

**Prayers (Together)**

O Lord, who has pity for all our weakness: Put away from us worry and every anxious fear, that, having ended the labours of the day as in your sight, and committing our tasks, ourselves, and all we love into your keeping, we may, now that night cometh, receive as from you your priceless gift of sleep; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, illuminate the darkness of this night with your celestial brightness, and from the sons of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest; for it is you, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

You, O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are called by your name. Leave us not, O Lord our God.

Preserve us, O Lord, waking, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night, and at the last a perfect end; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be with us this night, and for evermore. Amen

**Blessing- ( Leader)**

The Lord bless us, and keep us. The Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. Amen

**Precious and Honored  
in God's Sight  
Isaiah 43:1-7**

**Prayer Service for the ANiC Churches in court in British  
Columbia, starting May 25, 2009**

**Gathering to worship (Leader)**

O Lord, let our prayer be set forth in your sight as the incense, and the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice.

"To you alone, O Lord, to you alone, and not to us, must glory be given because of your constant love and faithfulness" –Psalm 115

"I call on you, O God, for you will answer me;

Give ear to me and hear my prayer" – Psalm 17

**The Collect for Protection (Leader)**

Visit, we beseech you, O Lord, this place, and drive from it all the snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace; and may your blessing be upon us evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Confession (Together)**

O Almighty Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us after your great goodness; According to the multitude of your mercies do away our offences; Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness, And cleanse us from our sins; For Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

**Pardon - For Pardon through the Cross (Leader)**

Almighty Father, who of your great love to men did give your dearly beloved Son to die for us; Grant that through his Cross our sins may be put away, and remembered no more against us, and that, cleansed by his Blood, and mindful of his sufferings, we may take up our cross daily, and follow him in newness of life, until we come to his everlasting kingdom; through the same your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn –The Church's One Foundation**

1  
The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the Word.  
From heaven he came and  
sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought  
her,  
and for her life he died.

2  
Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth;  
her charter of salvation,  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with every grace endued.

sin. Give to each of us hearts of humility and charity in the difficult days ahead. We bring before you the unhappy divisions in our own families and friendships over the court case and the issues behind it.

*In silence, we will bring to God those on our hearts tonight*

Come Heavenly Father, and draw our hearts even closer to you. Amen.

Leader Lord, hear our prayer.

Together. And let our cry come unto you.

**Prayer for All in Any Kind of Need**

Holy and Loving Savior, in your mercy, hear our prayer- for ourselves, our families and friends. There are many among us who need to be reminded that they are precious in your sight and you love them. Deliver all in distress, we pray, whether in sorrow, pain or sickness. Comfort, we pray, the lonely, discouraged, or any feeling hopeless. We pray especially who may feel their personal concerns are somehow overshadowed by those of the court case

*In silence, we will bring to God those on our hearts tonight*

We give thanks that your love is from everlasting to everlasting. May all in need, find in you, Lord God, their soul's shelter. Amen.

**Hymn – Be Thou My Vision**

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight;  
Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;  
Thou my soul's Shelter, Thou my high Tower:  
Raise Thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Bishop Ron

and our Primate, Archbishop Gregory

Lord God, we ask that you will renew their spirits and draw their hearts ever closer to you. Be their council and strength. Guide each, we pray, as they guide their congregations in these challenging times. We pray for their families and ask that you will be their strong tower of defense. *Amen.*

*Leader* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Together.* And let our cry come unto you.

### **Prayer for Lay Leaders all Working Behind the Scenes**

O Lord God, We give thanks for your faithfulness to all your people everywhere. We remember, with thanksgiving, all those in lay leadership who are faithfully serving you and this church family, as we go before the court:

The Wardens

The Trustees

The Church Committees

All members of the Legal Defense Fund Committee

May they know your protection. Strengthen them, we pray, when they are weary and their burdens of responsibility weigh heavily on them. May each experience your peace in the night, and be renewed by you every morning. We also give thanks for all who are working behind the scenes during these difficult days, thinking especially of our church staff and members of St. John's assisting our lawyers. *Amen.*

*Leader* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Together.* And let our cry come unto you.

### **Prayer for the Legal Team**

Almighty God, source of all that is true and right, we ask that you guide and direct the lawyers for the Anglican Network in Canada churches and all who are called to give evidence over the next 3 weeks. Give to each, we pray, the words you would have them say. Grant them your peace as they speak the truth, hold the truth and defend the truth. *Amen.*

*Leader* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Together.* And let our cry come unto you.

### **Prayer for the Diocese of New Westminster**

Our Heavenly Father, your son forgave his enemies and accusers, even while suffering shame and death. Fill us with your Spirit of love, as we pray for the Diocese of New Westminster, and bishop Michael. We ask that you fill that church with your truth. Where it is in error, we pray that you will direct it. Keep us mindful of our own

3

Though with a scornful wonder  
we see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are  
keeping;  
their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

4

Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
till, with the vision glorious,  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

### **Isaiah 43:1-7 (Together)**

- <sup>1</sup> But now, this is what the LORD says—  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
- <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze.
- <sup>3</sup> For I am the LORD, your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;  
I give Egypt for your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in your stead.
- <sup>4</sup> Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
and because I love you,  
I will give men in exchange for you,  
and people in exchange for your life.

5

Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

<sup>5</sup> Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
I will bring your children from the east  
and gather you from the west.  
<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'  
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'  
Bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the ends of the earth-  
<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.

### **Silence**

### **Reflection - Precious and Honored in God's Sight**

### **Intercessory Prayer (15 minutes)**

#### **The Lord's Prayer (Together)**

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever. *Amen.*

#### **A Supplication - which may be used in times of trouble.**

*Together.* O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for your Name's sake.

*Leader.* O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that you did in their days, and in the old time before them.

*Together.* O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for your honour.

*Leader.* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*Together.* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

*Together.* O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for your Name's sake.

*Leader.* From our enemies defend us, O Christ;

*Together.* *Graciously look upon our afflictions.*

*Leader.* Pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts;

*Together.* *Mercifully forgive the sins of your people.*

*Leader.* Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;  
*Together.* *O Son of David, have mercy upon us.*

*Leader.* Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;  
*Together.* *Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.*

### **Prayer for ANiC (Together)**

Heavenly Father,  
You are our council and strength, a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, a very present help in trouble and a guide to Heaven through the many temptations of this life. We come before you with humble and penitent hearts as your children and as the family ANiC, deeply aware of our great need as we move through the court case. We pray that you will renew our spirits and draw our hearts even closer to you, keeping us mindful that you are in all the circumstance that lie ahead. Give us hearts of gratitude and peace so that we may honour you in all that is said and done. We commit all that lies ahead, our hopes and our concerns, into your loving and caring hands, through the name of our Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

### **Prayer for all Parishes Named in the Court Case**

*( Leader)*

Lord God, we pray for all the Anglican Network in Canada churches named in the court case:

St. Matthias-St. Luke Anglican Church  
Church of the Good Shepherd Anglican Church  
St. Matthew's Abbotsford Anglican Church  
St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

May all the members of these churches know that you are with them. Remind them, we pray, that they are precious in your sight and you love them. *Amen.*

*Leader* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Together.* And let our cry come unto you.

### **Prayer for all Clergy**

We pray for the clergy in each of these churches:

Rev. Simon Chin  
Rev. Stephen Leung  
Rev. Trevor Walters and Rev. Mike Stewart  
Rev. David Short, Rev. Dan Gifford, Rev. Jim Salladin, Rev. Jim Packer and Rev. Jim Ferguson

and for:

Bishop Don  
Bishop Malcolm