

A Prayer for Doing God's Work

Leader: Let us come before the God of all creation with open hands and open hearts.

All: Let us praise and thank God with every fiber of our being.

Leader: Our God is a God of life, full of tenderness and compassion.

All: God calls us to build, risk and to renew. It is time to pause and reflect on who we are and where we are going.

All pause in silent reflection

Leader: We gather as believers to reflect and to resolve.

Left Side: We gather because we are men and women of faith joined together in hope. God has called us to build and renew. We come to forge a new tomorrow for ourselves and those who will come to us.

Right Side: Hear us, O God as we unite ourselves to you. Give us your courage and your strength to remain faithful to what lies ahead.

God's Holy Word – Isaiah 43:1 – 2, 5, 10, 18-19

Leader: God will speak to us in this time and in his place. Let us listen with all of our hearts.

Reader 1: From the book of the Prophet Isaiah:
Do not fear for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

Reader 2: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned.

Reader 1: Do not fear for I am with you: I will bring you offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you.

Reader 2: You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may believe in me.

Reader 1: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

Leader: Let us give thanksgiving for God's Holy Word.

All: All praise and thanksgiving to God who speaks the word of life!

All pause in silent reflection

Prayers of Petition

Leader: Gracious God, through all time you listen to the pleas of your people. Confident of your mercy, we present our needs to you.

Leader: When fear and uncertainty creep into our lives

All: remind us of your protective care.

Leader: When we are weary and reach our limits

All: comfort and soothe us with your love.

Leader: As we learn to understand the meaning and purpose of change

All: give us open minds and the gift of wisdom.

Leader: As we confront new challenges

All: Give us the courage to meet whatever tomorrow brings.

Leader: As we serve you

All: Help us not to count the cost.

Leader: When our spirits dampen and enthusiasm grows dim

All: Keep us faithful to you.

Leader: Lord, you complete all we do and are. Sustain us as we offer you our petitions knowing that you are a God of love and mercy.

All: Amen.

Closing Prayer

All: Life giving God, sustain us as we attempt to build and grow, knowing that your call comes with the promise of fidelity. Keep us faithful reminding us always that whatever we do, we do in you, with you and through you. AMEN.