**Prayer of the Church *– Proper 10B***

*God is holy and just and judges righteously. He acts to keep his people from falling away. Let us pray to him in the full confidence that he will hear our prayers.*

Heavenly Father: thank you for your holiness and righteousness, especially as they are present with us in Jesus Christ who makes us holy. Thank you for your holy prophets and apostles who bring him to us in your holy word. Bring us and all people to listen deeply to your word.

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for the office of the holy ministry to oversee the sharing of your word and sacraments. Bless the worship of your church and keep all pastors true to their calling. Thank you for the ministry of all believers as they serve faithfully in your name.

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

Help us Lord to truly appreciate your great love for us and for those we walk with in the fellowship of the church, weak and sinful though we be. Help us make your purpose our mission and so to grow in faith and love.

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all victims of abuse that you would give them comfort and healing through faith in Christ. We pray for victims of crime and the impact this has made on their lives. We also pray for perpetrators, that they would turn from their wrong-doing, be rehabilitated and serve you.

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to the world and genuine cooperation between the nations and their leaders in addressing the world’s problems. Bless our primary producers and relieve those suffering financial and emotional stress in our country. Ease the burden of the poor and homeless.

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people in pain and those who are ill. Relieve them, restore their health, and bring them to know your grace even through their adversity so they may give glory to you. Be with those among us in special need *(including…)* and others known to us, whom we now name in our hearts… *(brief silence)*

*Lord, in your mercy:*  **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, when the time was right and according to your good pleasure you sent your Son to be a Saviour for all people. We ask that you would hear our prayers and grant them according to your wisdom and good timing, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**