

PRAYERS for September 18, 2022 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Assistant: On this fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Almighty Lord, we gather here this morning to worship You, to thank You, and to offer You our prayers. We do not do so in an attempt to earn Your favor or to beg for Your blessing, but rather we seek You because You first sought us. We know that You are here with us, O Lord. We ask that You stay with us, accept our reverent prayers this morning, and receive the joyful praise that we offer to You.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Lord Jesus, You taught us to always pray and never grow faint. You instruct us to ask, to seek, and to knock at the door. Instead of worrying about our days, help us turn to You, so we will benefit from Your wisdom, Your strength, and Your love. Instead of being overwhelmed by this world, remind us to take things one day and one prayer at a time. Instead of feeling alone in the crowds, remind us that You are always with us, even to the ends of the earth. Forgive us, Lord, for looking for answers apart from You for our hope is in You.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Heavenly Father, it is to You that we look for every good thing because You are the fountain of all blessings. Your resources are never exhausted, Your storehouses are never empty, and Your trees bear fruit continuously. Help us not be haughty and desire the riches of this world. Help us to look to You for the things we really need: eagerness to hear Your Word, slowness to speak words of doubt, actions and not just words, and cleanliness of thoughts and deeds. You ask us to fight the good fight of faith and take hold of that which is truly life.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Healing Lord, let Your Spirit abide with those whose lives are torn apart by tragedy, war, terrorism, or natural disasters. May they be encouraged by the knowledge that in the midst of their troubles, You have not abandoned them but are walking beside them. Be with those people who are in need of emotional, spiritual, and physical healing. Let them know that they can and should come to You in prayer. Help us all to know that You are big enough, strong enough, and wise enough to take care of our troubles. We especially ask You to be with all our friends and families on our prayer list and those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) **Lord, in Your mercy.....** *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Lord, calm the fears and give comfort and strength to Your persecuted servants throughout the world. By their humble witness, cause their enemies to repent and to turn to You, their only King, Lord, and God. Pour out Your Spirit on those people who are grieving the loss of a loved one, those who are suffering sadness for the end of their independence, or those who are enduring separation of a family member or friend. Thank You for giving us so many friends and family members who have touched our lives and shared special moments with us.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**