THE DAY OF PENTECOST

**Pentecost**

Almighty, eternal, heavenly Father, who hast poured out thy Holy Spirit upon thy church, that he may abide with it forever, preserving it in the true faith of thy Holy Word, and enlightening it with the knowledge of Jesus Christ, grant unto us, as we now call upon thy Name, all such things as may be necessary for our salvation.

We thank thee, O God, that by thy Spirit we have been called to faith in Jesus Christ, given power to believe thy Word, and gathered into the fellowship of thy holy church. Sanctify us that we, purged of our sins and unrighteousness, may be meet for the Master's use and prepared unto every good work.

To this end aid us, by the witness of thy Spirit, to know more deeply and truly the Holy Scriptures that we may become increasingly wise unto salvation; and help us to continue in their teachings. Enable us to flee from the prince of this world, and to follow, with all who serve thee in purity of heart, the things that make for righteousness, faith, charity, and peace. Kindle in us a fervent desire for all that is good, all that is holy, all that is true. Shed thy Spirit upon us, that we may love Jesus Christ our Savior with all our hearts and minds, keep his words with a good conscience, and find in each day the blessed experience of his nearness and abiding presence.

Let the sanctifying wisdom and power of the eternal Comforter descend upon thy church, that she may be strong in faith. Impart to her his seven-fold gifts of grace, that her elders may have bright hopes of the time when the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters that cover the sea, and when her young men and maidens may be granted inward visions of the holy triumphs of the Gospel.

Stir up thy church, O Lord, and imbue it with zeal to seek the lost, to bind up the broken-hearted, to bring comfort to the imprisoned, to heal the afflicted, and to cheer all that mourn.

Give thy Spirit room in all homes, that he may lead every child who bears thy Name into the paths of love and obedience, and endow every parent with an understanding heart and gentle ways, so that together the family may adorn the doctrine of our Savior with godliness and honor.

Govern the nations upon the earth, and help them to acknowledge thy power, dominion, and righteous judgment, so that they may turn from their evil ways and live.

Give unto our land and all in authority firmness in the right and steadfastness in integrity, and be thou our Shield and Buckler.

To all in trial or tribulation, the sick, the weary, the oppressed, the fearful, the needy, and the lonely, give the peace of Christ. Let their cry come unto thee, and grant them all things needful. These things we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

From Clemens H. Zeidler, *Altar Prayers for the Church Year* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House, 1962)

PENTECOST

**Monday**

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given thy Holy Spirit to testify to the truth that is in Christ Jesus, endow thy church with divine power and sanctify thy people now as they come to thee in prayer.

We praise thee for the most sublime and marvelous gift of light through the Holy Ghost. We thank thee for his inspiration of the prophets and the apostles. Grant that we may give heed to their witness, and that as Christ's words were thy words, so their words may also be to us thy words, and that we may continue steadfastly in their doctrine, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.

We thank thee for the Spirit's preservation of the Holy Scriptures, which, remaining forever unbroken, are a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. May they so flourish in the world that new multitudes in this generation and those to come may embrace their truth and trust in the Savior who promises everlasting life to all who come unto thee by him.

We thank thee for the burning zeal thy Spirit has given unto chosen servants to spread thy Gospel throughout the nations. Grant us a like passion, so that men everywhere may sing thy praises and rejoice in thy salvation.

We pray thee, O God, that thou wouldst ever direct and rule our lives, so that we may increase daily in the knowledge and love of thee and of thy Son Jesus Christ. By thy Spirit's influence bring us to true faith, sincere repentance and sorrow for our sins, and to abiding peace and comfort in the knowledge of Christ's saving grace. Kindle within us a hearty desire for all that is right, pure, just, and holy. Sanctify us in body and soul, that, as temples of thy Spirit, we may be loyal to our Savior, faithful to his church, and steadfast in the works of love and mercy.

O heavenly Father, thou Light and Life immortal, let the radiant beams of thy glory lighten the darkness of this world. Make the hearts of all men in all lands thy dwelling place.

Grant preeminence to thy Word and truth throughout our country. Teach us thy way, and let us walk in thy fear. Help us to live in holiness, and save us from all unrighteousness. Bestow upon us the spirit of reverence, of mercy, of kindness, of peace, and of good will.

May the blessed Comforter and Counselor be with those among us who are passing through dark valleys and deep waters, that they may find in thee the strength of their life and their portion forever. Be thou, O God, the Guardian of all in danger, the Companion of all in loneliness, the Power of all in temptation, the Solace of all in sorrow, the Hope of all who despair, the Health of all who are sick, and the Friend of the friendless. Fill us with thy Holy Spirit for Jesus' sake. In his Name we pray. Amen.

From Clemens H. Zeidler, *Altar Prayers for the Church Year* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House, 1962)

**﻿Trinity Sunday**

O God, thou Fountain of all our blessings, who art from ever- lasting to everlasting, and who dwellest in majesty, honor, and glory, as the most blessed Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

We thank thee for the rays of divine light by which we have come to know thee, and for the wondrous mercy by which we have come to love thee. We thank thee that thou art the one, true, triune God- head, eternal, immortal, invisible, in whom we live and move and have our being.

We bless thee, almighty Father. Thy glory filleth the heavens and thou coverest thyself with light as with a garment; thou madest all things and didst lay the foundations of the earth; and thy judgments and decrees in the whole universe declare and show forth thy power and glory. O Lord, how manifold are thy works; in wisdom thou hast made them all.

We worship thee, O Christ, thou only-begotten Son of the Father. Thou wast lifted up to draw all men unto thee, that whosoever believes in thee should not perish but have everlasting life; thou hast been exalted to the right hand of the Father and been given a Name which is above every name; thou hast been given a kingdom which cannot be moved, and now ever livest to make intercession for thy people. O Lord, how great is thy mercy; in love thou hast ransomed and redeemed us.

We praise thee, O Holy Spirit, thou Spirit of truth, who hast called us by the Gospel and hast led us into all truth; thou hast gathered us into thy church and sanctified us by thy grace. Thou hast strengthened us in the inner man and renewed us in the spirit of our minds. O Lord and Giver of life, how marvelous are thy gifts; in grace thou givest them all.

We pray, almighty God, that we may be enriched from the treasures of thy wisdom and knowledge. Open to us the Holy Scriptures, that we may grow in the understanding of thy will, render thee a more acceptable service, and attain a more perfect love and obedience. Grant us the new birth into thine eternal kingdom, and save us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. And because thy judgments are unsearchable to our sinful minds and thy ways are past finding out, we do not ask to see the distant scene of the unveiled future, but only to have more faith in thee, O God. Grant us, therefore, a pure and inward vision of Jesus our Savior, so that we may know thy glory, that thou art a God of love and mercy, and of grace and truth, and trust wholly and only in thee for all things in all times and in every place.

Abide with thy church, O Lord, and make her people and pastors diligent in the vocation whereunto thou hast called her. Cleanse her of error, weakness, and disobedience, and purify her in faith and all good works.

Strengthen thy truth in our faltering hands, and give us a lively hope in thy bountiful promises. Grant us, through the merits of Jesus Christ, the remission of all our sins, and preserve us unto the coming of thy heavenly kingdom, when we shall see thee face to face and faith shall be perfected in heavenly knowledge. In the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

From Clemens H. Zeidler, *Altar Prayers for the Church Year* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House, 1962)

﻿TRINITY

**First Sunday**

O Lord God, King eternal, of whom, through whom, and in whom are all things, both in heaven and earth, and who in the trinity of thy Godhead art one God, one Lord, one Sovereign, and who upholdest all things by the Word of thy power:

We give thee our most heartfelt thanks for the multitude of thy mercies which thou hast so graciously showered upon us. Grant that we may ever be mindful of the magnificence of thy gifts and the vast ocean of thy love and kindness.

For this world, its beauty and its life; for the seasons and for the harvest; for the resources of the earth and the abundance of the sea; for love and friendship, home and family, land and government, and all the wholesome gifts of society; for the wondrous endowments of body and mind; for strength and growth; for skills and senses; for reason and intelligence, for vision and imagination, for memory and reflection, for health and healing; for all these, O God, we give thee our thanks and praise.

Most of all, we thank thee for thy great love and for the priceless gifts which thou hast given in Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, whom thou didst send for our salvation. For the forgiveness of our sins through him, for our deliverance by his power from the dominion of death and the devil, and for the promise of life everlasting, we thank thee.

Grant, O Lord, that our spirits may be lifted up to thee in thanksgiving, and that we may love thee with all our heart and with all our soul, and with all our might. As thou didst first love us, so let us love thee, thy Word, and thy law. Teach us to set thee always before us and to walk as obedient children in thy holy commandments. And as we wrestle against the powers of spiritual darkness in all our temptations, give us the strength and the moral courage we need to win the victory of faith. Help us to meet every test of our love and faithfulness, and save us by thy mercy.

And as thou didst anoint thy church with the Holy Ghost and with power, help her everywhere throughout the world, amongst all peoples and tongues, to declare thy wonderful works, to the end that multitudes may come to thy light.

