

Gathering Prayer for Province V Lay-Led Congregational Network

Leader: Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Cor 12:4-7)*
God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All lighting and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in our vocation and ministry we may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Gracious God, we lift up and support people serving as wardens, vestrymembers, or on Bishop's Committees; treasurers, liturgists, sextons, altar guild members, youth ministry leaders, and those serving on committees for social justice, hospitality, buildings & grounds, outreach, pastoral care, and all the other groups and individuals that make lay-led congregational life possible.
Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Help us maintain our sense of humor in the face of challenges, differences of opinion, sadness, and loss.
Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift up and support congregational pastors, official and unofficial. We lift up all those serving as congregational caregivers, that our church may find ways to provide them respite and if possible, sabbaticals.
Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We lift up people serving at the Diocesan and Provincial levels, that we may find paths to mutual support, and be able to enrich the ministries of lay-led congregations.
Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Each of us comes to this meeting holding in our hearts various loved ones and situations for which we now offer prayers. Please speak your intercessions aloud or silently in your heart, for God hears all prayers.

(People add intercessions.)

Leader: Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We also carry joys and celebrations in our hearts. Please share your thanksgivings, so that we may share your joy.

(People add thanksgivings.)

Leader: Holy Spirit, renew and guide us.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: All lighting God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Opening Collect: Book of Common Prayer, pp. 256-7

Closing Collect: Book of Common Prayer, p. 395

Prayers by Jim Mogensen and Rachel Baird, St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor Michigan

11/18/2022