

## THE DIACONAL LITANY

O God, our caring creator:

**Make us bold to trust you as beloved children.**

Christ Jesus, our redeemer and friend, who for joy became our servant:

**Lead us to joyful service among those in any need or trouble.**

Holy Spirit, giver of life to the Church:

**Nourish our life on the breath of God.**

Holy, blessed Trinity, author of the mystery of our salvation:

**Unite our hearts to praise your name.**

Gracious God, who created all humanity in your image:

**Make us grateful for the companionship of other people,**

**receiving them as gifts of your grace;**

**Shape us into companions for all who yearn for community;**

**And satisfy with your own gracious gifts**

**those of us who work in isolated places.**

Jesus, suffering servant and praying priest:

**Empower us to spread the peace you bring**

**through your life, death, and resurrection;**

**By steadfast endurance, without envy or resentment,**

**to demonstrate your victory;**

**By persistent and faithful prayer to carry our neighbor**

**into your grace-filled presence.**

Jesus, friend of sinners, companion of the outcast, advocate for justice:

**Open our eyes to see you in our neighbors who suffer injustice.**

Holy Spirit, purifier of sinners,

making us sharers in the holiness of God:

**Bestow on us the mind of Christ, that we neither**

**think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think**

**nor diminish ourselves in self-deprecation,**

**calling common what you have called clean.**

Holy Spirit, fire of God, coming down from heaven,

moving among us, and filling the Church:

**Warm our hearts to love God, our neighbor, and all creation**

**with our whole being.**

Holy Spirit, guide into all truth:

**Endow us with patience to discern your wisdom;**

**Teach us to speak the truth in a spirit of love;**

**Free us from fear so that we can learn from each other;**

**And give us your grace to be different together.**

Merciful Father, compassionate Son, consoling Spirit:

**Remember in mercy those who are sick and dying,**

**suffering and persecuted, fearful and distraught,**

**bored and despairing.**

**By your goodness grant relief to all in need**

**and strengthen them to trust you.**

Son of Righteousness:

**Take the side of all who are oppressed;**

**Protect the vulnerable, especially the young and the old;<sup>1</sup>**

**Restore all that is broken; Reconcile creation;**

**And turn all hearts to receive your righteous judgment.**

Source and end of our salvation:

**Draw to yourself those who deny you;**

**Arouse those who have become dull toward you;**

**Enlighten those who have closed their eyes to you;**

**Strengthen those who trust you; Guide those who seek you.**

I believe that God has made me and all creation:<sup>2</sup>

**Teach me, O my maker, to look upon my person and**

**my abilities as your gifts,**

**So that I may trust your care for me,**

**So that I may be delivered from jealousy and envy,**

**So that I may see you hidden in my neighbor and**

**there serve you with gladness.**

I believe that Jesus Christ is my savior:

**By your cross, loving redeemer,**

**crucify in me all evil desires and unbelief;**

**By your unspotted righteousness, clothe me in your own self**

**that I may be delivered to God forever;**

**By your glorious resurrection from the dead,**

**raise me to live with you eternally.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, giver and sustainer of life:

**Raise me up anew, creator Spirit,**

**by confidence in your daily and rich forgiveness of my sins;**

**Bind me in unity of love with the saints in your community;**

**Awaken me to the presence of your saints in unexpected places;**

**Quicken in me the lively anticipation**

**of my resurrection from the dead.**

God of grace, you reveal yourself in creation and

inspired the holy scriptures to be written for our learning:

**Speak to us, we are listening; strengthen us in our need.**

God of grace, you joined us to the

death and resurrection of your son in our baptism:

**Make our whole lives a living from and returning to that holy font.**

God of grace, nourishing us on the body and blood of Christ

you create us into a new community:

**Make us to be indeed the body of Christ and a vehicle of love and joy**

**in this world, until we offer the full and perfect praise forever.**

**Amen**

<sup>1</sup> Others who are vulnerable may be added here.

<sup>2</sup> These three petitions use the singular rather than the plural pronoun as their language draws on the Apostles' Creed and *Luther's Small Catechism*.

# THE DIACONAL LITANY



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