

Becoming the Story We Tell

Prayers of the People The Great Fifty Days of Easter, 2017

It is recommended that the response to the biddings in the Prayers of the People be sung.

For the 2nd to 4th Sundays of Easter, the response can be sung to the Alleluia introduction of the tune 'Victory' (the tune typically used for "The Strife is O'er"). It is #212 in Common Praise (1998), and #163 in the "old blue hymn book" (1938). (Victory is #468 in the 1971 Hymn Book, but does not include the introductory acclamation.) If the response for these Sundays is said rather than sung, the 'Alleluia' should be omitted.

A simple, accessible music setting of the response for Easter 1, and Easter 5 until Pentecost has been provided on this website.

It is recommended that only the response for the Prayers of the People be printed in the worship leaflet or provided in PowerPoint slides.

Intercessors should prepare for The Prayers of the People well before the Liturgy to ensure any particular names or places to be included are identified.

Even if there is no one being baptized or engaging in an intentional renewal of baptism (including Confirmation, or Reception into the Anglican Communion) in your congregation during the Paschal Triduum or the Season of Easter, you are encouraged to pray for the newly baptized and those renewing their baptismal promises. For these occasions will be celebrated throughout the Diocese and around the globe during this holy time.

First Sunday of Easter, April 16, 2017 - Prayers of the People

Our God loves the world with an everlasting love, faithful continuously in all times and places. That all peoples may witness the power of God and with us declare, "God's steadfast love endures forever," let us lift our hearts in prayer as we sing/say:

May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth.

God, our strength and our might, you have raised us with Christ.

We pray for your church, especially in this Diocese of Algoma.

With our sisters and brothers across the diocese,

we pray for those who serve our congregations:

Anne, our Bishop; Harry, Executive Archdeacon;

Jay, Congregational Development Officer;

Jane, Diocesan Treasurer; Marjorie, Assistant Treasurer;

and Liz, Administrative Assistant.

We pray, too,

for the people of St. Mary Magdalene Church, Sturgeon Falls,

and the clergy serving them, Michelle Ferguson and Richard White.

{allow a short period for silent prayer}

Place the testimony of Mary Magdalene and Peter in our mouths.

Set our hearts on things above.

May we declare with joy and boldness,

"The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!"

To you we lift our hearts, O God: /R/

God in whom our lives are hidden with Christ,

we pray for the recently baptized, *especially N.*,

and for all who celebrated baptismal renewal

during this Christian Passover, *especially N.*,

{allow a time of silent prayer}

Enliven with your Spirit those whom you have anointed.

Establish as your witnesses

those who eat and drink with the risen Lord.

Reveal your people in the glory of Christ, our life.

To you we lift our hearts, O God: /R/

God, whose Messiah is Sovereign of all,
we pray for the nations and peoples of the earth, *especially N.*

{allow a time of silent prayer}

Breathe resurrection life into those suffocated by death's power.

Stir the conscience and heart of all who govern.

Say to the troubled of our world, "Be not afraid!"

To you we lift our hearts, O God: /R/

God who calls forth life from death,
we pray for those longing for deliverance
from fear or anxiety, weeping or despair,
sickness or any other affliction, *especially N.*

{allow time for silent prayer}

Become the salvation of those who call out to you.

Reveal grace in wilderness places.

May glad songs sound in the tents of the righteous.

To you we lift our hearts, O God: /R/

Judge of the living and the dead,
we remember those whom we love but see no longer, *especially N.*

{allow a time of silent prayer}

Open the gates of righteousness.

Awaken those who sleep.

May the beloved rejoice,

"I shall not die, but live, and recount the deeds of the Lord."

To you we lift our hearts, O God: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

Through the resurrection of your Son, O God,
you destroy the power of death
and remove your people's shame.
By the power of the Spirit, raise us from sin
and seat us at the paschal feast,
that we may rejoice in the gift of salvation,
won for us through Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

Second Sunday of Easter, April 23, 2017 - Prayers of the People

The risen Christ stands in our midst, gifting us with his peace.
Therefore, with great joy and confidence,
let us lift our hearts to God in prayer as we sing/say:
“Hear our prayer, God, in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!”