Look in mercy upon the nations of the world and grant them thy peace. Especially do we beseech thee that thou wouldst bless our own land. Give the spirit of wisdom and understanding to all who rule over us. Banish all vain ambition and love of power and luxury. In scenes of want and wrong, and in the haunts of strife and fear, let thy Spirit prevail, that men may live in brotherly love, bearing one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Upon all our homes let the sunshine of thy love descend, and grant that our children may be reared in thankful devotion to thee, and all their days walk in thy praise.

We entreat thee, O loving Father, for thy mercy and grace upon all who face adversity or trial. Be thou the Health of the sick, the Joy of the sorrowing, the Staff of the aged, the Companion of the lonely, and the Strength of the weak. Grant us all these petitions, O Lord, and whatsoever we may ask in the depths of our own hearts, for the sake of him who died that we might ever live unto thee. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Second Sunday**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who art our Strength and Stay, upholding all creation by thy power, sustaining the earth and all who dwell therein by thy love, and enlightening the hearts of thy children by thy truth, grant us thy fear and love, that we, walking in thy heavenly precepts, may attain the beginning of all true wisdom.

Father, we thank thee for the manifestation of thy majesty in all the universe, in which we see thine infinite power, and in which we discern thy wisdom. Give us, we pray, ears to hear the music of thy creation and eyes to see the wonders of thy glory.

We praise thee for the revelation of thyself in thy law, in which thou dost teach us thy holy will and by which thou dost the govern world. Grant that it may ever instruct us in righteousness, that we may give heed to its commandments, and that we may not fall under its judgments.

We bless thee for the visions of the prophets, for by them thou hast unveiled thy grace and given us great and precious promises. We beseech thee to bestow upon us thy Spirit, that we may grow in the knowledge of thee and ever be comforted by thy faithfulness in the fulfillment of thy Word.

Especially do we acknowledge thy love in bringing us from death unto life by the atoning sufferings and death of Jesus Christ, thy Son, and by the power of his resurrection. Give us, O Father, the spirit of thy love, that, loving thee above all things, we may also love our brethren in deed and in truth. And wheresoe'er any be in want or need, give us compassionate hearts to share what thou hast given us, and grant that they, seeing our love, may live to glorify thee.

We thank thee that in the merits and mercies of Christ our Lord thou hast prepared for us the Great Supper of salvation, and through the preaching of the Gospel hast bidden all to come and partake and to break bread in thy kingdom. We pray that thy church may faithfully bring thy invitation to all nations and that many may respond with ready and willing hearts. Send her messengers forth to invite those in the streets and lanes of the city and those on the highways of life, the poor, the maimed, the halt, and the blind, the weak and the erring, the sorrowful and the troubled, that they may taste of thy Supper and see that thou art merciful and good.

Lord God of hosts, rule over our nation and sanctify all to whom thou hast committed authority. Refine our society by giving it purity of motive, nobleness of purpose, and strength of character. Grant that our destiny may ever be to live in thy trust and obedience.

Bless our homes, that they may be schools of true wisdom and harbors of true love, and that all who abide there may find peace and joy in harmony with thee and one another.

We ask thy special guidance, protection, and comfort for the sick and the sorrowful, the aged and the lonely. Tenderly bestow upon them thy mercy and show them what great things thou hast prepared for thy children.

Hear our prayer, O Father, and if there be aught else we should have asked, grant it unto us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Intercessor. Amen.

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TRINITY

**Third Sunday**

O Lord, our God, our Strength and our Joy, who, by delivering Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, to the death of the cross and raising him into glory, didst bring us life and immortality:

We praise thee for thy manifold mercies. In the gifts of our being, our spiritual nature with all its varied capacities, and our physical nature with all its capabilities of activity and enjoyment, thou, having made us in thy image and for thyself, hast been infinitely good, and we thank thee. In the gifts of our human relationships, giving us fathers, brethren, and companions in every walk of life so that we are not alone, thou hast been mercifully kind, and we thank thee. In the gifts of our abode in this rich and beautiful dwelling place of our earthly habitation, and in the heavenly canopy of the infinite starry universe, thou hast been abundantly gracious, and we glorify thee.

But greater than all this goodness is thy mercy in Jesus Christ, in whom thou hast provided for us the full remission of all our sins, however great they may be, the strength to overcome all evil and win the victory in temptation, and the power of an endless life.

Grant, dear Father, that as there is joy in the presence of thine angels over one sinner that repents, we may confess our transgressions before thee, repent of them, hate them, and forsake them. Forgive us our iniquity. Turn thine anger away, and comfort us by thy compas- sion. Help us to be vigilant in all temptation to sin and in all trials of our faith, that as we steadfastly resist the prince of this world, so may we be preserved from all evil.

Give the riches of grace to thy church, O God, to the end that she may seek the lost, raise the fallen, comfort the broken-hearted, and heal the afflicted. Enable her pastors and missionaries to proclaim with courage and understanding all the words of life which her Lord has given, and to declare thy mighty deeds of judgment and mercy.

Lift high thy banner over all lands and nations, and let it be for an ensign that thou art in the midst of all history, life, and movement, that thou sittest in the councils of nations, that thine eye is in every place beholding the evil and the good, and that according to thy good pleasure thou breakest the bow, cuttest the spear in sunder, and burnest the chariot in the fire. Grant that all eyes may turn unto thee and find thy truth.

Be thou the heavenly Guest in all our homes, and move the hearts of all who dwell there to trust wholly in thee and to have a perfect love toward each other, until the day when thou wilt call us from our earthly homes to ever live together with thee in heaven.

Bless all who are in any need of body or soul, and grant that they may humble themselves under thy mighty hand, so that thou mayest exalt them in due time. Lead them to cast all their burdens on thee, and assure them of thine infinite and understanding care.

O God of all grace, who hast called us unto eternal glory by the mercies of Christ, strengthen, chasten, renew, and perfect us. Hear our prayer in the Name of Jesus, to whom be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Fourth Sunday**

O God, King eternal, who didst make the seven stars and Orion and turnest the shadow of earth into the morning of life; who art our light and salvation, and our portion forever: We, thy children, seek thee now in prayer, and beseech thee to rest thy hand in benediction upon us.

Bless us, O Lord, with such faith in thy Son Jesus Christ that we may believe in him with all our hearts, and, trusting in his merits, may have the assurance of everlasting life. Bless us, from the fountain of thy love, with the gracious water of life and the washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit.

Keep us ever within thy care. And as thy glorious creation has been marred by man's sinfulness and lies in travail under the shadow of thy judgment, defend us in all times of danger and save us in every peril. From earthquake and storm, from hatred and war, from tyranny and persecution, from famine and plague, and from corruption and rebellion, deliver us.

Keep us securely within thy grace, O Lord, that, by reason of our sins and frailty, we may never depart from thee. Help us to grow in grace now in the time of our vigor, and in the hour of our death preserve us in the true faith of thy holy Name. Grant that we may have inheritance with all thy children and know the joys of thy adoption in the redemption of our bodies and the resurrection unto life eternal.

Make thy face to shine upon thy church that, through her labor, the light of thy truth may shine in all the world, that thy way may be known upon earth and thy saving health among all nations. Let her watchmen bear thy Name in all godliness and purity, and give her people gladness in thy true service.

Stretch forth thy arm over our land, that thy power and glory may be seen from shore to shore, in the stately halls of government, in the busy precincts of commerce, in the classroom and on the farm, and in the minds and hearts of men of whatever dignity or position in life, that our people may repent and that our land may know that thou art Lord over all and that thou givest thy glory to no other.

Be gracious to all our families, that our children may grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man. To this end give thy Spirit to our parents, that they may be endowed with Christian ideals and live in obedience to Christ's commandments.

Lift up thy countenance, O Lord, upon all who suffer sickness or sorrow, the infirmities of age or the weariness of toil, separation from loved ones or uncertainty in decision, misunderstanding or bitterness, or any other adversity, and grant them thy peace. Show thyself to them as a very present help in time of need, giving them wisdom and understanding, wholeness of mind and body, courage and hope.

These petitions we bring to thee, O Lord, and ask all things for Christ's sake. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Fifth Sunday**

O Lord of all power and grace, whose eyes are on the righteous and whose ears are open to their cry, hear the prayer of thy people as we come unto thee now in thankfulness for the mercies which thou pourest down upon us anew cach day.

We thank thee for the gifts of thy mighty providence and the daily and manifold miracle of making supply for the needs of all creatures, great and small, opening thy hand and giving them their meat in due season. Make us mindful, O Lord, that thou art the Source of the daily bread of all living things, even as thou hast provided them with life, breath, and being.

We praise thee for the gift of thy Son Jesus Christ, whom thou didst send to be the Savior of the world. Grant that we may believe in him with all our hearts, learning from him the great truths of the kingdom to which he bore faithful witness. Help us to obey his commandments with a pure mind, to love him with a true heart, and to serve him with a willing spirit.

