PRAYER IN THE HOME FOR THE SUNDAYS BEFORE LENT

GATHERING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

God is spirit Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

The Lord is with us. Let us praise his name together.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy. *Silence is kept.*

In a dark and disfigured world we have not held out the light of life: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world we have failed to share our bread: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world We have kept the love of God to ourselves: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PSALM

BIBLE READING

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For a revival of longing for your kingdom to come, and a renewed commitment to working for it; for a desire to live out our faith and worship in our daily lives. Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have authority and power in our nation and in the world, that they may use it for good, upholding and instigating what is right and fair, and listening to the needs of those they represent. Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those who are struggling to survive; especially at this time we remember the peoples of Ukraine, Gaza and Israel, that peace and justice may prevail. Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For those living in poverty in our own country, that policies may work in favour of the most vulnerable and that there may be a real awareness of the needs of others within local communities. Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are unwell, for the lonely and isolated, for those who have lost loved ones, that each may know your comfort and peace: Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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 for ever. Amen.

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace.