

## **Prayer of the Day**

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;  
then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,  
who try the heart and the mind,  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

## **Second Reading: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

### **Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

### **Prayers of Intercession**

With confidence in God, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Heavenly Father, as your children, we thank you for every good and holy gift. We especially thank you for sending us your Son to redeem the world. We thank you for the gift of eternal life. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire your church to teach your good news to all the world, especially to children. Give the church compassionate hearts to care for the needs of the poor and the outcast. Grant strength to the church to do your will, especially where there is pain and suffering in the world. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all believers in our country and around the world, especially where there is daily hunger and poverty. We pray for an end to religious persecution in all parts of the world. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for innocent victims of war and violence, that they will soon experience lasting peace. Raise up just, righteous, and humble leaders in all the nations. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the healing and protection of the earth. Raise up scientists, teachers, and leaders to work for the well-being of the planet. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Be merciful to the sick and the suffering. Bless them, restore them, and grant them peace. Bless those who minister to the sick. To everyone on our minds and hearts, including those on our prayer lists, grant your healing. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Comfort and bless your children who grieve the death of loved ones. Grant them the confident hope and light of your resurrection. Lord in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.