



Diocese of Kootenay

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

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Dear Friends,

This letter is to introduce some liturgical resources that Archbishop Lynne has authorised for use in both Public Worship and times of Personal Prayer. They come from the Structures Working Group with the hope that they will be used to undergird our work as a Diocese and the many Communities of Faith within it. Please take the time to read these through, considering how they might best be used in your locale, and pass them on to those responsible for leading the Prayers of the People at worship, and to your local Prayer Groups/Chains.

Over the coming weeks and months, as you become aware of other prayer resources or wordings of prayer that could aid both our Common and Personal times of prayer, please send them to the Executive Officer (exec@kootenay.info) so that they can be gathered together, perhaps edited for our use, and distributed throughout the Diocese. We would hope to compile them and add them to these present resources early in 2024.

Prior to Synod, the Spiritual Development Committee sent out an announcement about a Diocesan Prayer Companions Initiative. The Initiative invites members of the Diocese to pray regularly, and at times of specific need, for the Diocese and for our Diocesan Leadership, as requested by the leadership. We encourage you to join in this Initiative, and become a Diocesan Prayer Companion. To do so, please register by sending a note to sdcc@kootenay.info.

Thank you for your faithfulness, and remember to both circulate and use these resources!

In Christ's Peace,
The Members of the SWG

Suggested Prayers for Individual use and Public Worship for the Renewal of the Diocese of Kootenay

The Diocese of Kootenay has named our circumstance, and has entered into a time of renewal and revitalization. A major part of this process is for us to be praying for ourselves as individuals, for one another, and for our elected and appointed Leadership. The following are possible prayers, and additions to some of the BAS Litanies, that could be used in worship or adapted for use in times of private prayer.

A. For Use In Public Worship (or may be adapted for use in private prayer)

1. A Prayer for Renewal

O God who knows the needs of the Church in every place:
by the light of your Holy Spirit, guide us
as we seek to respond faithfully to you in this time.

May we open our hands to the future you call us to;
May we open our hearts to those you are calling us to serve;
May we open our minds to new insight and new knowledge;
May we open our doors to go out towards those you would have us meet.

Lead us into your future together;
help us to build trust and resilience in our common life;
help us to anticipate and celebrate new possibilities.
We pray these things in the name of Jesus,
the one who invites us into the newness of life.
Amen.

2. Prayer from Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

God, you have called your people to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through changes unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

3. Prayer that could replace the Collect for Purity in the Eucharist

Gracious and loving God, you send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth, you pour your Spirit of recreation, renewal, and strength upon us. Grant, as we enter into this time of worship, that this same Spirit, calling us to renewal and strength, may so feed us

with Word and Sacrament, that we may be faithful in our commitment to serve Christ and the world. Through Christ, and in Christ. Amen.

4. Litany of Renewal

Leader - Spirit of God, open our hearts;

Response - **That we may know and share the wonder of your love.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open our minds;

Response - **That we may grow in our knowledge of you.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open our eyes;

Response - **That we may see the wonder of your work of creation.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open our ears;

Response - **That we may hear, and accept, your call to service.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open our hands;

Response - **That we may share your abundance.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open our mouths;

Response - **That we may share, and witness to, your Good News.**

Leader - Spirit of God, open us;

Response - **That we may be instruments of your renewing Grace.**

Almighty God, in our baptism you adopted us as your own. Quicken, we pray, your Spirit within us, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS Collect for Proper 28)

or

Almighty God, without you we are not able to please you. Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS Collect for Proper 11)

or

O God our defender, Storms rage about us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us all from unbelief; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. (BAS Collect for Proper 12)

5. Additions to some of the BAS Prayer Litanies - Pages 110 - 128

a. Litany #1

Page 110 - following the petition, "For our bishops . . ."

For this Diocese of Kootenay, as we seek the renewal of the Church, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all our communities of faith that those that are strong may be sustained, and that those that struggle may be strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all members of this community of faith, that we may joyfully recommit to the service of God in the world, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

b. Litany #2

Page 112 - following the petition, "O Lord, guard and direct . . ."

