

# THE BIDDING PRAYER

*By ancient usage this Prayer was specially appointed for Good Friday.*

*It may also be used on Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent.*

*This prayer is intended to be read by an assisting minister (denoted by **A**) at a lectern and by the presiding minister or pastor (denoted by **M**) standing at the altar. A short pause of silence should be observed between the bid and the prayer.*

**A** Brothers and sisters, let us pray for the whole Christian Church, that our Lord God would keep and defend it against all the assaults and temptations of the adversary, and to keep it always on the true foundation, Jesus Christ.

**M** Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ and the Word of his truth. Keep the works of your mercy in safety, that your Church, spread throughout all nations, may serve you in true faith and persevere in the confession of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**A** Let us pray for the ministers of the Word, for all the people of God.

**M** Almighty and eternal God, by your Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified. Receive the prayers we offer you, that all members of your church in their vocations and ministries may server you in truth and godliness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**A** Let us pray for our catechumens, that our Lord God would open their hearts and the door of his mercy, that having received the forgiveness of all their sins by the washing of regeneration, they may remember their baptism and remain firm in the faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**M** Almighty and eternal God, you always cause your Church to grow, and with your light and grace you strengthen the hearts of those you have given new birth through water and the Spirit. Grant that our catechumens increase both in faith and knowledge, that they may rejoice in their baptism and grow as members of the holy body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**A** Let us pray for all in authority, and especially for the Government of the United States, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

**M** O merciful Father in heaven, you hold in your hand all the might of the nations, and you have ordained the powers that be for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of those who do well. Yours is all rule and authority in the kingdoms of the world. Graciously regard your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this Commonwealth, our judges

and officers, and all the rulers of the earth, that all who receive the sword as your servants, may bear it according to your commands; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**A** Let us pray our Lord God almighty that he would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, open the prisons, set free those in bondage, grant a safe return to the travelers, health to the sick, and a harbor of security for those at sea.

**M** Almighty and eternal God, the Consolation of the sorrowful, and the Strength of the weak: Graciously hear the prayers of those who cry to you in any trouble or distress so that in all their needs they may see and receive your great help and comfort; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Here one or more of the following Collects may be said:*

*For the Unity in the Faith*

O God, you restore to the right way those who have gone astray. You gather those who are scattered and preserve those who are gathered. In your tender mercy, pour on your Christian people the grace of unity, that, all divisions being healed, your flock, united to the true Shepherd of your Church, may worthily serve you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For the Heathen*

Almighty and eternal God, you do not desire the death of a sinner but want all people to repent and live. Hear our prayers for the heathen. Take away sin from their hearts and turn them from their idols to the living and true God and to your only Son, and gather them into your holy Church to the glory of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For the Jews*

Almighty and eternal God, you love to show mercy. Hear the prayers which we offer for your ancient people, that, acknowledging Jesus Christ as the Light of truth they may be delivered from their darkness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**A** Let us pray for peace, that we may come to the knowledge of God's holy Word, and walk before him as is fitting for Christians.

**M** Almighty and eternal God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by your Spirit all things are governed, by your providence all things are ordered. You are the God of peace, and the Author of all concord. Grant us your heavenly peace and concord, that we may serve you in true fear, to the praise and glory of your name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**A** Let us pray for our enemies, that God would remember them in mercy, and graciously give them whatever is needful for them and profitable for their salvation.

**M** O almighty and eternal God, through your only Son, our blessed Lord, you commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us and to pray for them that persecute us. Lead all our enemies to true repentance, that they may have the same love and be of one mind and heart with us and with your whole Christian Church; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**A** Let us pray for the fruits of the earth, that God would send down his blessing on them, and graciously move our hearts to enjoy them in submission to his holy will.

**M** O Lord, Father almighty, by your Word you created and bless and uphold all things. Reveal to us your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ, that he would dwell in our hearts, and that by your grace we may receive your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatever pertains to our bodily needs; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**A** Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying:

**All** **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.**  
**Lead us not into temptation**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power, and**  
**the glory are yours now and**  
**forever. Amen.**

*or* **Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be thy name.**  
**Thy kingdom come.**  
**Thy will be done on earth, as it is**  
**in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread.**  
**And forgive us our trespasses, as**  
**we forgive those who**  
**trespass against us.**  
**And lead us not into temptation;**  
**But deliver us from evil:**  
**For thine is the kingdom, and the**  
**power, and the glory, for**  
**ever and ever. Amen.**

The Bidding Prayer is modified from the *Common Service Book of the Lutheran Church*, © 1917, 1918 The United Lutheran Church in America.

This modification © Paul C. Stratman and [www.acollectionofprayers.wordpress.com](http://www.acollectionofprayers.wordpress.com).

The bid and petition for the catechumens was reworked and newly composed in part for this version of the Bidding Prayer.



This modification of the Bidding Prayer from *Common Service Book of the Lutheran Church* is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/). [Please contact for permission for any commercial use.](#)