

Parish Meeting Prayer

For use in October, 2019

Introduction

Leader Jesus clearly directs faithful believers to pray always and never lose heart.

Opening Prayer

All Faithful God, today we ask you for persistence in prayer. When concerns are many and our energy is low, rekindle our faith. We ask for this gift of faithfulness to prayer through Jesus, our teacher and Lord. Amen.

Word of God Luke: 18:1-8

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Luke (Pause for silent reflection)

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's. *The reading is on the reverse side.*

1. How does God's word support you in our weariness for justice in this world?
2. Explain how praying is an act of faith. Why is perseverance in prayer a sign of a disciple of Jesus?

Response (from Luke 18:1-8)

Side 1 "Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity to pray always without becoming weary."

Side 2 Increase our faith so that we persevere in daily prayer for our personal needs and the needs of our world.

Side 1 "Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?"

Side 2 We thank you, loving God, for helping us to recognize how you answer our prayers.

Side 1 "But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Side 2 May we be among those Jesus finds faithful to the end.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for answering our prayers and helping us to find how you answer them through events and persons in our lives. We pray with the believing Church in Jesus' name. Amen.

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable
about the necessity for them to pray always
without becoming weary.
He said, "There was a judge in a certain town
who neither feared God nor respected any human being.
And a widow in that town used to come to him and say,
'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.'

For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually
he thought,
'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect
any human being,
because this widow keeps bothering me
I shall deliver a just decision for her
Lest she finally come and strike me.'"

The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says.
Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones
who call out to him day and night?
Will he be slow to answer them?
I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily.
But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"