

Prayers of Intercession

Soloist, unison choir, and keyboard

Adapted from the
Book of Common Prayer, 1979


Michael Bedford

Options for Use in Worship

1. Use the choir in place of the solo and the congregation in place of the choir.
2. Have a child read each intercessory prayer, and the choir and congregation sing "Lord, hear our prayer."
3. Add windchimes on "Lord, hear our prayer."
4. Use an instrument other than keyboard (guitar, autoharp, etc.) on intercessory prayers (chords are provided in parentheses above the keyboard part), then add keyboard on "Lord, hear our prayer" and the concluding collect.
5. Instead of keyboard, accompany the entire piece with harp or string quartet.
6. Use your own creative ideas and resources!


Intercessory Prayers:

Solo: Choir:



1. With all our hearts and minds we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
2. For the peace of the world, and for the unity of all people, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
3. For the leaders of all nations, cities, and towns, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
4. For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all whom we love, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
5. For the good earth, and for wisdom to conserve it, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
6. For the ability to see the beauty and wonder of all your creation, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
7. For all churches, and for their clergy and people, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
8. For minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
9. For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
10. For the poor and the sick, and for all who need your care, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.
11. For all saints in heaven and on earth, we pray to you, O God. Lord, hear our prayer.

(Em) (Em) (C) (A m) (G) (C) (D) (Em)



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Concluding Collect:

Choir: 6

Al - might - y and ev - er - liv - ing God, from whom comes each

This system contains the first nine measures of the piece. It features a vocal line in G major with lyrics and a piano accompaniment in G major. The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

10
good and per-fect gift: Send down on your peo-ple the Spir-it of your

This system contains measures 10 through 14. The vocal line continues with the lyrics, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

15
grace, That we may tru-ly please you in ev-'ry time and place. Grant these

This system contains measures 15 through 19. The vocal line continues with the lyrics, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

20
things through Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior. A - men, A - men.

rit.

This system contains the final four measures (20-24) of the piece. It includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking above the vocal line and below the piano accompaniment. The piece concludes with a final cadence.

Prayer Response

Unison choir, keyboard, and optional congregation

Michael Bedford

BEACH SPRING
19th century American
arr. Michael Bedford

Options for Use in Worship

Using the early American tune *Beach Spring*, this prayer response is set in the style of spoken petition followed by sung response, a tradition that is common to many denominations. The children's choir may sing the response after each petition and end with the concluding response. For an even more creative activity, it is suggested that the children might take time to write their own petitions to use in place of those provided. Either the congregation may become more involved by reading the petitions, or these short prayers may be offered by one or more individual children, perhaps some that are not involved in the choir.

Response:

mp *rit.*

God of earth and all cre - a - tion, we im - plore you, hear our prayer.

mp *rit.*

Prayer petitions may be chosen from the following, or may be written for the situation. If the prayers are printed for congregational use, it is suggested that a boldface **R** be included wherever the response is to be sung.

Prayer Petitions

- O God, you fill the world with beauty. Open our eyes that we may rejoice in your creation. **R**
- O God, you made us in your image. Break down the walls that separate us, and bring us together in your love. **R**
- O God, bless the Church. Fill it with your truth and your peace, and make us effective ministers of your Word. **R**
- O God, you bless us with families and friends. Help us always to love and care for each other. **R**
- O God, you set before us many tasks. Help us to accomplish those things which delight both us and you. **R**
- O God, you bless us with daily food and drink. Help us to grow stronger, that we may have minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve. **R**
- O God, you give us health and strength to work. Help us to also find time to rest and play. **R**
- O God, there are people who need help in so many ways. Show us how to be there for others, that we might help to ease their burdens. **R**
- Above all, O God, you have blessed us with the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to grow each day in knowledge and love of him. **R**

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