We pray for the church,
the people sent by Christ as he was sent by the Father.
We pray for our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of Tarime,
especially the parish of Mangucha, served by The Rev. Elias Phelimon;
the parish of Kemakorere, served by The Rev. Jacob Chereme;
the parish of Nyamwigura, served by Catechist Bethsheba Marwa
and the Rev. Canon Fredrick Bwiru;
the parish of Kyoruba, served by Zacharia Makuri;
and the parish of Nyabitocho, served by Catechist Julius Johaness.
We pray, too, for the Parish of West Thunder Bay, in this diocese,
The Rev. Charlene Scriver, its Incumbent,
and The Rev. Canon Paul Carr, Honorary Assistant.

{allow a time of silent prayer}
That amid the doubts and fears troubling the community of faith,
Christ's peace may be known and shared,
stirring us to bold and joyful witness,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

We pray for the recently baptized,
those created anew by the breath of the risen Christ,
especially N.,
and for all who celebrated baptismal renewal
during the Christian Passover, *especially N.*,
{allow a time of silent prayer}
That by the testimony of their words and deeds,
people who have not yet seen
may come to believe in the One who is, and was, and is to come,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

We pray for nations, tongues, and tribes
plagued by warfare, terrorism, or other forms of violence, *especially N.*
{allow a time of silent prayer}

That all awaiting deliverance may look with hope
for the glorious coming of the One who was pierced,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

We pray that the wounded hands of the healing Christ
will touch the sick and those who suffer any need, *especially N.*
{allow a time of silent prayer}

That they may be delivered from their infirmities
and give thanks to the One who breathes his peace upon them,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

We remember the dead, especially N.
{allow a time of silent prayer}

And that even in the face of suffering and death,
we may trust the One
in whose presence is fullness of joy for evermore,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

Blessed are you, O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By your great mercy,
you have given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
and into an imperishable, undefiled, and unfading inheritance.
Make us to know the ways of life, and fill us with gladness
as you send us into the world as witnesses
to the One in whose name we pray,
Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

Prayers of the People – Third Sunday of Easter, April 30, 2017

Through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we have come to trust in God, who raised Christ from the dead and gave him glory.

With our faith and hope set on God, let us pray to the Lord as we sing/say:
“Hear our prayer, God, in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!”

For this holy assembly, and for all who gather in the breaking of the bread, especially the parishes of Bugumbe, Bunchari, Kemairi, Gamasara, and Nyagisya in the Diocese of Tarime, Tanzania, and the leaders that serve them: Deacon Joseph Makena, The Rev. Joseph Marwa, Catechist Julius Mhere, Catechist Clemencia Mnyoro, Evangelist Mariam Chaina, and The Rev. Method Nziko.

That we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst and live in renewed unity and enthusiastic witness, let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For the recently baptized, *especially N.*, and for all who celebrated baptismal renewal during the Christian Passover, *especially N.*, that all the baptized may love one another deeply from the heart, let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For all delegates and guests travelling this week to our 48th Convocation of Diocesan Synod in Sault Ste. Marie, *especially N. and N.*, delegates from this parish, that all deliberations will be directed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For this world: for all nations, tribes, and peoples, *especially N.*, that the epidemic of violence and injustice will come to a swift end, and a spirit of genuine service and concord will be given to all, especially to those who lead, let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For students at universities and community colleges across this Province,
that as they finish this academic year's studies
they may find themselves enriched in wisdom as well as knowledge,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For those who suffer sickness or need, *especially N.*,
that they may know God's healing embrace
through the compassion of many sisters and brothers,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For ourselves, individually and as a congregation,
that, repenting of our sins,
God will help us to turn around our lives and take hold of his promises,
the promise given to us, to our children,
and to all who are far from God and do not know of Christ's love,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

We remember those who have died, *especially N.*,
and that we may walk with our God for eternity in the land of the living,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

Elusive God, companion on the way,
you walk behind, beside, beyond;
you catch us unawares.
Break through the disillusionment and despair clouding our vision,
that, with wide-eyed wonder,
we may find our way
and journey on as messengers of your good news,
through the One made known to us in the breaking of the bread,
Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 7, 2017 - Prayers of the People

That we may break the bread together in joy
and serve God in the world with glad and generous hearts,
let us pray to the Lord as we sing/say:

“Hear our prayer, God, in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!”

