

Triune God,

Our prayer is to you. At an acceptable time, Lord, and in the abundance of your steadfast love, come to our assistance. Answer us. We're grateful that we can come to you in prayer, and even more grateful that you hear us when we pray. Quiet our minds, still our hearts, and tune us toward the presence of your Holy Spirit. Meet us now.

Lord, we ask that your justice and mercy would prevail. Beat back the evil in our world, in whatever form that evil might take on. Today we pray for all those who have been subject to injustice or abuse or bullying or mistreatment. May your Holy Spirit bring renewal and healing to individuals, and to our society as a whole. Teach us all to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.

Here at Calvin Church we are not immune to evil or abuse or tragedy or illness. And so we long for you Lord, and we pray for your kingdom to come. Some among us are tired – strengthen us. Some of us are sick – heal us. We pray particularly this week for Erin Hubka, Sufi Stoner, and Elaine Harper as they wrestle with illness or recovery. Some of us are hopeless – restore us. Some of us are mourning – make us glad in you. In all things, remember your promises to us God, and keep delighting in us as we take joy in you.

Thank you Lord for Calvin Church. Make this church a community that temples your Spirit and fosters your presence. Guide us as we grow in Christ together, and speak to us as we go into the places of our daily lives. May we point to you and your grace in everything we do. And God, train us more and more in love of you, love of each other, and love of our neighbors. Don't let us forget anyone, and open our eyes to the ways in which all people bear your image.

Lord, we can't help but notice how divisive our nation and our world currently are. And often in the face of this division, we find ourselves helpless or despairing. So we pray for your Spirit's unity, and maybe even more than that, for Your hope to saturate our hearts and minds. Mighty God, bring justice, bring mercy, bring unity.

Finally, we don't always know how to pray or when to pray or what to pray for. So thank you for Christ, our Lord and Savior, who prays with us and for us. And who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**