We remember before thee, O Lord, our great sinfulness. We repent of our iniquity. Consume us not by thy wrath, but out of thy great compassion forgive us, that we may know the joy of thy salvation and ever live to praise thee.

Grant us thy Holy Spirit, that we may produce the fruits of righteousness. May he endow us with unwavering faith, so that we are ready always to do thy will. Through thy Spirit add to our faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness love.

Multiply grace, peace, and all spiritual knowledge in thy church. Raise up a ministry that will seek souls for salvation, willing to forsake all selfish concerns and follow thy Son whithersoever he may lead. Give unity of heart and spirit to thy people, O God, and that they may inherit thy blessing and not come under thy judgment, let them manifest the Spirit of Christ in all things. Defend and preserve thy servants wherever they may be suffering for thy Name's sake, and replenish them in faith, strength, and courage by the graces of thy Son.

For the nations of the earth we pray. Subdue terror and tyranny everywhere, and call forth leaders who shall acknowledge that thou art Lord over all the earth. Bless our own land. May it ever follow that which is good and forsake all that is wicked, that our people may prosper in uprightness and integrity.

Hear, O Lord, when we cry unto thee for the afflicted. Grant unto them help in body and soul, and save them for thy mercy's sake. And as we are but pilgrims in the world, guide and uphold us, and bring us all in due time to our heavenly home.

Receive now these petitions in the Name of the Prince of Life, Jesus, our dear Lord. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Sixth Sunday**

O thou, from whom all goodness flows, holy art thou, and holy is thy Name; heaven and earth are full of thy glory; all the stars, the suns and satellites of space, the marvelous structure of the atom and the mysterious infinity of the universe, all energies and all forces, the sea and the clouds, the thunder and the lightning, the earth and its life, are to thee thy servants, and to us the messengers of thy wonder and might. Yea, O Lord, the firmament showeth thy handiwork; day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge; the invisible things of thee are there beheld, even thy eternal power and Godhead.

We thank thee, O Father, that we have a more sure word of light and truth in the Holy Scriptures wherein thou givest us the testimony of our brothers, the holy prophets and apostles. Grant that by thy grace their God may be our God, their love of divine truth our love, and their fellowship with thy people our fellowship.

But most especially do we thank thee for the voice and witness of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Savior.

O thou best Gift of heaven, who in thy birth didst take upon thyself our flesh, and who in thy death didst take upon thyself our sins, give us thy Word and Truth and all the mercies of thy sacrifice, that we, being baptized into thy death, may be raised to newness of life. Enable us by thy power to crucify the lusts of the flesh, to put away all hatred and bitterness, to overcome all sinful habits, and to be born again in the Spirit and ever to live unto thee.

O Spirit of the living God, who hast created the church, by thy gracious power quicken her in faith and life. Grant that her people may bring unto her altars all the fruits of righteousness and show forth the praises of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Give the Light of life, O Lord God, to the nations of the earth, that they may put away sin, acknowledge thy Son Jesus as Lord and Savior, and walk before thee in obedience and faith. Endow our own country with leaders whose consciences are attuned to thy voice and citizens whose wills are fixed on doing thy will.

Bless all who stand in some special need of thy mighty aid. Especially do we entreat thee for our sick and all who may be in bodily or mental anguish. Grant unto them the balm of thy love, and show them what great things thou hast prepared for all who love thee.

O God, Creator, King, and Spirit, help us now in the days of our flesh to lighten by every Christian virtue the place in life to which thou hast called us, and in the time of our death preserve us for thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, our Lord. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Seventh Sunday**

O thou holy and immortal God, who coverest thyself with light as with a garment, and who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain; who makest the clouds thy chariot, and who walkest upon the wings of the wind: In humility of soul we give thee thanks and praise for thy manifold kindness.

We thank thee that thou hast so bountifully given to the world its daily bread, providing the rich earth with its wonders untold, the seed whose powers unfold in abundant harvest with the light and the air, and the dew and the rain to make fruitful the labors of the husbandman.

But we do especially thank thee that in thine ineffable love thou hast provided for our soul's hunger in the gift of the Bread from heaven, Jesus Christ, thy Son. Grant, O Father, that we may believe on him with all our hearts and find the joys and satisfactions of this heavenly Food.

O Lord, we hunger for spiritual knowledge: Give us faith so that, as in the days of his flesh men beheld in him the brightness of thy glory, we may find in him the riches of divine wisdom and heavenly knowledge.

Our souls yearn for truth: Lead us to his heavenly word and doctrine, there to find the great and sublime truths of thy holy will. We cry for forgiveness and pardon: Turn us to him, who was bruised for our iniquities and wounded for our transgressions that by his stripes we may be cleansed, healed, and forgiven.

Our souls crave for life: As thine unspeakable gift is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, feed us on this Bread of Immortality, that we may know the power of his resurrection.

O God, grant that we may also find in him the strength we do not find in ourselves: the power to uphold us in the toil and the conflict of this earthly life, and therein to live unto thee, the resolution to do thy will so that we may be thy true and faithful servants, and the will to overcome our sins and yield ourselves to righteousness unto holiness. Nourish us by thy grace that we may find our labor sweet and our work welcome and all our necessities of soul and spirit supplied.

Set watchmen over thy church who shall pray without ceasing for the prosperity of the Gospel in all lands and nations, preach thy holy Word with all boldness, prepare thy people for the time when our Lord Jesus shall return to the earth, and present unto thee in the end a holy and redeemed church.

We have thought of thy loving-kindness to our own country, and we thank thee for the good thou hast given us. Give strength to all the forces of righteousness in our midst, and overthrow all the powers of evil. Be to us ever our Sword and Shield.

Be thou the Helper of all our families. Implant thy Word in the hearts of our children and thy love in our parents, so that they may enjoy now and forever the fruits of holiness.

Free the afflicted from their troubles and bind them to thee, to the end that they may have abundant life, and live to serve and praise thee.

O thou, who seest us, who knowest our frame and rememberest that we are dust, as we go from this holy place, by thy great mercy quicken us in faith, hope, and love, that today and every day we may live as thy children in thy presence; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Eighth Sunday**

O heavenly Father, who by thy Son didst create all things that are in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, principalities or powers, giving him authority over all: We thank thee that through him we have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we may truly know thee as our Father, call upon thee in prayer, and be assured that we will be heard as thy children.

Father, for thy church and thy people we pray. Grant unto them ministers and teachers who are counseled and led by thy Spirit, and who earnestly hold forth the Word of life, diligently gather thy children, and teach them all things whatsoever our Lord has commanded. From all false prophets and deceitful guides save them, that they, being knit together in love, may stand fast in one spirit, and with one mind strive together for the faith of the Gospel.

Declare thy glory, O Father, among all nations, and send forth thy messengers to open the eyes of the unbelieving, to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto Christ, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance with all the children of God. Look with favor upon our own land, that true liberty, perfect justice, and pure morals may prevail in every estate of our society, and that all ungodliness and wicked works may be destroyed.

Father, let thy Spirit descend upon our homes. Let the Word of Christ in all wisdom dwell richly in the children, and grant that all parents may be worthy examples of true Christian virtues. Shelter them in every storm, and preserve them from all evil.

And as thou, dear Father, didst send thy Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life, keep us by thy mighty power blameless in the midst of a perverse world, so that we may attain the crown of life. To this end grant that we may be filled with the knowledge of thy will, be fruitful in every good work, and be strengthened in the patience of faith. Help us to mortify the deeds of the flesh and to live in the Spirit, ever setting our affection on the things above.

O Father, from whom all good counsels and just works do proceed, give unto thy children who may be enduring pain, sickness, the threat of disease, mental or spiritual anguish, or any other adversity of the body or soul, such an assurance of thy love and mercy that they may commit themselves wholly into thy care and receive from thee all things needful for their salvation.

Now, heavenly Father, as thou hast bidden us by thy Word to let our requests be made known with thanksgiving in prayer and supplication unto thee, we come to thee in loving gratitude and trust, offering these petitions in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Ninth Sunday**

Almighty and everlasting God, who searchest all hearts and knowest all thoughts, whose eyes are in every place, beholding the evil and the good, grant us now, as we approach the throne of thy grace, true humility and penitence. We entreat thee, remember not the sins of our youth or our manifold transgressions, but according unto thy tender mercies, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, pardon our iniquity.

By the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, save us from lusting after evil things, from idolatry, from immorality, from unbelief, or other great and shameful sins; and vouchsafe unto us such steadfast faith that in whatsoever trial we must undergo, we may in no wise test thy forbearance by murmuring, complaint, or doubt. Lead us not into temptation, but and if thou dost permit it, strengthen us by thy power to withstand it in the evil day, and by thy providence overrule it, that we may be delivered from the reach of the tempter's arm.

Grant unto us true understanding of thy Word, so that we may be guided in all judgment, and be shown the way that leads to everlasting life. Keep before our eyes the warning and admonition of the Holy Scriptures. Enable us to learn by the examples there set forth what things we ought to do and what things thou hast forbidden and wilt most surely punish; and help us to obey thy commandments with joy.