Let us pray for the church of Christ around the globe,
praying especially for the parishes of Manga, Nyarwana, Nayakunguru, Mtana,
and Marito in the Diocese of Tarime, Tanzania, and the leaders serving them:
The Rev. Yohana Rhobi, The Rev. Lucas Mnanka, Catechist Samuel Mwita,
Elizabeth Fedy, and Evangelist Frank Johanes;
let us pray, too, with our sisters and brothers in this Diocese,
for the people of the Parish of Muskoka Lakes,
and their Interim Incumbent, The Rev. Gail Marie Henderson.
That our devotion to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
the breaking of the bread and prayer
may make us a compelling people in our witness to the risen Christ,
we pray to the Lord: **/R/**

Let us pray for those who shepherd the People of God,
especially Anne, our Bishop,
Colin, our Metropolitan,
Fred, Primate of Canada,
Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury,
and for our pastor(s), N.
That they may be for us icons of hope,
signs of grace,
and examples of gospel service,
we pray to the Lord: **/R/**

Let us pray for the recently baptized, *especially N.*,
and for all who celebrated baptismal renewal
during the Christian Passover, *especially N.*
That they may forever follow in Christ's steps,
we pray to the Lord: **/R/**

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the earth, *especially N.*
That those who suffer unjustly may be strengthened to live justly,
and that we will stand with them as advocates and companions,
we pray to the Lord: /R/

Let us pray for those afflicted by illness, fear, or other infirmity,
especially N.
That, through Christ the Good Shepherd, they may have life,
and have it abundantly,
we pray to the Lord: /R/

Let us remember the dead, (*especially N.*).
And that we may live with confidence in the One
who shepherds us beyond our wants and fears
from death into life,
we pray to the Lord: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

Holy Shepherd,
you know your sheep by name
and lead us to safety through the valleys of death.
Guide us by your voice,
that we may walk with certainty and security
as we share in God's mission to the world
and come to the joyous feast prepared in your house,
where we celebrate with you forever.
We ask this through you, Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 14, 2017 – Prayers of the People

Today, let us pray for our companion Diocese of Tarime in Tanzania,
especially the Parish of Tarime and The Rev. Canon Yohana Yakobo,
the Parish of Rebu and The Rev. Canon David John,
the Parish of Buhemba and Lay Reader Philip Chegere,
the Parish of Nyasaricho and Catechist Joseph Musa,
the Parish of Sirari and The Rev. Canon John Muhiri.

Let us pray for this Diocese of Algoma,
especially St. George's, Thunder Bay,
and their Interim Incumbent, The Rev. Gordon Holroyd.

And as we continue to celebrate the power of God
in these Great Fifty Days of Easter,
let us lift our hearts in prayer

for the church and the world as we sing/say:
May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth.

God who has made us a holy nation, a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
we confess that we do not always live faithfully.

Far too often, we have used our words to tear down rather than build up,
throwing them at each other to injure.

Forgive us and shape us as a dwelling place in your Word.
We lift our hearts to you, O God: /R/

God of all times and places,
we yearn for your peace to reign on earth as in heaven.
Cause the nations and peoples of the earth not to throw stones of violence,
but to build with the stones of justice and concord.
Like living stones, make of us a spiritual household.
We lift our hearts to you, O God: /R/

God of promise,
we stand with all the disinherited indigenous people
of this and other countries.
We pray for their health and education,
for the fostering of their cultures,
for their leaders,

and for all who work with them for justice and reconciliation.
Open our eyes to recognize all of our sisters and brothers.
We lift our hearts to you, O God: /R/

Ever-present and sustaining God,
reveal your glory to those who are ill or who suffer in any way, *especially N.*
Be their strong rock, a castle to keep them safe.
Fill our hearts and deeds with compassion toward those in need.
We lift our hearts to you, O God: /R/

God who remains faithful beyond the grave,
who raises the dead to new life,
we give thanks for the martyrs who have laid down their lives for Christ,
especially Blessed Stephen,
and we remember before you all who have died, *especially N.*
Into your hands we commend their spirits.
Into your hands we commend our own.
Make your face to shine upon your servants.
We lift our hearts to you, O God: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

O God,
you have promised through your Son Jesus Christ,
that you would do whatever we ask in his name
so that you may be glorified in him.
Help us to believe with such purity of heart
that we may only ask what accords with his will,
and live in the light of his way and truth and life,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 21, 2017 – Prayers of the People

We cannot live and love as Jesus did,
except through the mysterious gift and power
which he gives through his Spirit.

That we may live as his face and hands, his heart and body,
let us pray to the Lord as we sing/say,
May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth.

