

**Prayer of the Church
Third Sunday in Lent (Oculi)
15 March 2020**

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

For the eyes of all the faithful to be ever turned toward the Lord, that they would see Him in His Holy Word and Sacraments, receive His grace and mercy, and walk as children of the light, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all pastors in Christ, that they would preach the Gospel in its purity and administer the Sacraments according to Christ's institution; and for the Lord of the harvest to send more servants into the mission field, that the Gospel may be heard by all people everywhere, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our congregation, that we would be content in the Lord's gracious provisions, kept from greed and covetousness, and filled with generosity in support of the Lord's work among us and abroad, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the unemployed and underemployed, that they would find suitable work to support themselves and their families; and for all of us, that we would find joy and contentment in our vocations, faithfully performing the duties to which we are called, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who suffer with physical and mental ailments, especially our world and this country as it fights the coronavirus, and those who have requested our prayers, including _____, that they would be given the strength to endure their afflictions, the grace to remember the Lord's steadfast love for them, and the relief they need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who partake of the Holy Supper of Christ's very body and blood this day, that their sins would be forgiven, their faith strengthened and their hearts stirred up to walk in love, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who have gone before us in the faith and now rest from their labors, let us give thanks to the Lord; that we would abide in Christ until we, too, are called from this vale of tears, and that we would, with them, enter into the eternal kingdom Christ will usher in on the Last Day, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We lay these petitions before Your throne of grace, O Father, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.