

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*\*With the words of the Lord's Prayer, Jesus was not teaching us merely specific words to say, but good and pleasing things for which to ask our Lord. In light of that, the Prayer of the Church for the next several weeks will be a collective prayer written by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of Emanuel Lutheran School. This week's Prayer of the Church reflects the Third Petition: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."*

M: Heavenly Father, we thank you for your holy name and your kingdom of grace. You use these blessings to carry out your will on our behalf, knowing what is best for our eternal welfare. You acted in your heavenly will to send your Son to defeat the devil for us.

**C: Use us to do your will on earth. May we keep your name holy. And may we increase your kingdom.**

M: Give us strength to carry out your will by resisting the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. Protect us, that we never leave your side through all our earthly days.

**C: Strengthen us, that we encourage others to follow your holy will.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Lord, your will is done for us in spite of the evil we see around us. Keep that truth in our hearts that we may be comforted in any trouble.

**C: May your will be done. In Jesus' name. Amen.**