

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Thanksgiving for National Life

Leader Almighty God, giver of all things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. Give us grateful hearts for the abundance you have given us.

People Support us.

Leader We thank you for the great resources of this nation that fuel our economy and help us live healthy and secure lives. Help us to pass on to future generations the blessings we now enjoy.

People Sustain us.

Leader We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong, especially the Founders of our nation and those who have served effectively and faithfully in federal, state and local government. Guide us to elect leaders who promote the common good.

People Inspire us.

Leader We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation as a beacon of hope for a better life. Help this nation to shine brightly in the world as a place of freedom, prosperity and justice.

People Enlighten us.

Leader We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. In God we trust is our motto, and “one nation under God” is our pledge. May this nation ever be faithful in walking in your ways and doing your will.

People Renew us.

Leader We thank you for the men and women who fought and died to maintain our freedom. They sacrificed much for the liberties we now enjoy. Help us to be worthy of their sacrifices and to live as responsible citizens.

People Empower Us.

Leader We thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in our country. They enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship. Give us open minds and hearts to embrace people who may be different from us but are all children of God.

People Direct us.

Leader We pray for the sick, the suffering and the dying that they may be strengthened by your presence and know your peace in their lives.

People Comfort us.

Leader We remember those who have died in the faith of Christ and those who faith is known to you alone. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

People Have mercy on us.

Celebrant Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**