

**PRAYERS for February 5, 2023 – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Worship Assistant:** On this fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**Worship Assistant:** Most wonderful and glorious God, we thank You for the blessedness that You have given to us through Your Word. Keep us humble as we continue to enjoy the marvelous gift of Your Holy Spirit. No eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard, and no heart has ever imagined what wonderful things You have given us. We are forever grateful that You are the light of the world, and that You have called us into the fellowship of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** God of wisdom, You know the innermost secrets of Your people. Lead us in our daily lives, guide us when we need Your counsel, and draw us back when we stray from You. We ask You to look kindly on our homes and churches. Let the light of Your love shine within every person gathered here this morning. Do not let any of us hide that light from those who need it most. Instead, let our words, worship, fellowship, service, and prayers shed the radiance of Jesus' compassion and forgiveness upon everyone we meet. Be with Christian believers around the world who are being persecuted for their faith. Strengthen Christian believers in America to speak the Good News.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Savior of our souls, why do we ever doubt Your wisdom, Your might, Your faithfulness, or Your love? You have never failed to keep Your promises or to fulfill Your Word. Fill us with the Holy Spirit that we may never falter in our commitment to You. Strengthen our wills so that we may remain constant during every time of worry or stress in our lives, in our communities, and in our nation. You give us forgiveness of sins; You give us joy, peace, and assurance. We delight in worshiping You and serving others. It is so good to belong to You, our precious Lord and Savior.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Healing Lord, You preached Your Word in the synagogues, cast out demons, and healed the sick when You walked on the earth. We praise and thank You for never growing weary of watching over all Your children including this gathering of Your people at Word of God. Help us constantly support each other, continuously pray for each other, and always offer encouragement to each other. We pray for those in need of Your love, Your care, and Your guidance. We especially pray today for all those people who are on our prayer list and on our minds as we speak their names out loud or say them silently in our hearts.

**(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Father in heaven, strengthen those whose duty it is to defend our freedom, our liberty, and our country from those who want to do us harm. Give members of our military courage to withstand the evil done by our enemies; give them competence to restore safety, justice, and hope; and give them protection to carry out the tasks set before them. Grant leaders wisdom, understanding, and counsel so they might listen to the concerns of their people. Give us all teachable hearts that are eager to work for peace in our communities.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**