

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1410 Rogers St
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Pastor Bruce Thorsen
Ministers: Every Baptized Member
Sunday, July 6, 2025, 9:00 a.m.



Trinity's Mission

Bringing God's love to the world in worship, witness, and service.

Trinity's Vision

A Christ and Scripture centered congregation.

- Mission centered congregation constantly evaluating its vision to accomplish its mission.
- A congregation whose members sense that they belong to the body of Christ and, in turn want to provide for the needs of others.

Telephone: 715 344-2869, Email: trinity@trinitysp.com
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4th Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Eight

Introduction to the day

God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

****Indicated stand***

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER

Holy God, we ask for your help, your power, your Spirit, so that we can amend our lives and grow more each day into the image of Christ.

We confess that we fear what is different. We confess that it's easier to lock the doors of our community than to receive those who don't look like we look, love like we love, or vote the way we vote. We confess that we have not lived out your call to share in abundant life and unconditional love. We confess that we are fearful of the freedom that you offer us.

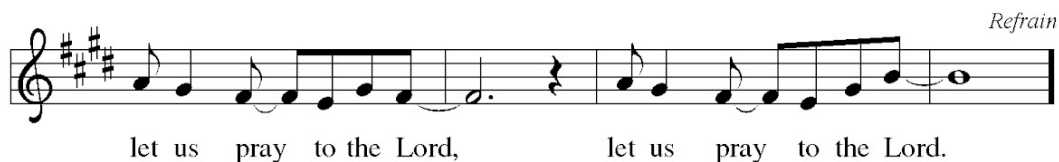
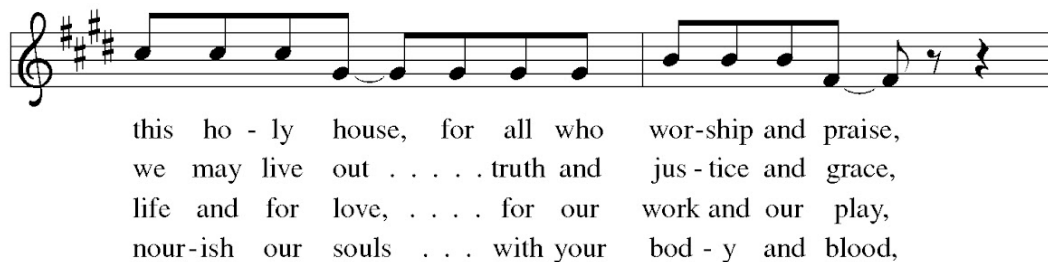
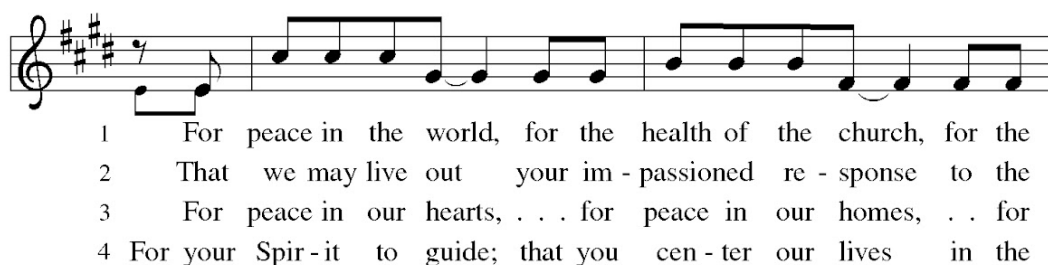
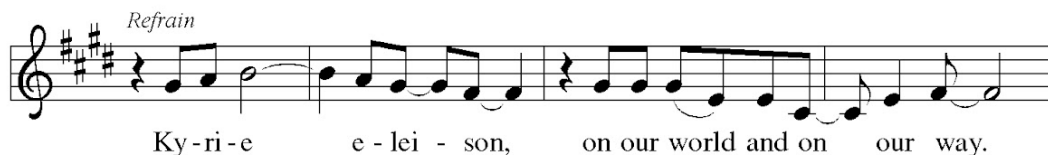
We believe that you have the power to turn us around to a more inclusive way of living, so we ask you to do that. We ask you to give us the courage to change and receive the freedom that you offer us. We ask that you give us the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to be your people in all we say and do. Amen.

Gathering Song: ***"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"*** **ELW #888**

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Gracious God, you have made all of the peoples of the earth for your glory.

You invite us to serve you in freedom and in peace.

Give to the people of our nation a zeal for justice and the strength for forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will.

We ask this on a day of celebration, a day of hope for a nation made free.

We ask this in the name of the one who welcomes all to be free indeed.

Inspire us to live and worship in your freedom and for the sake of your Kingdom. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Isaiah 66:10-14

Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.

¹⁰ Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her— ¹¹ that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast, that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom.

¹² For thus says the Lord: I will extend prosperity to her like a river and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream, and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm and bounced on her knees.