For the church throughout the world,
especially the Diocese of Tarime and its Bishop, Mwita Akiri,
The Rev. Samuel Nyageswa, its Vicar General,
The Rev. John Msuma, Diocesan Secretary, and their staff and families,
and for Tarime's Mogabiri Farm Extensions Center,
Director Roselyn Mossama, her staff and family,
along with the African Mothers Union;
and for all our sisters and brothers in Christ who suffer for doing good,
that, with gentleness and reverence,
we may always be ready to account for the hope that is in us,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For our Bishop, Anne, and for this Diocese of Algoma,
especially Emmaus Church, Sault Ste. Marie,
served by The Rev. Patrick McManus and The Rev. Pamela Rayment;
Bishop Fauquier Memorial Chapel, served by Ms. Lana Grawbarger;
and St. John's, Garden River, served by The Rev. Pamela Rayment;
that we may boldly proclaim the One
in whom we live and move and have our being,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For all who serve in leadership in this congregation,
especially our Wardens, N.,
that they may inspire our love of Christ
and support us in the keeping of his commandments,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For the nations and peoples of the earth, *especially N.*,
that all people, particularly those who hold wealth, rank, or privilege,
may learn to walk in the way of God's justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For the children of this parish
and all who work with them most directly, *especially N.*,
and that the rest of us will find their youthful enthusiasm contagious,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For the sick and all who suffer, *especially N.*,
that they will know they are in Christ, and Christ is in them,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For those we love but see no longer, *especially N.*,
and that in our living and dying
we may bring to birth the God who cradles us in goodness,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following Collect:

Spirit of truth, because of you, God is not unknown to us.
As we glorify the risen Christ,
lead us to increase in our love for him,
ever thankful for the life that emanates
from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

The Ascension of the Lord, Thursday, May 25, 2017

The ascended Christ will return to us in the same way that he left: with his hands extended in blessing. Therefore, we worship in great joy and pray with deep confidence, lifting our hearts to God as we sing/say:
"May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth."

For our sisters and brothers
martyred or persecuted for their faithfulness to Christ, *especially N.*
{pause for silent prayer}

That as Christ knows their humanity through the Incarnation
and their suffering through his cross,
they may know the victory of his Resurrection and Ascension,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

For the church throughout the Diocese of Algoma,
especially the Church of the Ascension, Sudbury,
and its clergy, The Rev. Dr. Robert Derrenbacker,
The Rev. Rhonda Hirst, and The Rev. Jeffery Hooper;
for the church in the Diocese of Tarime, especially the parishes of
Kitagasembe, Mogabiri, Kenyamanyori, Nkongore, and Kemange,
and the leaders serving them: The Rev. Charles Nicholas,
The Rev. Daniel Bisaku, The Rev. Wycliffe Chereme,
The Rev. Peter Oguma, and Catechist Charles Mwita.

{pause for silent prayer}
That until Christ's return in glory,
the church may fulfill his commission
to proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

For those baptized at the Christian Passover,
or during this great fifty-day season of Easter, *especially N.*
{pause for silent prayer}

That with the eyes of their hearts enlightened,
they may know what is the hope to which God has called them,
what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

For the earth and its peoples, *especially N.*

{*pause for silent prayer*}

That the leaders of nations may glimpse and embrace the new creation
in which peace, justice, and reconciliation reign,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

For those who suffer from sickness or other forms of need, *especially N.*

{*pause for silent prayer*}

That set free from their afflictions
they may shout to God with loud songs of joy,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

Let us remember the dead, *especially N.*:

{*pause for silent prayer*}

and that the dying may find hope
in the triumph of Jesus over death,
let us lift our hearts to God: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following collect:

We make our prayer to you, O God,
in communion with all the saints on earth and heaven,
with the martyrs and the faithful of all ages,
and in the name that is above all names, Jesus the Christ,
who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
far above all rule and authority, power and dominion,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 28, 2017 – Prayers of the People

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,
may give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
and that all people may know the One
who reigns over every authority and power and dominion,
let us offer ourselves in Christ as we sing/say:
"May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth."

God in whom we live, we pray for the unity of Christ's church.
We pray for our companion Diocese of Tarime in Tanzania,
especially for the Parish of Manga and The Rev. Yohana Rhobi,
the Parish of Bumera and Catechist Clemencia Mnyoro,
the Parish of Nyasurura and Catechist Teresia Manase,
the Parish of Magoma and The Rev. Charles Mwita,
the Parish of Kerende and The Rev. Joseph Wambura.
We pray, too, for the Anglican Church Women of this Diocese,
and their Executive, as they gather this week in North Bay.