We thank thee for all thy benefits. Help us to use with faithful stewardship all that thou hast bestowed upon us, being heartily grateful for thine unfailing goodness, and deeply conscious that thou wilt call us one day to give an account of our stewardship.

O Lord, remember the covenant thou hast made with thy pilgrim church and with thy people. Provide for them pastors and teachers who shall lead them to the spiritual Rock, Jesus Christ, that they may drink from the living Fountain the pure water of eternal life. Preserve them from all who would beguile them with false words, and keep them from all heresy, schism, or false religion.

Glorify thy Name in all the earth, and send forth men and women to proclaim the Gospel with wisdom, love, and boldness, so that multitudes out of every nation shall call upon thy Name and be saved.

And as righteousness exalts a nation, but sin brings thy reproach, keep our country and people within thy care, that honor and honesty, truth and integrity, may be upheld, and that all lawlessness, wickedness, and rebellion may be put down. Especially do we entreat thy favor upon all who bear responsibility for our government, that they may be endowed with wisdom to govern after thy good pleasure.

Guard and defend our homes, that parents may be kept in the bonds of love and godliness, and may rule their children well, nourishing them in truth and righteousness.

We pray for all who may be ill in body, mind, or spirit, for all who may be in danger of body or soul, for all who may be in anxiety or perplexity, for all who may be suffering some keen disappointment or defeat, be thou present with them in their affliction, show them the way out of all their troubles, and save them for thy mercy's sake.

Heavenly Father, who didst not spare thy Son but freely delivered him up for us all, mercifully grant these and all other acceptable petitions which thou readest in our hearts, in his Name. Amen.

From Clemens H. Zeidler, *Altar Prayers for the Church Year* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House, 1962)

﻿TRINITY

**Tenth Sunday**

O God, our God, by whose Spirit all things are ordered in thy kingdom, so that if aught be done, it is thou who hast done it; if aught is given, it is thou who hast given it; or if aught be withheld, it is thou who hast withheld it: Mercifully hear our prayer, and to this end pour out thy Spirit upon us, that we may draw nigh unto thee in the true beauty of holiness.

Grant through thy Holy Spirit that thy Word may come unto thy church, that thy people may hear it from Christ-like teachers with the ears of faith, and, turning to thee in the fullness of love and trust, may know thy will, repent of their transgressions and iniquities, and amend their ways by obedience to thy commandments.

By thy Spirit help thy church to confess unceasingly and proclaim unwaveringly that Jesus is Lord to thy glory, and that he who by his bitter sufferings and death redeemed us from all sin, sits at the right hand of thy power, having authority over all things in heaven and earth, and that he shall reign until all enemies are under his feet.

Give, by thy Spirit, all such diverse spiritual gifts as are necessary to the witness and work of thy church, so that there may ever be abundant wisdom and knowledge, faith and healing, prophecy and miracles, judgment and tongues. May thy light go forth, and may people of every nation, kindred, tribe, or realm learn of thy glory.

Grant by the same Spirit that thy house may ever be a house of prayer for all people. Cleanse it of all unrighteousness, that it may be a fit abode where thine honor dwells, thy Name is hallowed, and thy Word is taught.

Keep the nations of the earth in peace and tranquility, and to this end turn the hearts of men from war and wickedness. Especially do we beseech thee to bless our own land and all who rule over us, that our liberties may be preserved and our laws upheld, that injustice may be suppressed and lawlessness punished. Grant that goodness may be honored and labor enjoyed, that licentiousness may be despised and case abhorred.

May the words of our Lord Jesus be taught daily in all homes, that both parents and children may grow in grace through the knowledge of him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Bestow thy favor upon all useful labor in industry and agriculture, education and science, the professions and the arts, that in their advancement thy people may be prospered.

Look in mercy upon the sick and the hurt, those who sorrow or mourn, the handicapped and the infirm, and hear their cry. Let the healthful powers of thy love come to them, so that they may turn to thee in praise and thanksgiving and bless thy holy Name.

These and all other prayers, hear, O Lord, and grant for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy Son, in whom are hid all the treasures of heaven. Amen.

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**Eleventh Sunday**

O Lord God, whose paths are mercy and truth unto such as keep thy covenant and testimonies, and whose secret is with them that fear thee, incline thine ear to us and hear our prayer, which we bring to thee, not in our own name or righteousness, but in the Name and by the merits of Jesus Christ.

We praise thee for the glorious Gospel of thy grace, whereby, according to thine ancient and faithful promises, thou didst send, in the fullness of times, thy Son, who died for our sins and rose again on the third day, that we through him might be saved.

We thank thee for the apostolic witness of Christ's resurrection and for making known unto us his power and coming, that, though we have not seen him with the eyes of our flesh, yet both loving and believing in him, we may rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory and receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls.

Grant that we may ever stand steadfastly therein, repent most earnestly of our sinfulness, turn to thee for thy forgiveness, and be purged of all iniquity. Give us true humility of spirit. Enable us by thy grace to escape the corruption that is in the world through lust. And that we be neither barren nor unfruitful in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ, fill our hearts and kindle in them the fire of thy love.

Bestow the Holy Spirit upon thy church, O Lord, that it may go forth into all the world bearing thy precious Gospel and preaching Jesus Christ among all nations for the remission of sins and the hope of eternal life. Save thy church from all its enemies, evil workers, and perverters of the truth, that it may know no other Gospel than that which was once delivered.

We pray for our country and beseech thee, by thy mercy, to give us executive, legislative, and judicial leaders who shall give heed to thy commandments, uphold and foster all good, oppose and punish all that is evil, that all our people may live in peace, safety, and honor.

Pour out thy blessings upon our homes. Give mind and will to all parents to train up their children to know, love, and fear thee, to the end that all may live together in peace, kindness, and understanding.

Hear the prayers of all the afflicted, the sorrowful and those who mourn, the needy and the homeless, the wounded and all in pain, the anxious and the despairing, and lead them by thy mercy to a happy issue out of all their adversities.

Deliver us, O God, from every evil, of body or soul, property or character, and at last, when the hour of death shall come, grant us a happy end and take us from this world of sorrow to thyself in heaven. These and all other things necessary for us, grant unto us, by thine infinite mercy and grace in Jesus Christ, the Bright and Morning Star of our salvation. Amen.

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**Twelfth Sunday**

O Lord, the Light of thy people, the Salvation of thine inheritance, and the saving Strength of thine Anointed, we thank thee for the gift of thy Word and for the knowledge of thyself which thou by thy hand didst write in our hearts and in all of thy creation when thou didst lay the foundation of all things. We praise thee for the glorious declaration of thy will when thou didst engrave upon tables of stone thy holy and immutable will. But most especially do we give thee thanks for the more glorious revelation of thyself and of thy grace in thy Son Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Word, whom thou didst command us to hear in faith and to obey in love.

Send forth thy Word into our world today. Implant it in the hearts of thy people, that they may be nourished and refreshed by the eternal and living Spring of heavenly vision and understanding, so that they, delivered by thy mercy from the peril of ungodliness, the power of Satan, and the fear of death, may live to serve and praise thee in righteousness and purity forever.

And as thy Word, like a sword of living power, is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart, let it probe us, showing us the evil and the good, that we, thus examined, may amend our ways, forsake our sins and not come under thy judgment.

Let it be for us also a Lamp unto our feet, that our way may be made sure and our path blessed with thine abiding presence, to the end that we may be preserved in every temptation and trial.

Pour out thy Word abundantly upon the multitudes in every nation, that their eyes may be opened and their hearts turned from falsehood and error, idolatry and evil works, and every vain and corrupt practice. Open their ears to hear the words of thy truth, that the day may dawn in their souls as light in a dark place, and that the day star of spiritual knowledge may arise in their hearts.

Let thy Word everywhere consume thine enemies like fire, and, like the hammer that breaks the rock in pieces, let it destroy all oppression, tyranny, and every abominable thing.

Grant that thy Gospel may be published throughout the length and breadth of our land, that all in every place may come to know Jesus Christ as the only Savior and Source of pardon for sins and hope for eternal life.

Let thy Word shine within our homes, that parents and children may dwell together in love, serve one another in kindness, and find increase in joy in this life and that which is to come.

Give the Spirit of Christ richly to all who are sick or are suffering from any adversity of body or spirit, and grant that they may discover that he does all things well, turning our afflictions into divine blessings.

And since we are not sufficient of ourselves to win the victory of life, supply us through the grace of Jesus Christ with the power of thy Spirit, that we may ever be comforted by thy truth and sustained by thy love.

This we pray in the Name of him who gave himself for us that we might ever live through him, even Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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**Thirteenth Sunday**

Heavenly Father, eternal and almighty God, who through the blood of the everlasting covenant didst bring again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ: Perfect us in every good work to do thy will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in thy sight.

By thy Holy Spirit work in us a true and living faith in thee and in thy Son whom thou didst send, that in thy manifold goodness and mercy we may be found in him, not having our own righteousness, which is of thy law, but that which is through the righteousness of Christ.

