*Readings: Proverbs 1:20-33 and Psalm 19 (or Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1) or Isaiah 50:4-9a and Psalm 116:1-8; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38*

King of all the earth,

Creator of the universe,

Holy Triune God,

From everlasting to everlasting, you are Lord.

Death and the grave, grief and sorrow overwhelm us;

*I love the Lord, for he listens to my voice.*

We call upon your Name, O Lord, and look for your salvation;

*I love the Lord, for he listens to my voice.*

You are gracious, O Lord, righteous and full of compassion;

*I love the Lord, for he listens to my voice.*

You help those who are beset by tears and stumbling; you rescue those who are in a low place;

*I love the Lord, for he listens to my voice.*

You grant our souls life, and we rest in your presence;

*I love the Lord, for he listens to my voice.*

This is our God. Praise him, all you people, for he hears the voice of our supplications. I invite you to add your own praises to the Lord.

***Silence****.*

You are worthy, Holy God, to receive all our praise. We worship you in the glory of your perfect Trinity and ask for grace to steadfastly believe and proclaim your unity.

We pray for your holy catholic church;

*Awaken our ears to listen to your life-giving words.*

Make us like those who are taught,

*That we may receive the lessons you have for us.*

Quicken our tongues with gracious speech,

*That we might sustain those who are weary.*

Lord Christ, you are our help and our vindication;

*Grant your church a courageous and obedient faith.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

I invite you to add your own prayers for the worldwide church.

***Silence.***

Creator of the earth, you spoke the world into existence and sustain all things by your life giving word. Consider the toil and sorrow of the people of the earth and, in your compassion, have mercy on the world.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

We pray for the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer;

For the refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger;

*Relieve and protect them, O Lord, and grant them eternal hope in you.*

Teach us how to rightly steward the gift of your creation,

*That the resources of the world would be used to your honor and glory.*

I invite your prayers for the needs of the world.

***Silence.***

God of all love and peace, we come to you in faith, offering you access into every area of our lives.

We pray for this congregation:

O Lord, we are beset by our own brokenness;

*In humility, we ask for your grace.*

Have mercy upon our double-mindedness;

*We confess how easily we curse our brothers and sisters.*

Redeem our tongues, Gracious Lord,

*That our speech might be seasoned with your living water.*

We look to you, Lord of all, mindful of our helplessness;

*Glorify your name in the midst of our need.*

I invite you to cast all your cares and concerns on the Lord, remembering that He cares for you.

***Silence***.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

We believe in you, Lord Christ.

We cry out to you, Father God.

We receive your witness, Holy Spirit.

Abide with us as we abide in you this week and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.