{pause for silent prayer}

That all the baptized may recognize ourselves and live as his body,
the fullness of him who fills all in all,
we offer ourselves in Christ: /R/

God who makes the greatest of the least,
we pray for the children of this church and the surrounding community.

{pause for silent prayer}

That all people may be filled with childlike surprise and wonder
in the face of your goodness,
we offer ourselves in Christ: /R/

Light for the righteous, we pray for our world, *especially N.*

{pause for silent prayer}

That nations and peoples may embrace the peace, justice, and joy
of the One who was lifted up and reigns over all the earth,
we offer ourselves in Christ: /R/

Wellspring of freedom,
we pray for those longing for deliverance
from fear or anxiety, oppression or want,
illness or any other affliction, *especially N.*

{*pause for silent prayer*}

That they may know the immeasurable greatness of your power,
we offer ourselves in Christ: /R/

Ever-faithful One, in whom our future rests secure,
we remember before you those who have died in the peace of Christ,
and the departed whose faith is known to you alone.

We remember especially N.

{*pause for silent prayer*}

And that we, with them, may see the glory of the ascended Lord,
we offer ourselves in Christ: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following collect:

O God,
your ascended Son promised the gift of holy power.
Send your Spirit of revelation and wisdom,
that in the blessed freedom of hope,
we may witness to the grace of forgiveness
and sing songs of joy with all peoples of the earth
to the One who makes us one body,
Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Day of Pentecost, June 4, 2017 – Prayers of the People

That the whole of creation might be shaken
with the love born of God's Spirit,
let us pray together as we sing/say,
"May your Holy Spirit guide us into truth."

We pray for the church throughout the world,
especially the Diocese of Tarime, Tanzania,
its parishes of Nyangoto, Itandora,
Soroneta, Weigita, and Kegonga,
and the leaders serving them:

The Rev. Paul Ryoba, Catechist Samwel Mwita,
Evangelist Isaac Chacha, Evangelist Joseph Magoinga,
Evangelist Samwel Marwa, and Bishop Mwita Akiri. (*silence*)
That out of the hearts of all believers
may flow rivers of living water,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

We pray for the church in this Diocese of Algoma,
especially our Bishop, Anne,
our sisters and brothers of Trinity-St. Alban's, Bala,
and All Saints', MacTier,
and their clergy, The Rev. Dr. David Hardie,
and The Rev. Canon Margaret Johnston. (*silence*)
That bathed in the Spirit,
our daughters and sons shall prophesy,
our youth see visions, and our elders dream dreams,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

We pray for those baptized at the Christian Passover,
or during this great fifty-day season of Easter, *especially N.*
{pause for silent prayer}

That all baptized into one body and made to drink of one Spirit
will exercise their gifts for the common good,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

We pray for every nation under heaven, *especially N. (silence)*
That all peoples may hear in their own tongue
the good news of your saving deeds,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

We pray for those who know poverty, sickness, or any kind of need,
especially N. (silence)
That all who long for liberation
may find cause to sing to you as long as they live,
to praise you while they have their being,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

We remember the dead, *especially N. (silence)*
And that breath of your Spirit might renew the face of the earth,
filling us all with life eternal,
we pray to you, O God: /R/

The Presider or Intercessor concludes the Prayers of the People with the following collect:

Holy and gracious God,
you infuse us with your Spirit,
giving us the capacity to vision and dream.
May the gift of your presence find voice in our lives,
that our babbling may be transformed into discernment,
and the flickering of many tongues
light an unquenchable fire of compassion and justice.
We ask this through your Word of love and righteousness,
Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

If there are weddings or renewal of wedding vows in your congregation during the season of Easter, the following petitions may be adapted for the appropriate Sunday:

For all who will exchange vows of commitment and love,
especially N, and N., to be married next weekend in this place,
that they may reflect the faithfulness of God,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For all who have made vows of commitment and love,
especially N. and N., married yesterday in this place,
that they may reflect the faithfulness of God,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For all who will renew vows of commitment and love,
especially N, and N.,
that they may reflect the faithfulness of God,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/

For all who have renewed vows of commitment and love,
especially N. and N.,
that they may reflect the faithfulness of God,
let us pray to the Lord: /R/