

PRAYERS for January 22, 2023 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship Assistant: On this third 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: Mighty God, in Your hands are all things in heaven and on earth. We come to You this morning with thankfulness and praise for the countless blessings that You have given us. You are our light and our salvation, our strength and our joy, and we rejoice in this day that You have made. We thank You for the privilege of worship, the honor of Your presence, and the glory of Your Holy Word. Let our words and the thoughts of our hearts always be acceptable in Your sight, O God.

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

Worship Assistant: Father God, You constantly remind us that we need not walk in deep darkness when we have You to build up the Body of Christ in our Word of God family. Just as You called Your first disciples to follow You, help us to see Your great light and follow in Your paths. Help us to develop and share the gifts that You have given each of us and help us to encourage and rejoice in the gifts of others. We are different people, but we ask You to help us work together as fellow members of one body as we volunteer to help others in the community, serve within our church, and proclaim the Gospel to all who need to hear it. Father, we ask Your blessing on the members of our Service Committee who are being installed this morning. We know that their work will be good because Your hand will be on it.

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

Worship Assistant: O God, our Fortress and our Strength, who else can we turn to except You, for You have the words of eternal life. Give us an unflinching faith in Your love that surpasses space and time and touches even the darkest corners of our hearts. Thank You, God, for forgiving us when we make mistakes, turn away from Your commands, or fail to seek Your will. Help us to pass through this world with the hope of heaven fresh in our hearts.

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

Worship Assistant: God of mercy, in every situation we come to You with humble trust. When we face disappointments in life, remind us that You are in control and that You are the giver of all good things. We ask You to give Your help and comfort today to the lonely, the broken, the ill, and those experiencing desperate situations in their lives. Be with those in need of renewal, those in need of courage, and those in need of strength. We ask You to bless them today, tomorrow, and forever. We especially pray for friends and family members who are on our prayer list and all those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

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

Worship Assistant: Almighty God, we ask You to guide, strengthen, and keep safe all those who must take up arms to protect the innocent and the persecuted, establish safety and justice, and defend life and liberty. Be with all those who rescue Your children from dangers and disasters. Shine the light of reason, justice, and mercy into the minds of our earthly rulers. Make them want to do Your will and benefit the people entrusted to their care. Remind them that they, and all who have power and authority in society, must give an account of their stewardship to You, the Lord and ruler of all. And bestow upon us all a measure of Your peace.

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