

Eternal spirit, we are listening for your voice now. We know that you speak, and now we want to hear. So speak to us as we pray, as we sing, as we hear the Word, as we offer ourselves anew to you. You generously and patiently hear our petitions, and our prayer, and we are thankful to you. Indeed, we are awed that you, in your greatness and glory, would care to hear our prayer and be concerned about us. Yet, you have assured us that that is true, and so we a grateful people.

As you speak to us, perhaps we shall hear your words of comfort and peace...and how those words will minister to some here today. Myabe some will hear words of challenge challenge to alter their lives, to forgo their sin, to face and to do some task for you. It may be that we will hear your words love reminding once again of the sacrifice of your son for our sakes. May we listen and may we hear, then give us strength to respond.

We pray, loving Lord, for the world around us, its nations, its classes and its clans. We pray for this world's leaders in the trust that you can use them for your purposes even if they do not acknowledge you as Lord. May peace, and brotherhood and harmony ~~replace~~ replace the belligerence so often displayed by leaders and nations. Give the ~~body~~ world a concern for the downtrodden, a compassion for the poor, and a hand to the helpless. Grant to us all, to each of us, the strength we need and the guidance we must have to serve yourin all of our relationships... with ourselves, with others, and with you.

O lodr, look in upon those who have special need and pressing concerns this morning, and touch them with the power of your spirit. We wait now in a silent moment in your presence...

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN HALLOWED BE THY NAME THY KINGDOM COME THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGANST US AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPATION BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.

Almighty and eternal God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we offer now the sacrifice of prayer and supplication. We honor you, we laud you, we seek to praise you with our hearts and spirits and our lives. We pray that you will accept and glorify what we offer to you during this time of fellowship and worship.

We have come to you this morning confessing our sin. Thank you for receiving us and restoring us to you. We have come with our problems, our frustrations, and our anxieties. Thank you for sending your spirit of peace to us. We have come today with angers and resentments, with hostilities and bitterness toward our neighbors. Thank you for permeating our souls with your love and grace. We have come to you with imperfect vision and with important choices to make. Thank you for supplying us with your wisdom and guiding spirit. We have come with a vague incompleteness in our lives. Thank you for teaching us that abundance is found in submitting to your will and living a life of self-giving. We have come today because we realize that only you have the answers to life. Thank you for those moments of insight when we see clearly the way we ought to go, the decisions we should make, and the sacrifice we ought to lay before you. Come, Lord Jesus, and touch us.

We pray for this church, this faltering, yet ever faithful colony of your people in Glenwood. Our calling is to serve you thru the church, the church which offers us so many more ways of ministering than we individually can have. Help us each to consider the talent and the time and the resource you have given us. And let us offer what you have given us as opportunity comes...or create the opportunity if none is apparent.

We pray for each our members and friends individually. We pray for the leaders of this world, in all arenas of human endeavor. Be to them the source of wisdom, the place of hope, and the strength to serve the common good.

Now Lord look in upon those who have special need as we lift them to you in this quiet moment.

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Almighty God, as we come into your presence this morning, let us come humbly and contritely. We acknowledge your lordship, your love, and your power. And we see that we are created by that love and that power. We are your children, and we now turn to you in corporate prayer, praising and giving thanks.

Let us today cast away those garments of selfishness, of greed, of negative feelings, of pretense and face you and one another in honesty and openness. Sometimes our eyes have been closed, open them to your love and the hope of new life which you have offered us in Christ. Sometimes our ears are stuffed, open them that we might hear your voice of compassion and strength. ~~Sometimes our hearts are sealed, open them that we may ~~experience the joy of your spirit.~~~~ Sometimes our lips are closed, ~~open them and give them worlds of love and understanding and hope to speak.~~ Help us to confidently be in your presence, with a will to accept your touch upon our lives.

O Lord God of Grace, thank you for blessing us with all, even more, than we need. Let us acknowledge that you provide all that we have, and that you are the source of those inner and spiritual strengths which make us courageous in will, joyful in spirit, and compassionate in feelings. Thank you for your goodness. And we praise you especially for the gift of yourself in Jesus Christ. Let us come to him, abide with him, learn of him, serve him.

Now we pray for our president and for other leaders of this threatening world. Endow them with sensitivity to human need, to human suffering, and with special courage to lead our world, your world, to life and not to death. Grant to our district superintendent and to our bishop the graces thru which they will receive the strength and guidance to serve you thru our church at the level to which they are called. Be with the leaders of this congregation, and with all of our members and friends as they seek to serve you, and as opportunity to serve you may open to them in days ahead. We pray for our friends who are ill, who are bereaved, who bear heavy burdens, whatever their need.

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