Free us from anxiety and fear, and uphold us as we journey with faith.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Renew us with your ever-creating and nurturing Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

c. Litany #3

Page 113 - following the petition, "We pray for N. our bishop . . ."

We pray for all communities of faith in this Diocese, especially for the parish of N., that we may be renewed in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for vocations to the ordained ministry of the Church -- both seminary trained and locally raised up and trained -- and that those discerning vocation may be encouraged and strengthened as they respond to God's Call.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Licensed Lay Ministers, that their leadership in faith will inspire and guide us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our Church's ministry training institutions, especially The Kootenay School for Ministry Formation.

Lord, hear our prayer.

d. Litany #4

Page 113 - following the petition, "We pray for all who call themselves . . ."

We pray for the leadership and for the continued courage of Lynne, our bishop, and N., our Diocesan Coordinator: be their strength and stronghold.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for this Diocese of Kootenay, for all our members in this time of uncertainty and transition: be our hope and our guide.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for the continued health and well-being of all our Diocesan leadership, lay and ordained: that they may continue to serve you faithfully.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

We pray for the renewal of this community of faith: that we may discern and join into the workings of God.

Lord, hear and have mercy.

e. Litany #14

Page 121 - following the petition, "For the mission of the Church . . ."

For the Diocese of Kootenay, that a spirit of confidence, discernment, and strength will be among us, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this Parish (*Congregation/Worshipping Community*), that a Spirit of Hope may be ours, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

f. Form 17

If form 17 - A Bidding Intercession - is being used, after the Biddings and Prayer for the mission of the Church on page 125, the following bidding is used, followed by a time of Silence and the **Prayer for Renewal**:

I ask your prayers for this Diocese of Kootenay, and for this Community of Faith. Pray for our continuing renewal, and for the strength of the Holy Spirit to persevere.

Silence

O God who knows the needs of the Church in every place:
by the light of your Holy Spirit, guide us
as we seek to respond faithfully to you in this time.

May we open our hands to the future you call us to;
May we open our hearts to those you are calling us to serve;
May we open our minds to new insight and new knowledge;
May we open our doors to go out towards those you would have us meet.

Lead us into your future together;
help us to build trust and resilience in our common life;
help us to anticipate and celebrate new possibilities.
We pray these things in the name of Jesus,
the one who invites us into the newness of life.
Amen.

f. Form 18

After the call to prayer, "For our own needs and those of others." page 126. (*In the times of Silence, people may add their own petitions, silently or aloud.*)

For the sick, the shut-in, and all in need, especially NN. . . , that they may receive the healing and strengthening gifts of God.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

For Locally Trained Priests, and Licensed Lay Ministers, (especially NN. and NN. of this Community,) that their gifts of time, leadership and care will inspire us.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

For the Lay leadership of this Diocese and Community of Faith, that, inspired by the creative Spirit of God, we may all find renewal and strength in faith.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

For N., Diocesan Coordinator of this time of discernment and renewal in this Parish and Diocese, that he may have the gifts of knowledge, insight, understanding and discernment.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

For the continued health and well-being of all our Diocesan leadership, lay and ordained, that they may continue to serve you faithfully.

Silence

Hear us Lord;

For your mercy is great.

These same petitions, with slight changes in wording, may be used in the next (Thanksgiving) section of Litany 18.

g. **Litany 19**

In the petition, "Today we give thanks especially for . . ."

Today we give thanks especially for Lynne, our Archbishop, for her courage, calmness, and strength.

We thank you, Lord.

For the guidance of the Spirit through ways unperceived, and in the times of our fear.

We thank you, Lord.

For the Deacons and Priests of Kootenay, both seminary trained and locally trained.

We thank you, Lord.

For the Licensed Lay Ministers who lead us in worship and who share with us your nurturing care.

We thank you, Lord.

Additional Prayers - in the BAS are on pages 676 - 683 - especially:

1. ***For the Unity of Christians:*** Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly city, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and forever. Amen.