¹³ As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

¹⁴ You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass, and it shall be known that the power of the Lord is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm:

Psalm 66:1-12

¹ Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

² **Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.**

³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

⁴ **All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sing out your name."**

5 Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

6 God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in God.

7 Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations; let no rebels ex-alt themselves.

8 Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

9 Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

10 For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

11 You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;

12 you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

Second Reading:

Galatians 6:1-16

In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."

1 My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. 4 All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. 5 For all must carry their own loads.

6 Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

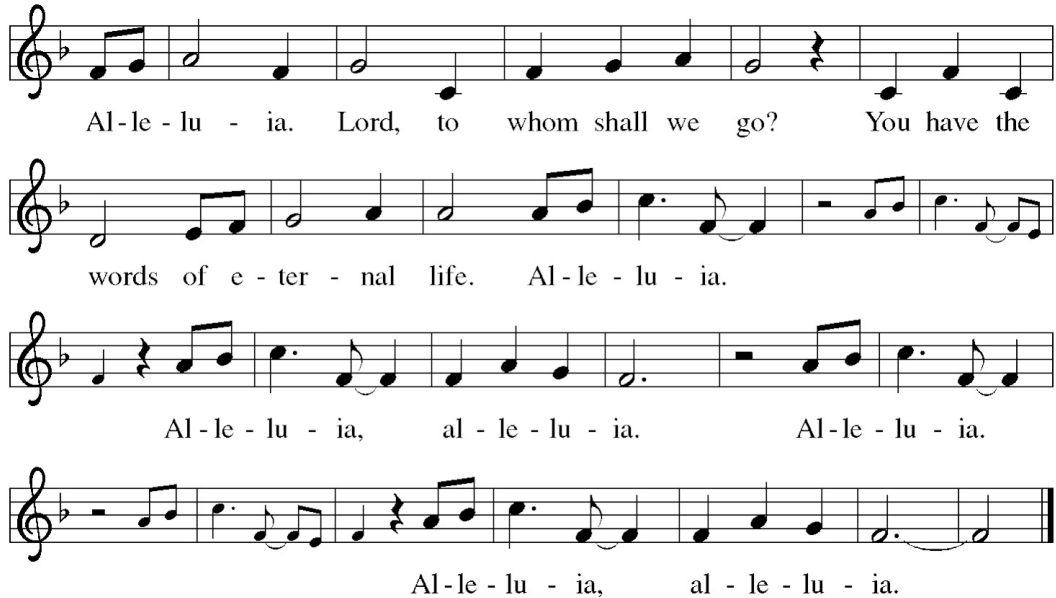
7 Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. 8 If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. 9 So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. 10 So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

11 See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! 12 It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. 14 May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. 15 For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! 16 As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

*Gospel Acclamation:



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel:

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you.

⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,
11 ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’

16 “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!”
18 He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. 19 Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon:

Pastor Bruce Thorsen

Hymn of the Day:

“For Freedom, Christ Has Set Us Free”
(tune ELW 361)

1. "For freedom, Christ has set us free!"
What joy is ours to claim!
No more enslaved, humanity
Finds life in Jesus' name.
We try, Lord, to be justified
Through all the works we do.
Yet you adopt us, saying, "Child,
It's Christ who makes you new."

2. We're clothed in Christ and we belong;
Now no one waits outside.
In him we find our common song;
Old ways no more divide.
"It is no longer I who live,
But Christ who lives in me."
He died for us, new life to give —
And new identity.

3. Now, Spirit-filled, may we be led
From ways that would destroy.
May we your people turn instead
To lives of love and joy.
May we find peace that makes us whole
And patience everywhere.
God, give us kindness, self-control,
And hearts and hands that share

Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,
let us offer our thanks and prayers to God, the giver of all good gifts.

For the brave women and men who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world,
We thank you Lord.

For the tribes and nations who inhabited this land for generation upon generation,
We thank you Lord.

For patriots who dreamed of, and fought for, a free nation,
We thank you Lord.

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy, and who pledged liberty and
justice for all,
We thank you Lord.

For those who built this country brick by brick, road by road, and town by town,
We thank you Lord.

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice,

We thank you Lord.

For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers, farmers and factory workers; for all who labor and provide for the common good,

We thank you Lord.

For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coasts and deserts, fields and meadows,

We thank you Lord.

For our own community, for those who came before us in this place, and for our neighbors near and far,

We thank you Lord.

Lord, we pray for The United States, that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes liberty and freedom, truth and justice.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray,

We pray to you Lord.

That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live under the shadow of terror and hopelessness,

We pray to you Lord.

That those who are elected to govern and lead would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them,

We pray to you Lord.

That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and who always return to you and to your grace,

We pray to you Lord.