O thou who art the Author of all good counsels and all holy desires, work in us such love toward thee that we, loving thee with all our hearts, may love our neighbor also. Through thy Word and commandments help us in our earthly pilgrimage to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thee. Grant that we may ever show compassion to the needy, honor all men, bear the infirmities of the weak, provide for all men things honest, and having fervent charity toward all. Help us never to render evil for evil or railing for railing, but contrariwise blessing, knowing that thereunto thou hast called us, that we should inherit thy blessing.

Work in us such obedience to the example of our Lord Jesus Christ that we may refrain our tongues from evil and our lips that they speak no guile, that we may do good and shun evil, that we may seek peace and follow after it, that we may commit ourselves ever to thee and to thy tender care.

Move, O Lord, thy church with gratitude for all thy blessings, but most especially for the gift of its greatest treasure, the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Send it forth unto the uttermost parts of the earth to proclaim the good news of his salvation, and prosper it in all its labors. To this end grant unto all in the ministry of the Word a true understanding, to all in the ministry of education a pure knowledge, to all in the ministry of mercy a loving compassion, and to all in the ministry of authority a holy wisdom.

Bless, we pray thee, our nation, that mercy and truth, honor and peace, may everywhere prevail. Give success to all that work for righteousness in our midst, and overthrow all who work iniquity, that we come not under thy reproach and judgment.

In the sanctity of our homes let the Spirit of Jesus Christ come to strengthen all parents, that they may, by excellent example, encourage their children and youth in the practice of virtue, and lead them to usefulness in thy service and in the service of their fellow men.

Let thy benediction rest upon all in every good and useful employment, and grant them contentment and due reward for all their endeavors. Help all men to see that whatsoever they do in word or deed, they are accountable to thee.

Pour out thy mercy upon all who are in trial or adversity, especially those who are suffering for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, and save them by thy mighty power, that they may know that thou art the true and only Sovereign, and thy Son the true and only Savior.

Now, dear Father, for his sake forgive us our sins and cleanse us by his Word, giving us the hope and promise through him of life everlasting. In his Name. Amen.

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**Fourteenth Sunday**

O God, Lord of Hosts, by the great and living way of thy Son Jesus Christ, we enter into thy gates of prayer with thanksgiving and into thy courts with praise.

We thank thee for the declaration of thy glory in all this vast and starry universe, wherein all who will may read of thy infinite power and wisdom. We praise thee that thou hast filled the earth with life and with riches so that man, made in thy image and endowed with great gifts of mind and hand, may, as thou turnest the wheel of the seasons and renewest the face of the earth, harvest the fruit of his toil, find joy in the birth of each day, and rest in the peace of each night.

Most especially we thank thee, O God, for the gift of thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, for his perfect revelation of thee and all thy will, for his holy example of true manhood, and for his innocent sufferings and death for our sins, that we through him might receive the remission of our sins, strength to overcome all evil, and, in his resurrection, the gift of everlasting life.

And as thy commandments are a lamp to our feet, and thy Gospel pure light for our path, O Father, we heartily return thanks to thee for thy Word and the gift of thy Holy Spirit, whereby we may read with understanding, learn with a ready mind, and receive, through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures, hope for time and eternity.

Grant that we may ever live in the Spirit so that, led and empowered by him, we may produce the works meet for repentance, despising the bread of wickedness and the wine of violence, and follow righteousness, godliness, faith, and love, and finally in thine everlasting kingdom receive the inheritance that thou hast promised by thy Son.

We pray for thy church: Rule and direct it that it may prosper in the things whereunto thou hast called it. Defend it against all error and confusion, and preserve it in the true faith of thy holy Name. Quicken it by thy grace, that it may show forth thy praises in every good work and bring to thee the sacrifices of contrition and obedience.

Uphold in our land all that are in authority, that in the maintenance of law and order we may lead a quiet and peaceable life and serve thee without hindrance.

Bless our homes and counsel our parents, that thy teachings may not depart from our midst but be continued in the lives of their children. Guide our youth that they may keep their hearts with diligence, and in faith and purity find a happy issue in life.

We pray for all who must walk along the hard and stony path of affliction with sickness, suffering, or peril. Let their way be filled with light that shines more and more brightly unto a perfect day.

These and all the hidden yearnings of our souls, and any other thing we should have sought of thy mercy, grant unto us for the sake of our Lord Jesus, who ever liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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**Fifteenth Sunday**

O God, thou living God, in whose tabernacle of providence the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, the fields are arrayed in beauty with good things, and the pastures are clothed with flocks, we draw nigh unto thee in prayer with true and believing hearts.

We give thee thanks and praise for all thy goodness and mercies, but most heartily and earnestly do we glorify thee for the precious gift of thy holy child Jesus, whom thou didst send to deliver us from the due reward of our transgressions, and by whose resurrection thou hast vouchsafed unto us the unfading crown of life.

Grant unto us, O Father, faith in thy power and goodness, that we may ever trust thee for all our daily needs and fulfill the duties of each day without fear and anxiety for the morrow, knowing that thou orderest according to thy Word all things in heaven and earth, and carest for all thy children.

Bestow thy grace upon us so that we seek not the vanities of this world, nor the deceitfulness of riches, but ever set our highest affection and desire on the things that pertain to thy kingdom and to the righteousness which is by faith and obedience. Open our minds to the understanding that our most precious treasure is the unsearchable riches of Christ, our most satisfying food the Bread of Life, and our most glorious dress the garment of heavenly virtues.

Let thy Word dwell in us richly in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, so that in love and in the fulfillment of thy commandment we may assist one another in our trials and infirmities.

And grant that in all our works of mercy we may have special regard for those of the household of faith. Endow thy church and people with the spirit of humility and sympathy, so that the compassion of Christ may shine forth in love and kindness toward the fallen, the wayward, and the heavy laden, and strengthen thy servants everywhere that they may not grow weary in well-doing.

Shed thy light upon the nations, that all the ends of the world may remember and turn unto thee, and that all kindreds and peoples may worship thee. Bless thou also our own land, that thy reverence and truth may prevail in the councils of government and in the halls of commerce, industry, research, and education.

Through all of life's short day, help our families with thy divine benediction and presence. Be with them in sorrow or joy, sickness or health, disappointment or success, and preserve them with thy grace.

Forgive us our sins, and teach us, O Lord, that thou art a God of holiness and power, who in righteousness and mercy rulest the world and governest all men, and that in thee we live and move and have our being. And forasmuch as we can do no good thing without thee, quicken us in body and soul by thy Spirit, that we may sow the works of faith, love, and hope, and reap the blessed, joyful, and abundant life, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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**Sixteenth Sunday**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom thy whole family in heaven and earth is named, we worship thee for thy manifold wisdom, thy mighty works, and thy perfect holiness; but especially do we praise thee for our reconciliation to thee through the sufferings and death of thy dear Son, which thou didst most awesomely purpose in eternity, that we through faith in him might enter with confidence into thy presence and bring to thee our prayers and petitions.

Out of the infinite bounty of thy surpassing goodness grant unto us, who ever stand in need of thy help and mercy, thy spirit and grace. Bestow upon us the intelligence that leads to a due sense of thy majesty and power and the holy fear which is the foundation of all true wisdom. Unfold to us thy overflowing liberality by providing for the wants and necessities of this present life. Let thy mercy descend upon us as the morning dew, giving us life and breath, health and contentment, and deliver us from every kind of danger to body or soul.

But above all we entreat thee to look upon our moral frailty and spiritual weakness, and the evil we have no power to remedy, and by thy Holy Spirit to strengthen us inwardly by the gift of a true faith in Jesus Christ. Grant that he may be Lord of our lives, giving us the conviction of thy pardon and acceptance, moulding our wills to thy will, purifying our emotions, quickening our consciences, and cleansing the springs and principles of our actions by dwelling in our hearts in faith and love.

Let the love of Christ, which exceeds all human knowledge, pervade thy church, that being therein divinely created, it may thereby also flourish, bearing love for all fellow-Christians, compassion for all in need, and forgiveness for all enemies. May it thus show forth the exceeding greatness of thy love, which is as broad as all humanity, as long as eternity, as deep as any human need, and as lofty as the heaven of heavens.

Bestow upon the nations of the earth such knowledge of thy glory, that they may turn to thee, the only God, and thy Son Jesus Christ, and find salvation. Grant also thy favor upon this land, that multitudes within her borders may turn from evil and come to faith and be filled with all thy fullness.

And as thou art able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to the power that works in us, increase thy grace to us and enlarge our trust so that we will unfailingly come to thee in prayer with believing hearts beseeching thee for all our wants and needs, but especially for thy mercy and deliverance. Give a special measure of thy power to those who are in sorrow or mourning, to those who are in pain or sickness, to those who may be in temptation or peril, that they may receive thy blessed aid. And al- though we have deserved thy chastening and correction, help us to receive them with faith, knowing that thereby thou art in love preparing us for that joyful communion with thee which is to be for all eternity.