2. ***For the Mission of the Church:*** Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island. We ask this in his name and for his sake. Amen.

and, the three prayers at, 5. ***For the Ministry of the Church***
i For all Christians in their vocation:

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified, receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

ii *For the choice of suitable persons for the ordained ministry*

O God, you led your holy apostles to ordain ministers in every place. Grant that your Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may choose suitable persons for the ministry of word and sacrament, and may uphold them in their work for the extension of your kingdom; through him who is the shepherd and bishop of our souls, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

iii *For those to be ordained*

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church. Give your grace, we humbly pray, to all who are called, or who are discerning call, to ordained ministry for your people; and so fill them with the truth of your doctrine and clothe them with holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve before you, to the glory of your great name and for the benefit of your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

B. For Times of Personal Prayer and Meditation

1. From Blessed Julian of Norwich:

“The human mother can suckle the child with her milk. But our beloved Mother Jesus can feed us with himself. This is what he does when he tenderly and graciously offers us the blessed sacrament, which is the precious food of true life. In mercy and grace he sustains us with all the sweet sacraments. This is what he meant when he said that he was the one that holy church preaches and teaches us. In other words, Christ the Mother is entwined with the wholeness of life which includes all the sacraments, all the virtues, all the virtues of the word-made-flesh, all the goodness that holy church ordains for our benefit. The human mother can tenderly lay the child on her breast, but our tender Mother Jesus can lead us directly into his own tender breast through his sweet broken-open side. Here, he reveals a glimpse of the godhead and some of the joys of paradise with the implicit promise of eternal bliss.” (Julian of Norwich - 1343 - 1416)

The following may be used for meditation, reflection, and prayer:

- a. How do you see “our beloved Mother Jesus” in our midst?
- b. How does Jesus feed you through Word and Sacrament?
- c. How could “Christ the Mother” shape our view of Mission?

Prayer:

Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of new life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flow'r, until I know. Amen. (Text by Jean Janzen)

2. From Blessed Julian of Norwich:

“In my folly, before this time I often wondered why, by the great foreseeing wisdom of God, the onset of sin was not prevented: for then, I thought, all should have been well. This impulse [of thought] was much to be avoided, but nevertheless I mourned and sorrowed because of it, without reason and discretion.

“But Jesus, who in this vision informed me of all that is needed by me, answered with these words and said: ‘It was necessary that there should be sin; **but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.**’ “These words were said most tenderly, showing no manner of blame to me nor to any who shall be saved.” (Julian of Norwich - 1343 - 1416)

The following may be used for meditation, reflection, and prayer:

- a. What is my understanding of “Church?”
- b. What is my understanding of sin?
- c. Is sin present in the decline of the Church?
- d. Where do you see an example of Jesus’ promise to Julian, ‘*but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.*’ ?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, you anointed your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit and with power to bring the good news of your kingdom. Anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit, that we who share in his suffering and his victory may bear witness to the gospel of salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (BAS, page 618)

or,

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery. By the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation. Let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

3. St. Bonaventure in his work *Life of Francis* wrote:

“One day when Francis went out to meditate in the fields he was passing by the church of San Damiano which was threatening to collapse because of extreme age. Inspired by the Spirit, he went inside to pray.

Kneeling before an image of the Crucified, he was filled with great fervor and consolation as he prayed. While his tear-filled eyes were gazing at the Lord's cross, he heard with his bodily ears a voice coming from the cross, telling him three times: 'Francis, go and repair my house which, as you see, is falling into ruin.'

Trembling with fear, Francis was amazed at the sound of this astonishing voice, since he was alone in the church; and as he received in his heart the power of the divine words, he fell into a state of ecstasy. Returning finally to his senses, he prepared to put his whole heart into obeying the command he had received. He began zealously to repair the church materially, although the principle intention of the words referred to that Church which Christ purchased with his own blood, as the Holy Spirit afterward made him realize”

The following may be used for meditation, reflection, and prayer:

- a. How might I respond, as we hear the voice of Jesus saying, *“go and repair my house which, as you see, is falling into ruin.”*
- b. How do I discern the ‘Call of God?’

Prayer:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. (BAS, page 682)