robes and
made them white in the blood of the
Lamb.
[15]For this reason they are before the
throne of God
and worship him day and night
within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the
throne will shelter them.
[16]They will hunger no more and
thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
[17]for the Lamb at the center of the
throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs
of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear
from their eyes."

Psalm

Psalm 34:1-10, 22; refrain, Ps. 34:9



**May be sung in canon.*

I will bless the LORD | at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
[2]**I will glory | in the LORD;**
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. R
[3]Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God's | name together.
[4]**I sought the LORD, who | answered me**
and delivered me from | all my terrors.
[5]Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.
[6]**I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me**
and saved me from | all my troubles. R
[7]The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.
[8]**Taste and see that the | LORD is good;**
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!
[9]Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.
[10]**The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,**
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.
[22]O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. **R**

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2]Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. [3]And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. [2]And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

[3]"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[4]"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

[5]"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

[6]"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

[7]"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

[8]"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

[9]"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

[10]"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[11]"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. [12]Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."