Litanies from The Book of Alternative Services

Anglican Church of Canada

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1

*(In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”)*

For peace from on high and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy. For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For *this city (town, village, etc.),* for every city and community, and for those who live in them in faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel by land, water, or air, for the sick and the suffering (especially . . . ), for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health, and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died (especially . . . ), let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering ( . . . and) all the saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

2

*(Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, “Lord hear our prayer.”)*

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Set free all who are bound by fear and despair.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

3

*(Let us offer our prayers to the source of all love and all life, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”)*

Merciful Lord, we pray for all who call themselves Christians: that we may become a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for N our bishop, and for all bishops and other ministers: that they may remain faithful to their calling and rightly proclaim the word of truth.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and all in authority: that your people may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for this city and those who live here, the poor and the rich, the elderly and the young, men and women: that you will show your goodwill to all.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of our society and those who minister to them: that you will be their help and defense.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those preparing for baptism, (for those recently baptized): that they may be strengthened in the faith.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who have found favour in your sight from earliest times, prophets, apostles, martyrs, and those whose names are known to you alone: and we pray that we too may be counted among your faithful witnesses.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

4

*(In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, hear and have mercy.”)*

We pray for all who confess the name of Christ: fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

We pray for those whose lives are bound in mutual love, and for those who live in celibacy: be their joy and their strength.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For all in danger, for those who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, victims of oppression: grant them your salvation.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For all who are facing trials and difficulties, for those who are sick, and those who are dying: show them your kindness and mercy. Lord, hear and have mercy. We pray for one another: may we always be united in service and love.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

We pray to be forgiven our sins and set free from all hardship, distress, want, war, and injustice.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

May we discover new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, struggling against exploitation, greed, or lack of concern: may we all live by the abundance of your mercies and find joy together.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

May we be strengthened by our communion with all Christ’s saints.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

5

*(Let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer*.”)

Let us pray for the peace of the world: the Lord grant that we may live together in justice and faith.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for this country, and especially for Queen Elizabeth, the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and all in authority: the Lord help them to serve this people according to his holy will.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for children and young people: the Lord guide their growth and development.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the sick: the Lord deliver them and keep them in his love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for all who are condemned to exile, prison, harsh treatment, or hard labour, for the sake of justice and truth: the Lord support them and keep them steadfast.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We remember the prophets, apostles, martyrs, and all who have borne witness to the gospel: the Lord direct our lives in the same spirit of service and sacrifice.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

6

(As we stand in God’s presence, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”)

For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

7

*(Let us pray in faith to God our Father, to his Son Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, saying, “Lord, hear and have mercy.”)*

For the Church of the living God throughout the world, let us ask the riches of his grace. Lord, hear and have mercy. For all who proclaim the word of truth, let us ask the infinite wisdom of Christ.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For all who have consecrated their lives to the kingdom of God, and for all struggling to follow the way of Christ, let us ask the gifts of the Spirit.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For Elizabeth our Queen, for the Prime Minister of this country, and for all who govern the nations, that they may strive for justice and peace, let us ask the strength of God.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For scholars and research-workers, that their studies may benefit humanity, let us ask the light of the Lord.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience, let us ask the peace of Christ.

**Lord, hear and have mercy.**

8

By your incarnation and your birth in poverty, by your baptism, your fasting, and your trials in the desert, O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison** ***or*** Lord, have mercy.

By your agony in the garden, by your cross and passion, by your death and burial, by your resurrection and ascension, and by the gift of your Holy Spirit, O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison.**

In times of trouble and in times of well-being, at the hour we die and on the day of your glory, O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison.**

Deliver us from war and violence, from hardness of heart and from contempt of your love and your promises; O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison.**

Enlighten our lives with your word, that in it we may find our way and our hope; O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison.**

Assist your people in every land, govern them in peace and justice, defend them from the enemies of life; O Lord, hear our prayer;

**Kyrie eleison.**

9 Morning

*(Let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”)*

Let us ask the Lord for a day of fulfilment and peace.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to teach us to love others as he has loved us.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord for peace and justice in the world.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen and relieve those who are in need.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to renew the Church through the power of his life-giving Spirit.

**Lord, have mercy.**

10 Evening

*(In peace let us pray to the Lord, saying, “We pray to you, Lord.”)*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

That the work we have done this day and the people we have met may bring us closer to you,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

That we may be forgiven our sins and offences,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

That we may hear and respond to your call to peace and justice,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

That you will sustain the faith and hope of the weary, the lonely, and the oppressed,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

That you will strengthen us in your service, and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom,

**We pray to you, Lord.**

11 Late Evening

Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye.

**Hide us under the shadow of your wings.**

For the peace of the whole world, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are weary, sleepless, and depressed, we pray to you,

**Lord, Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are hungry, sick, and frightened, we pray to you, Lord,

**Lord, have mercy.**

For rest and refreshment, we pray to you, Lord,

**Lord, have mercy.**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

**Amen.**

12 Advent

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!”)

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

13 Incarnation

*(In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, “Lord, grant us peace.”)*

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

14 Lent

*(With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”)*

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord. Lord, have mercy. For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

15 Easter

*(In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, “Hear us, Lord of glory!”)*

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That by his power wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

16 The Holy Spirit

*(Let us pray to God the Holy Spirit, saying, “Come, Holy Spirit, come.”)*

Come, Holy Spirit, creator, and renew the face of the earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, counsellor, and touch our lips that we may proclaim your word.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, power from on high: make us agents of peace and ministers of wholeness.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, breath of God, give life to the dry bones of this exiled age, and make us a living people, holy and free.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

Come, Holy Spirit, wisdom and truth: strengthen us in the risk of faith.

**Come, Holy Spirit, come**.

17 A Bidding Intercession

*The leader should add particular intentions to each bidding. In the course of the silence after each bidding, the people offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God’s people throughout the world, for this gathering, for our bishop N, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

Almighty and everlasting God, by your Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified. Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in our vocation and ministry we may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

I ask your prayers for peace, for goodwill among nations, and for the well-being of all people.

*Silence*

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that justice and peace may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer, hear the cry of those in misery and need. In their afflictions show them your mercy, and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them, for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

I ask your prayers for the mission of the Church. Pray for the coming of God’s kingdom among all nations and peoples.

*Silence*

O Lord our God, you have made all races and nations to be one family, and you sent your Son Jesus Christ to proclaim the good news of salvation to all people. Pour out your Spirit on the whole creation, bring the nations of the world into your fellowship, and hasten the coming of your kingdom. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

I ask your prayers for those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to God alone. Pray that God may be glorified in all his saints.

*Silence*

O God, the giver of eternal life, we give you thanks and praise for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints. Grant to us, and to all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, a share in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ and fulness of joy in the fellowship of all your saints. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Let us give thanks to almighty God for all his goodness.

*Silence*

You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honour and power.

**You are worthy to receive blessing and praise, now and for ever.**

*The leader concludes with the following doxology.*

For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen**.

18 Thanksgiving Litany

(Let us give thanks to God our Father, always and for everything, saying, “We thank you, Lord.”)

For the beauty and wonder of creation,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**We thank you, Lord**.

For our daily food, for our homes and families and friends,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think and hearts to love,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For health, strength, and skill to work, and for leisure to rest and play,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For those who are brave and courageous, patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**We thank you, Lord.**

For all who pursue peace, justice, and truth,

**We thank you, Lord.**

[Today we give thanks especially for . . .

**We thank you, Lord.]**

For (. . . and) all the saints whose lives have reflected the light of Christ,

**We thank you, Lord.**