**Prayers of Intercession & Thanksgiving – 07 November 2021**

A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

***A brief silence.***

P We pray for **Christians in Central African Republic.** Help Christians seeking to return home after their villages were attacked and those driven from their homes to forgive their persecutors. Watch over pastors who refuse to flee, staying behind to shepherd the remaining believer and especially support the family of **Pastor Jean-Paul Sankagui**, who was martyred in 2017. Strengthen churches as they encourage thousands of displaced Christians and help believers in remote areas to have access to Bibles. Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.

A We are grateful for those students and staff **Bethel Baptist High School in Nigeria** who have been released; and we continue to pray for the safe return of the **4 students remaining in captivity**. Comfort their parents. Bring their kidnappers to justice. Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.

P We give thanks for the gifts and witness of **American Indian and Alaska Native members of the ELCA,** and pray for the **American Indian and Alaska Native Lutheran Association** and for native congregations and ministries — ministries grounded in reconciliation and the building up of people of all backgrounds, tribes, regions, communities and congregations. Ask God to help us understand and express repentance for the injustices committed against **American Indians, Alaska Natives and Indigenous peoples** that continue to impact people today.. Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.

A We persist in praying for **Mariyam Yohannis, Wycliffe Bible Translator.** Provide her with words that communicate effectively in Ethiopian cultures and languages. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

PWe pray for **Addis Kidan Ethiopian Evangelical Church, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jesus mi Senor, Remnant Church - San Diego, St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church,** and **the Welcome Ministry of El Cajon,**

and for people of all ages who experience loneliness and depression. Make us observant of, attentive to and empathetic with those who suffer in our midst but whose emotional, spiritual and physical struggles may not be readily apparent to us. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

A We pray for ourselves, for our part in Your mission to redeem the world. Inspire us by Your Holy Spirit with passion and courage so we can join You in that work. Open our eyes to see You moving in our community. Open our ears to hear Your call. Open our hearts to love our neighbors. Open our minds to imagine new ways of sharing the good news about Jesus.. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

P We pray for leaders of nations, especially in **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Israel/Palestine, and Myanmar**, who are working toward diplomatic solutions to complex and deep-seated conflicts. Grant them persistence, mutual understanding and openness to reconciliation for the sake of people caught in the middle who suffer injustice, violence, displacement, division and poverty. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

A We persist in praying for **Ryan Morris** imprisoned, but forgiven. Keep him safe as he serves his sentence and keep his family hopeful and strong. And during this COVID-19 pandemic, watch over all Your detained and imprisoned children. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

P We pray **for President Joseph Biden, Governor Gavin Newsom, and mayors Bill Wells & Todd Gloria**. Give them a spirit of compassion and justice, a commitment to peacemaking and building relationships locally & globally, and a determination to work across ideologies and political divisions for the well-being of our communities and of people in need. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

IPL We pray for **all who need Your presence**. Bring peace and comfort to all those in need. Lighten the loads of those who have heavy burdens. Rejoice with those who are thankful. Strengthen the weak. Especially we pray for...

**(NAMES ON YOUR LIST)**

all those we remember now, either silently in our hearts or aloud with our lips**…**

**(SILENCE)**

**Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

P We thank You for the saints of each past generation, one with us still in one body, one great congregation; We remember

**Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg,**

**John Christian Frederick Heyer, and Ludwig Ingwer Nommensen,**

**The Rev. Howard Lenhardt**

**Albert E. Lejonhud**

**Marshall Clairmont Skough**

**Frances E. Johnson**

**Daisy Burdette Christensen**

**Pamela Elizabeth Pierson**

**Martin, Bishop of Tours**

**Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher**

**and Edward Roy Bickley**

with them we proclaim Jesus forever the same, Author of life and salvation. **Hear us, O God / YOUR MERCY IS GREAT.**

P Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C AMEN.