These things and whatever else we should have sought of thee but did not, we beseech of thee, O God, through our Redeemer and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**Seventeenth Sunday**

O God and Father, loving Creator of all things in heaven and earth, who art over all, the supreme and only Sovereign, who art through all in ruling and sustaining power, and who art in all for the savour of death or life according to thy holy judgments: We bow in prayer before thee and offer unto thee our common supplication.

Impart to us, for the sake of thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, pardon for all our sins and deliverance from the just recompense of our transgressions. By thy power rescue us in temptation from the threatening perils of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and protect us from all danger to our souls.

And as we are unable by our own reason or strength to walk worthily in the faith to which thou hast called us, or to bear honorably the Name of Christ, or to render dutifully the obedience which thou dost command, pour out upon us thy Holy Spirit, that we may have those virtues which are pleasing in thy sight. For our stubbornness and self-will, bestow upon us submission to thy will; for our pride and conceit, endow us with lowliness of mind; for our complaining and vengeful spirits, give us the spirit of meekness; for our resentment and anger, grant us patience. Help us by thy grace to bear in love with each other's faults and infirmities, to serve one another in charity and kindness, and to bless those who may seek to harm us.

Look in mercy upon thy church, O God, and grant that it may keep in peace and love the unity which thou dost give and for which our Lord prayed. To this end produce in it an abiding sense of its oneness in faith in Christ, in repentance for sin, in knowledge of thy doctrine, and in obedience to all that revelation which thou didst provide for us in thy Word. May thy church manifest this unity before all the world, that all men in every place may learn of our one and only Lord Jesus Christ, receive his redemption and the gift in him of everlasting life.

Bless our nation, that throughout the length and breadth of the land its people may worship and serve thee in spirit and in truth, and grant it thy counsel and aid, that it may be preserved in peace.

Show thyself the Guardian of all our families, and enable all parents to give wise reproof, spiritual admonition, and a wholesome example to their children, that in obedience to words fitly spoken they may be edified and strengthened for usefulness and service to thee and to all their fellow men.

Set thy healing powers to work in the sick and all the afflicted. Hear their cry and remember them in thy mercy, upholding them by the comforting power of thy Spirit. Show thyself to them a very present help, the Savior of all men and especially them that believe, and increase their trust in thee, through the love of thy Son Jesus Christ, in whose glorious Name we offer these and all other worthy petitions which thou seest in our hearts. Amen.

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**Eighteenth Sunday**

O Lord God, who art ever faithful, and who hast not failed in one word of all thine exceedingly great and precious promises, we thank thee for the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ thy Son, and for all the promised graces we have received through him: that in the brightness of his glory we have received knowledge of thine own glory; that in the truth, goodness, and tenderness embodied in him we have learned thy will; that in his obedience unto the death of the cross we have been granted cleansing pardon for all our sins; that in his resurrection we have the earnest and the promise of life everlasting; and that in his ascension to the right hand of majesty we have the assurance of his intercession for our every necessity.

Help us that we may so heartily believe and trust in him, and so truly love and serve him, that in all thought, speech, and action we may manifest his Spirit. From the infinite riches of his grace, from the heavenly treasure of his merits, bestow upon us every gift necessary to renew us in spirit, soul, and mind, and fill us with all the fulness of his love. And, that we may become partakers of thy promise in him and be found at his coming worthy to bear the crown of life, increase in us the measure of faith and rebuke our self-trust; deepen our hope and subdue our self-indulgence; enlarge our sympathies and chasten our self-love; and confirm us in his testimony unto our end.

Preserve thy church, dear God, from false or faithless teachers, and keep her obedient and steadfast in all that thou hast made known unto her in the Holy Scriptures. Grant unto her the refreshing of thy Spirit, that in fellowship with Jesus Christ she may proclaim thy truth with living power, preach thy Gospel in all the world, and minister in love to the needs of men everywhere.

Grant unto the nations of the earth peace and tranquility, that their people may live without fear or want. Enlighten them by the rays of thy love, and preserve them from oppression, wrong, and cruelty.

Support our own land in righteousness and overthrow all wickedness. And as there is no abiding strength in material prosperity, preserve us from the decay of moral corruption, and raise up men and women of holy courage and conscience to warn and admonish us. Protect us against every peril from within and without, and give us thy blessing.

Dwell in our homes, O Lord, and let the trust of our families be centered in thee, so that no difficulty, trial, or adversity shall be able to daunt them, or take from them the conviction that thou art their Helper in time of need.

O thou, who wilt ever strengthen the bruised reed, turn the afflictions of the weary and sick into their teachers, and the tears of the troubled and sorrowful into their instructors, that in all their necessities they may learn divine wisdom and knowledge, and thus be led to look unto thee who art the unfailing Spring of all healing and hope.

All these things, and whatsoever else we should have asked, we pray in the Name of him who is thine only-begotten Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**Nineteenth Sunday**

O Lord God, heavenly Father, who art ever in our midst, and who dost never leave or forsake us, we praise and glorify thee for the infinite mercy which thou didst manifest in the unsurpassed gift to us sinners of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who came to put away our sins by the sacrifice of himself upon the cross, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. We thank thee, O Father, for thus commending thy love to us, delivering us from the power of sin and death, and opening to us the gate of heaven.

We confess that we are most unworthy sinners, and that we have transgressed more than we can know of thy will and Word. We repent of our evil and pray that thou wilt give us such faith that we may trust utterly in the righteousness of Christ Jesus for our forgiveness. Pardon our iniquity, we beseech thee, and in him cast all our sins into the depths of the sea of oblivion.

Grant that, by thy truth, our minds may be renewed in righteousness and true holiness, that our consciences may be stirred to discern and choose the good, and that every thought, word, and deed may be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. Give us the will and the power to walk in thy paths and live in harmony with thy Word. Endow us with grace so that we may be transformed in character, constant in faith, patient in tribulation, and instant in prayer.

Fill thy church with thy Spirit so that it may have a power, a knowledge, and a wisdom that are above all mere human ingenuity and intellect. Give it great moral conviction, a quickened conscience, and an unshakeable sympathy with all that is pure, all that is holy, all that is true, all that is good. Give unto her ministers and teachers the fidelity, courage, and zeal of true prophets, that thy people may be built up in faith and works, rejoice in thy love, endure in patience every trial, and finally enter thy kingdom by way of him who is the heavenly Ladder, even Jesus Christ.

Let the blessings of thy truth and love stream forth upon the nations, and let them receive all thy revelation in repentance and faith, so that they may be delivered from the barrenness of falsehood and the wastes of godlessness, and go unto the house of God in worship and praise.

We pray for our own beloved country. Give us citizens who perceive that the standard of all that is right is not personal advancement or private favor, not public opinion or party platform, but thy holy will. Give us civil servants who are worthy of honor, and leaders in business and labor who are unselfish and far-sighted, and who are guided by the public good and respect for each man's God-given dignity.

Lavish thy grace upon all families, that each home may, by the Christian love and character there lived, be for the children a foretaste of the joy and blessedness of their heavenly home.

For all who are in any sickness, pain, anguish, or suffering, for all who are in any danger from within or without, we pray. Teach them to turn unto thee and wait upon thee for thy mercy; grant unto them hope and a joyous deliverance out of all their trials, and let them walk in thy light all their days.

These things we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Refuge and Hope. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Twentieth Sunday**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, who, for them that love thee, makest all things work together for good, in the precious Name of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, we give thanks unto thee for all things: for thy mercy in times of health, prosperity, and peace, and for thy fatherly chastening in times of adversity and affliction; for thy goodness in the love of family and the companionship of friends, and for thy strengthening help in paths of lowliness and temptation; for thy bounty in knowledge and wisdom, and for light when the way is dark and unknown. But especially do we thank thee for the gift of thy dear Son, by whose death and resurrection thou hast brought us unto thyself and made us meet to receive all thy manifold blessings freely.

Grant, O Father, that we may be filled with thy Holy Spirit, so that we may have understanding of thy Word and will, and power to walk faithfully therein in obedience and love. Enlighten our minds, that we may rescue the fleeting hours of this life from evil and folly by laying hold of every opportunity to do good. Transform our hearts so that we may find joy, not in iniquity, but in worship of thee, communion with our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of thy people.

Furnish thy church, O Lord, with such grace that she, with robes washed in the blood of the Lamb, may be adorned as a bride for the heavenly Bridegroom, Jesus Christ. Grant unto her a readiness to sacrifice, a zeal for thy cause, and a faithfulness to thy Word, that she may never falter in her holy calling. Give repentance unto thy people, and clothe them with the garments of faith, hope, and love. Send thy servants unto all nations, opening the hearts of all who hear thy Gospel, and crown their labors with success.

Have dominion over all the earth, and bring all rulers to thy obedience, to the end that all tyranny and oppression may be banished, the love of war and the lust for power broken, and the worship of false gods destroyed. Especially do we beseech thy blessing upon our own land. Revive in our midst the esteem of honor, truth, purity, true religion, and the works of faith. And as thou art the Fountain of wisdom, endow our leaders with sound judgment, good counsel, and sure knowledge, so that we may be preserved from all our enemies, both within and without, and live to serve thee and our fellow men in tranquility and concord.

