



PRAYERS

Prayer of Confession

L: Our lives are full of mistakes and errors– places where we follow self-generated idols instead of the One True God. Let us come before God, just as generations of believers have done, and pray for God’s forgiveness and grace.

P: Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, dear One– comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family, and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence.

We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don’t share with any but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts.

A time of silence

L: Friends, hear the good news! Though thousands upon thousands of our ancestors did not follow God’s ways perfectly, we have hope in the one who did! Jesus, a man of a particular people in a particular time, taught through his words and deeds that God has already forgiven us. Thus, we and all who have come before us are rightly known as saints– the holy ones of God! Thanks be to God! AMEN!

Pastoral Prayer

Living God, in whom there is no shadow or change, we thank you for the gift of life eternal, and for all those who having served you well, now rest from their labors.

We thank you for all the saints remembered and forgotten, for those dear souls most precious to us.

Our God, mindful of all the souls who have gone on ahead of us, teach us, and each twenty-first century disciple of every race and place, to follow their example to the best of our ability:

- to feed the poor in body or spirit,
- to support and comfort the mourners and the repentant,
- to affirm those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
- to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers.

