**Prayer of the Church *– Proper 7B***

*God is the creator of the whole universe. Let us pray to our Father, whose power and wisdom are far above any mortal and whose love reaches out to every living thing on earth.*

Heavenly Father, we pray for the church. Continue to guide it, so that it may grow in faith, despite all opposition, and that it might always know that you have a plan for eternity, even when this plan is hard to see. We pray that you would especially give strength to those Christians faced with persecution because of their faith.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the world which you have made for us. We pray that you would guide us as we care for it. Send refreshing rains and sunshine in good measure to those who grow our food.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all those who are involved in conflict, especially in those parts of the world where there is violence and trouble. We pray that you would work to bring peace and to restore justice throughout the world.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all people who have fallen victim to natural disasters, especially the children and the elderly. Provide for all their needs, and keep them strong in the certain hope that you are watching over them to protect and provide for them.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

*Other petitions may be inserted here*

Loving Father, as the disciples cried out in the boat, we cry out to you to hear our prayers according to your grace and will. We ask these things and all that is on our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**