Gracious God, Father of all nations, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering:

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Slowly

C Am Dm7 G7 C F C Dm

1. Let there be peace on earth and let it be - gin with me. ____
2. Let peace be - gin with me, let this be the mo - ment now. ____

G7 C B7 Em B7

1. ____ Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to
2. ____ With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn

G9 Am Em C7 F G7

1. be. ____ With God as our Fa - ther, ____ broth - ers all are
2. vow: ____ To (optional text) we are fam - i -

C Am7 D7 G Am7

1. we; ____ Let me walk with my broth - er ____ in per - fect
ly. ____ Let us walk with each oth - er ____

D7 G7 D.C. C C+

1. har - mo - ny, ____ 2. take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in

F B° Am D7 Fm6 C E7 F C C7

2. peace e - ter - nal - ly. ____ Let there be peace on earth and

1 F Dm7 G7 C G7 D.C. Final F E7 Am Dm7 G7 Dm7 Csus4 C

2. let it be - gin with me. let it be - gin ____ with me. ____
poco rit.

* Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.

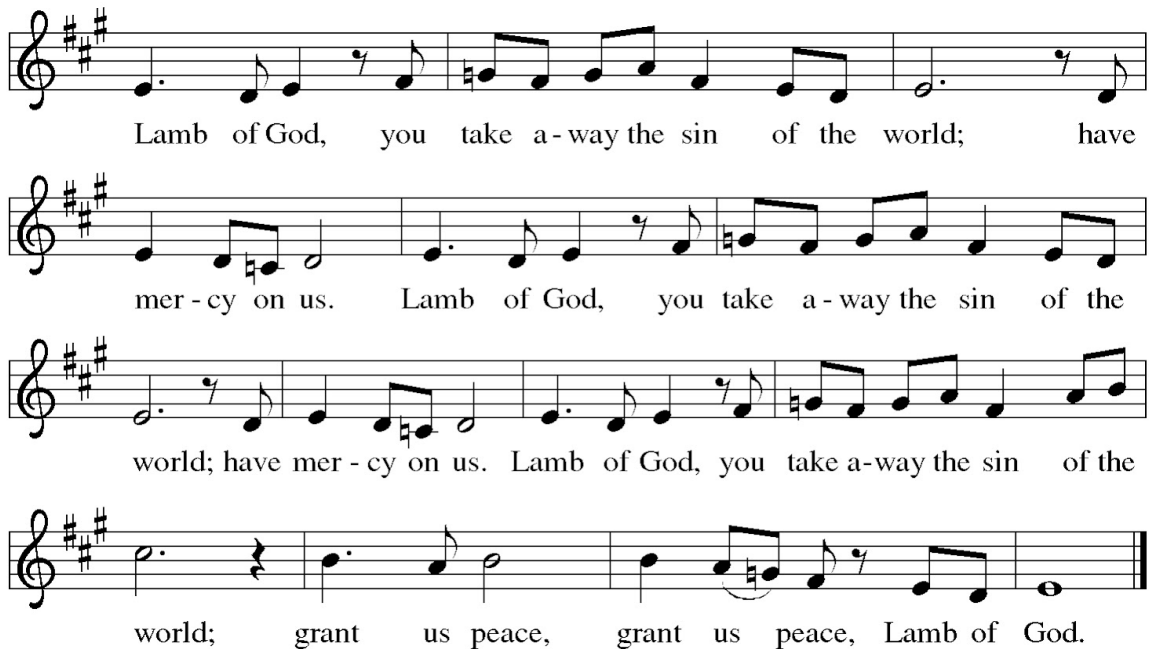
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

All are welcome to the table to receive the freedom that Jesus offers to us.

***Our communion bread is always gluten-free. For those with greater allergen concerns, sealed
gluten-free communion kits are available on the front table.***

Communion Songs:



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Hymns:

“Light is Kindled in the Darkness” (tune ELW 445)

1. Light is kindled in the darkness
when our hope seems most absurd,
beacons through a shrouded future,
pledges of Christ’s steadfast word:
gifts of goodness yet enfold us—
all around, beneath, above—
signs of beauty still persisting,
symbols of God’s constant love.

2. Though the wrong appears victorious—
vi’lence, prejudice, and pride—
hope still rises from the wreckage;
joy and grief stand side by side.

We will feel both pain and promise,
terror’s sting and love’s new birth,
as we walk in light and shadow
on God’s blessed and bleeding earth.

3. Raise your candle in the darkness
though the wick of faith burns low.
Feed the re with grace and justice
and in wonder watch it grow.
As we gather ames together,
till they shine with warmth and light,
God dispels the night of hatred,
and the blaze of love burns bright.

"We Shall Overcome" TFF #213



Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

God of the nations, guide our people by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give us what outward prosperity may be your will, but above all things, give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (LBW 153)

Amen

Sending Song:

"Build a Longer Table"

ACS #1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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Prayer of the Day ~ adapted from the Book of Common Prayer

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Prayers of intercession~ written by Rick Morley, and posted on the **Rick Morley** blog. <http://www.rickmorley.com/archives/1673>