**Prayer of the Church –Proper 9C**

*Jesus said that we should ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Let us obey his command and pray to God our Father, trusting that what we ask will be pleasing to him.*

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great love and tender care which gave Jesus to die for the sins of the world and which freely gives peace and salvation in his name. Send out workers into the harvest so that people everywhere will know this good news, repent of their sins, and turn to you in faith.

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

Equip all your people with the gospel of peace, and give us power to go where you send us, restoring our straying brothers and sisters in gentleness and love, and ourselves receiving the correction of others with repentance and grace. Bring to faith those we know who have yet to hear the gospel with an open heart, and restore the straying.

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the whole church on earth, that it may labour in the harvest field of the world with truth and love. Bless Australian Lutheran College, its staff and students and bring forth suitable people to study for the public ministry.

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on all who suffer deprivation and poverty, and give them what they need for healthy life. Bless the earth with good harvests and productive industry. Protect us from fire, flood and every disaster. And give all Christians a clear sense of our calling to serve you by serving others.

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who serve as missionaries distant places, and we ask that you bless their work and protect them from all danger. Keep safe those who travel at this time, and bring everyone back from school holidays rested and refreshed.

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

Guide our life and work here at *(insert name of congregation)* as we go out in your name. Bless all who serve in leadership positions. Uphold the sick and elderly among us, and meet the needs of all we know to be in want and whom we name silently in our hearts...

*Lord of the harvest:* **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the harvest, you have given those who work for you authority over the powers of evil. Hear our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, who conquered the enemy through his death and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**