

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

'Praying which pleases God'



Prayer is not just a matter of asking God for the help we want. It is also about seeking, and praying for, what God wants – which might be quite different. Today's Collect reflects both these aspects: '... Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants, and ... make them to ask such things as shall please you.'

The Gathering

THE GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

And also with you. (1 Tim. 1:2)

(A HYMN may be sung)

Jesus said: Ask, and it will be given you; **search, and you will find;** knock, and the door will be opened for you.

For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

If you know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!** (Luke 11:9-10, 13)

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, give us the desire to seek first God's will in all things.

Grant us the honesty to confess our sins, and the humility to receive your forgiveness. Help us to listen to your Word, and show forth your love, in lives of service and sacrifice. **Amen**

(SONGS may be sung)

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PENITENCE

In God's holy presence let us examine the words of our mouths, the deeds of our bodies, and the desires of our minds, confessing our sins to him ...

When we are quick to criticize others, but slow to praise them ...
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we bear grudges, and find it hard to forgive ...
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

When we think we alone are right, and impose our views on others ...
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we let evil go unchallenged, and are afraid to speak the truth ...
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

When we are preoccupied with ourselves, and give little attention to others ...
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we trust in material things, more than in God's unfailing love ...
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(The GLORIA, the VENITE, a SONG or RESPONSES may be used)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray ... (silent prayer)

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

THE SCRIPTURE READING(S)

(After the reading)
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM/HYMN or SCRIPTURAL SONG

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.
Glory to you, O Lord.

(After the reading)
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us proclaim our faith in God:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son who took our human nature, died for us, and rose again?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?
We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

(A HYMN may be sung)

The Prayers

INTERCESSIONS

(Special thanksgivings and prayers ...)

Father in heaven, we pray that your will may be done on earth as in heaven:

We pray for the Church: for bishop N., for ministers and all your people; for the Holy Spirit's gifts as we seek to serve you; for wisdom and courage as we communicate the Gospel to people who have no room for God; for growth in commitment among us ...
Father, your Kingdom come, **your will be done.**

We pray for our Queen and country, and for all the nations of the world: for leaders who are dedicated to serving the people; for wisdom as they deal with difficult issues; for reconciliation where there is hatred and conflict; for justice to the poor and the excluded ...
Father, your Kingdom come, **your will be done.**

We pray for the people among whom we live and work: for our families who need our time and affection; for any friends who feel hurt or let down; for the neighbours who long for someone to call;

for those at work who suffer from stress or poor management ...
Father, your Kingdom come, **your will be done.**

We pray for all whose lives are blighted by illness, pain or frailty; for all who are enslaved to addictive habits; for all who find life bleak without the person they love; for all who bring care, encouragement and healing to those who suffer ...
Father, your Kingdom come, **your will be done.**

We remember with thanksgiving those who have died ... and commend them and all people to your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(A HYMN may be sung)

CONCLUDING PRAYER

The Father's love enfold us, the grace of Christ uphold us, the Holy Spirit guide us; one God to walk beside us. Amen.

(THE BLESSING or THE GRACE is said)