Teach our families to wait upon thee in every necessity, and provide for them in due season all such things as they may need for body or spirit.

Grant that all who are in sickness or sorrow, tribulation or danger, or who have suffered disappointment or injustice, may increase in faith and love, be kept by thy mighty hand, and be delivered out of all their woes.

These things we entreat thee, O God, to vouchsafe unto us in Christ Jesus' Name and for his sake. Amen.

From Clemens H. Zeidler, *Altar Prayers for the Church Year* (Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House, 1962)

﻿TRINITY

**Twenty-First Sunday**

Almighty and everlasting God, who keepest covenant and mercy with thy servants that walk before thee with all their heart, open thine eyes toward this house where thy Name dwelleth, and hearken now unto the prayer of thy people, that we may be confirmed in thy promises and rejoice in thy love.

Enlighten our minds by thy Holy Spirit, that we may ever hear, read, and receive thy Word in reverence and gratitude; and that, as it instructs us in thy glory in the creation of heaven and earth, in thy providence in the governance of all things, and in thine infinite mercy in the gift of thy dear Son Jesus Christ for our salvation, we may believe it with all our hearts and give it free course in our lives.

Enable us thereby to see ourselves as thou seest us, and help us to confess our sinfulness unto thee and repent of our iniquity. Clothe us with thy armor, that we may be strong in thee and, in the power of thy might, may resist the treacherous wiles of Satan, the sly temptations of the world, and the stubborn weakness of our own flesh. Deliver us from the dominion of darkness and preserve us for the eternal kingdom of Christ our Lord.

Grant unto us the spirit of prayer, that in faith we may unceasingly and boldly seek thy blessings for all our needs, bring thee our supplications for loved ones and our intercessions for all men, and trust in thy goodness to fulfill our joy in thy answer for Jesus' sake.

Protect us from all peril by storm or fire, from plague and famine, from war and discord, from treachery and rebellion, from luxury and ease, from ignorance and superstition, from painful and sudden death, and from an evil end. And although we have transgressed thy commandments and deserve thy correction, grant us that we may be warned thereby, learn our dependence upon thee, and walk in obedience to all thy will.

Prosper thy church, that it may be maintained in the true faith of thy holy Name, and uphold thy people that they may worship thee with pure hearts and serve thee and all their fellow men in love. Raise up ministers and missionaries who will honor their calling by a godly life, seek the lost with uncommon zeal, and feed thy flock with the Bread of Heaven.

And as the whole world is in thy power, send forth the Sword of the Spirit into all nations, that the wicked may be judged and overthrown and the righteous defended against all their persecutors. Grant that all who rule may have purpose, diligence, and wisdom to strive earnestly for the peace of the world and the health and happiness of mankind.

Bless, we pray thee, our own land. Endow [the President and Congress of the United States of America, the governors and legislatures of the several states, and] all in authority with understanding and integrity, that they may serve according to thy good pleasure. Give thy favor to industry and agriculture, that they may provide for our use the wholesome fruits of their crafts, and increase in education and research such knowledge as will direct our thoughts to thee and to thy majesty.

All these things we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, thine only-begotten Son, who by his most bitter sufferings and death, and by his most glorious resurrection, has given to us the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Twenty-Second Sunday**

O God, who in wisdom didst make the world and establish the heavens, we thank thee for our creation, and that in love thou didst fearfully and wonderfully make us in thine image, granting unto us the gift of intelligence and the power of reason; a house for thy Spirit in the temple of our bodies; a spiritual awareness by which our hearts are restless until they rest in thee; a moral nature wherein, enlightened by divine truth, we may perceive the evil and the good, and by thy grace choose the good; and the capacity of faith whereby we may have inwardly the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things unseen.

Especially do we thank thee for the gift of faith in the revelation of thyself in thy Son Jesus Christ, by whom thou didst commend thy love toward us, and who by thy grace laid down his life, tasting death for every man, that he might bring salvation unto all the world.

Pour out thy Spirit upon us anew each day, that our love for our Lord may richly grow in divine knowledge, spiritual insight, and true discrimination, unto a harvest of goodness and purity for thy praise. Grant by thy Spirit also that we may be ever kindly disposed toward one another in brotherly love, forgiving one another, even as thou hast, for Christ's sake, forgiven us.

Direct and rule thy church in its fellowship in the Gospel, that it may be steadfast in the faith once delivered to it; and defend it against all its enemies, that it may serve thee without fear. And as we have freely received from thee, move us to give freely, liberally, and gladly for thee in the support of all who toil in thy vineyard in our own and in distant lands. Especially do we lift up to thee thy servants who are persecuted for thy Name's sake. Overshadow them with thy power and fill them with thy Spirit, that they, showing thy glory in their faithfulness and love, may turn the hearts of their oppressors. Remove from the midst of thy people all falsehood and error, and grant them truth and godliness.

Go before the nations as a light to relieve the darkness of sin and ignorance, and lead them into the pathways of peace and happiness, to the end that they may love and glorify thee.

Grant health and wisdom to all in our own land who bear authority, so that they may serve in accordance with thy will, and that we may prosper in the things that make for concord and righteousness. Bring to naught all the devices of the wicked and uphold and further all that is good, that we may be saved from thy wrath and be defended by thy mercy.

Implant thy Word in the hearts of all our children, that they may be raised to lives of usefulness to thy church and to their country. Give to all parents thy blessing and grant them understanding and patience.

Watch over the sick, the sorrowing, and the anxious; be their companion in suffering and their help in tribulation. Preserve those who are in any mortal peril of body or soul, and save them by thy gracious providence. And although, on account of our sins, we have merited thy fatherly correction, help us to receive thy visitation in humility and repentance and turn to thee for pardon and peace.

These and all other things of which we have need, we beseech thee to bestow upon us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Twenty-Third Sunday**

O Lord God almighty, who through the greatness of thy power didst create all things in heaven and earth and hast determined the times and the habitations of all nations, divinely instituting all human authority, we acknowledge thy dominion and render unto thee praise and thanksgiving for thy glory.

We thank thee that thou hast crowned the year with thy goodness and covered thy paths with abundance. Thou hast filled the wells with water, and the pastures are clothed with flocks. The plains thou didst spread with grain, and the valleys thou didst adorn with thy bounty. Thou stillest the noise of the seas and renewest the hills with the rain and the snow. Thou fillest the earth with thy riches and rewardest the industry of man. Thou openest thy hand and satisfiest the desire of all who wait upon thee. Great is thy Name, O God, and marvelous is thy mercy.

Most especially do we thank thee that thou didst bring us salvation and quicken the souls of men in the unspeakable gift of thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose death we have been delivered from the bondage of sin, and by whose resurrection we have been made citizens of thine eternal kingdom. Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may ever look unto him who is the Author and Finisher of our faith, follow his holy example in our life and conversation, and set our minds on the heavenly things thou hast provided in him and prepared for our appearance in glory.

Send forth thy Word into all the earth, that thy way may be known, thy saving health among all nations. Let the righteous be glad in thy truth and sing for joy. Scatter thy enemies, and let all that hate thee flee before thee.

Bestow thy blessing on this land, and grant that all who bear the sword of authority may know thy fear and acknowledge thy power, so that justice and mercy, righteousness and peace, may prevail, that all wickedness may be punished and all violence suppressed. Grant that thy people may render honor to the law by their obedience, pay respect to their earthly rulers by their affection and esteem, and pray for them that they may diligently protect life, property, and liberty, and be guided by thy wisdom.

Make thy church alive with the power of the Gospel. To this end pour out thy Holy Spirit upon it, that it may serve thee with fervency and zeal, rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, benevolent in heart, continuing instant in prayer.

Teach the youth of the church to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus as Lord, and help the children to receive him with joy and gladness.

Give quietness and confidence to all who may be enduring any trial or adversity of body, mind, or spirit, and grant unto them the rewards of faith and trust in thee.

And since our salvation is nearer than when we first believed, help us, O God, to awake out of our sleep, to cast off the works of darkness, and to put on the armor of light, so that when our Lord Jesus Christ shall return, he may, according to his promise, transfigure this frail body and grant it a resplendent form like unto his. In his Name we pray. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Twenty-Fourth Sunday**

O Lord our God, the Rock of our salvation and the Fountain of all truth, who givest food to the hungry and executest judgment for the oppressed, who openest the eyes of the blind and raisest them that are bowed down, who givest habitation to the fatherless and the widow and lovest the righteous: We give thanks unto thee that thou hast delivered us from the power of darkness, redeemed us with the precious blood of Christ, and, raising him from the dead in glory, hast given us the promise of inheritance with all thy people in the heavenly places.

Grant unto us, as we come unto thee in faith and prayer, the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, that by his gracious influence we may escape the corruption that is in the world through lust and pride and that we may bear the fruit of true goodness. Through thy Word help us to grow in the knowledge of thee and of thy will and in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may walk before thee according to thy good pleasure all the days of our life, steadfast in faith and love, abounding in spiritual understanding and patience, and strengthened for every work of brotherly kindness and charity. Touch our souls with thy power, that we may be revived and healed, and sanctify our hearts that we may thus show forth thy praises.

