

## **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: Isaiah 25:6-9**

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations;

<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,

for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## **Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-6a**

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;  
<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6a</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

### **Gospel: John 11:32-44**

<sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

## **Prayers of Intercession**

In communion with the saints of every time and place, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

Almighty and Everlasting God, on this day of celebration, we thank you for the sacrifice of your Son, and for the gift of the resurrection and eternal life. Keep us strong in this faith and renew our lives. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Raise up, in your church, wise and Spirit-filled leaders. Bless the church with a desire to proclaim the good news, in word and deed. Help us to live as examples of your love and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all the nations for the world, especially those places where evil abounds, where your children live in constant threat of violence and war. Send peacemakers to unbind those trapped by forces of sin and death. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In this election season, guide us to elect leaders who will serve the common welfare. As disciples, empower us all to be responsible citizens. Save us from violence and hatred. Protect us from every evil. Safeguard poll workers and election officials in their work. In these days of decision-making, unite us in your love. Hear us, O God,

**Your mercy is great.**

Inspire all your children to trust in you, and to see the light of the resurrection and new life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for your blessings of healing upon the sick, the troubled, and the suffering, especially those on our prayer lists and in our hearts. Inspire us to care for them with prayer and action. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We remember and give you thanks for all who have entered into your eternal glory, especially our beloved ones who have died during the past year. We remember **Ruth J. Smith Arkwright, Sylvia D. Rekitt, Marilyn Sommers, Carol Schroeck, Sharyn Roberts, Lita Barthelmes, Mace Bowersox, and Robert Seelar.** Grant peace and comfort to all who grieve, that the resurrection and life will fill their souls. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of all your saints, spoken and unspoken. Let the light of the resurrection shine upon and with all your children, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.