

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*\*For several weeks, the Prayer of the Church is a collective prayer written by 8<sup>th</sup> grade students of Emanuel Lutheran School and focused on a different petition of the Lord's Prayer. This week's Prayer of the Church reflects the Sixth Petition: "Lead us not into temptation."*

M: Heavenly Father, we know you do not tempt us, but evil does. While we wait your deliverance from temptation in heaven, we struggle with our sinful nature, and sin itself is always at work within us.

**C: When temptation does come our way, keep us in your care that we are not deceived, that we do not fall into false belief, and that our reputations not be harmed by shameful sin.**

M: Help us battle temptation that we might overcome the attacks of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. As we live on this earth, we have opportunity to show our thanks to you by following your law.

**C: Help us fight earthly urges when they come forth and to focus on the kingdom you have prepared for us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us Lord, as we bring you our private petitions, especially asking for help resisting temptation.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Give us the wisdom to know our own struggles and temptations. Give us the strength to avoid places, people, and situations which would lead us to greater temptation. Give us faithful Christians who encourage us in these efforts.

**C: Keep us faithful to your name, to your will, and to your kingdom. Amen.**

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