Stir up thy church, O Lord, to a remembrance of thy everlasting mercies and thy continual presence. Cleanse, strengthen, and govern it, that it may be thy holy people and a light that shines in the darkness. Send forth shepherds to feed the flock who, by their obedience and love, shall be men of God. Put thy Word into their mouths that truth may prevail and righteousness grow amongst us.

Look in compassion upon our world and let thy Gospel come as the breath of life to all nations, that they may turn from their evil ways, repent of their transgressions, idolatries, rebellions, love of pleasure, vanity, and conceit, and turn to thee for forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and be saved.

Judge our own land, that we may mend our ways, obey thy voice, and, walking in the way of thy commandments, be preserved by thy power from all our enemies. Endow our leaders with wisdom and courage to the end that they may execute justice, protect all that is good, and punish all that is evil, so that we may serve thee in peace and safety.

Bless our homes and defend them against all strife and discord. Grant that our children may know and love him who came to give them the abundant life, and give all parents grace to lead them to the feet of the Lord Jesus by the example of their life and conversation.

We implore thy mercy upon all the sick, the sorrowing, and the suffering. Support them in their trials and deliver them by thy goodness, that, being made whole in body and spirit, they may ever trust in the comfort of thy fatherly care.

And as, according to thy promise, the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, give us diligence in truth and godliness, that we fail not to attain to thine eternal kingdom through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. In his holy Name we pray. Amen.

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TRINITY

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday**

O almighty God and heavenly Father, holy and righteous art thou; thy glory fills the universe, and thy power encompasses the world; thy mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, and thy truth endures throughout all generations. Be thou, O Lord, in the midst of thy people, and hear the voice of our supplication.

We thank thee for all thy mercies. Thy kindness is new unto us each day. We praise thee for the light of thy Word, by which thou hast illumined our darkness. We glorify thee for all thy benefits. No good thing hast thou withheld from them that walk uprightly. But most heartily we thank thee for the mighty gift thou didst bestow upon us in Jesus Christ, thy well-beloved Son, who took upon himself the form of a servant and, being found in fashion as a man, humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, in order that we might receive the remission of our sins and, being absolved, have the assurance of everlasting life, and the certainty of the resurrection of our bodies on the last day.

In this faith, O Lord, take from us the sting of sorrow and the victory of the grave. In this blessed hope in Christ, who is the First-fruits of them that slept, help us to conquer all fear of death and to live in the confidence that because he lives, we shall also live. Make us mindful that as we have borne the image of the earthly, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly. Comfort by this grace and truth all who are bereaved, and wipe all tears from their eyes.

Deliver us from the tribulations of this world, its false Christs and false prophets, its heresies and divisions, its lies and treachery, its wars and oppressions, its fightings and calamities, its bloodshed and pain, and grant that as the days which thou hast appointed us are few and troubled, we may apply our hearts unto thy wisdom, and ever abide under the shadow of thy love and power, where there is refuge from every peril and where no evil can befall us.

Prosper thy church, dear God, in all its endeavors in the work to which thou hast called her. Help her to work diligently while it is day before the night comes. Cleanse thy church of every impure and untrue thing, that she may be without spot and blemish when her Lord shall return.

Stretch forth thy hand over the nations of the earth, rebuke the vain and proud, free the enslaved, defend the persecuted, and bless the obedient, that all may know that thou art God, and that there is none beside thee. Preserve our own country from the corruption of the wicked, that we come not under thy judgment, and save us that we may be used by thee for the healing of the nations. Breathe thy Spirit upon our land that statesmen may be honorable, business and labor leaders unselfish, scientists and educators God-fearing, and our ministers strong in faith.

We entreat thee to look in mercy upon all the sick and any who are stricken in body, mind, or spirit. Manifest thy presence unto them, and heal them according to thy love and their need.

Forgive us our sins for Christ's sake, and give us that peace which passes all understanding, that joy which no man can take from us, and that hope which fades not away.

In the Name which is above every name, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday**

Lord God, heavenly Father, of whom and through whom and to whom are all things, to thee be glory forever and ever. We thank thee for all thy blessings: for our creation and all that exists; for the priceless gifts and endowments of body and mind and for thy daily provision for all the necessities of life; for the joys of home, family, and friends and for good government and just laws; for the light of education and the growth of the healing arts; for thy protection in danger and for thy deliverance from all evil; but most heartily do we thank thee for the gift of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom thou hast saved us from wrath and appointed us to obtain salvation and eternal life. Grant that we may be filled with his Spirit and produce the fruits of faith, hope, and compassion, so that when he shall come in his glory we may be received into his eternal kingdom.

And as thou wilt then bring to light the hidden things of darkness and make manifest the counsels of all hearts, make manifest to us our exceeding sinfulness and lead us to repentance; cleanse and purify us by thy grace, that we may be absolved from all our sins and preserved from the power of evil; sanctify all our thoughts, utterances, and endeavors, that we may perfectly love and serve thee; and so direct and counsel us that, according to thy good pleasure, we may daily work out our salvation in fear and trembling, and finally, in the day of judgment, be conformed unto the image of thy dear Son.

Open the eyes of thy church to see that Christ the Bridegroom from heaven is nigh and, as there remains a rest for the people of God, to labor with diligence by proclaiming thy Word with all boldness, that multitudes may be saved to the glory of thy holy Name.

Have dominion over all the nations of the earth, and in every land, by thy Word, call, gather, and enlighten a people who may give love and obedience to thee through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless our own land. Guide those who are in authority with thy wisdom, that they may rule with humility, serve with uprightness, lead with vision, and plan with intelligence; and grant that freedom, charity, and unity may dwell among us.

Defend our homes from the corrupting influences of the world, the devil, and our own flesh. Keep our parents in the faith, each one loving and honoring the other, and our children in affectionate obedience, each one growing in grace and favor with thee.

We pray for all sorts and conditions of men, but especially for the afflicted. Lift up the weary and the wounded, touch the sick and the diseased, strengthen the aged and the infirm, give hope to the depressed and anxious, guard the imperiled and oppressed; and by thy mighty power give them in Christ Jesus light for their darkness and joy for their sadness.

And, now, O God, who wilt once more shake the heavens and the earth, but who hast given us a kingdom which cannot be moved, grant unto us steadfastness and patience, that, when thy Son shall appear, and all his holy angels with him, we may be clothed with his righteousness and inherit the heavenly city which abides forever. In his exalted Name we pray. Amen.

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﻿TRINITY

**The Last Sunday**

O God, who hast saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according unto thine own purpose and grace given unto us in Christ Jesus before the world began, we thank thee for the abundance of thy mercies, but especially for the gift of thy Son, in whom, through his sufferings and cross, thou hast abolished death and, through his resurrection, brought life and immortality to light.

Grant that by thy grace we may ever continue in the things we have learned through thy Word, and of which we have been assured by thy Holy Spirit, so that, being wise unto salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus, we may receive on the day of his coming the crown of righteousness which he has laid up for us and for all who love his appearing. To this end save us from following after perversions and denials of his truth, and from giving heed to lies, deceptions, and vain philosophies.

And as, in his coming in power, he shall judge all the living and the dead, help us to walk each day in the way of thy commandments, to follow peace and holiness with all men, to endure in meekness for thy Name's sake such pain and adversity as we are called upon to bear, to be instant in prayer that we enter not into temptation, to behold the signs of the times, and to look for the new heavens and earth which the redeemed of the Lord shall inherit in everlasting joy and gladness.

Deliver us from every evil work, from all ungodliness, and from worldly lusts; from the proud and disobedient, from corrupt and reprobate men, from the foolish and pleasure-seeking.

Give strength to thy church, that with fervent spirit it may fight the good fight of faith. Raise up a faithful ministry who know Christ in sincerity and truth, and whom Christ will know and own upon his return. Call forth messengers who will endure hardness as good soldiers in carrying his Gospel to all lands. Prosper the schools of the church, that young men and young women may be prepared to serve thee and their fellow men in every useful and honorable vocation. Give thy blessing to the church's institutions of mercy, and grant thine aid to all who labor therein. Bestow heavenly grace upon our parents, that they may teach their children the way of life in Christ Jesus; and keep the young ever faithful in word and deed.

Govern the nations upon earth, and plead thine own cause amongst the multitudes, that they may be turned from their darkness to thy light, and from sin to righteousness. Be thou the Shield of our land. Look upon us in mercy, and make us repentant for our wickedness, immorality, and materialism. Subdue all evil in our midst, and let thy Word flourish, so that truth and holiness may prevail.

Hear the cry of the afflicted and give them thy compassionate aid. Make straight paths for them, strengthening the weak, upholding the feeble, and healing the sick. Enlighten them so that they despise not their chastenings but, receiving them in trust and confidence, bring forth the healthful fruits of righteousness and joy.

Preserve us all in steadfast faith, looking for that blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his coming will manifest himself as the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen.

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