PRAYER OF THE CHURCH EASTER 3 14 April, 2024

L We are God's children, so let us come to Him in prayer in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Each petition will conclude: Stand among us, Lord, Congregation Response: and give us Your peace.

Petitions

* Gracious God, May Your Holy Spirit guide and protect all those who live in Your word. Be with the staff, students, and their families of Holy Trinity Lutheran College as they commence Term 2. Strengthen their faith in You and Your promises. Give them daily assurance that You want them to be who they are in Christ's name, and they stand up for the truth of Your gospel.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

* Lord You are the provider of all our needs. Continue to bless our land in which so many rely on for their employment and their living. Be with our farmers as they prepare for another seed time and give them the patience to accept Your provision, always thankful of Your presence and grace in all that the land provides.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

* Holy Spirit. Grant that all people are covered with Your promise of eternal life as they accept Your plan for their lives. Be with those struggling in our community and give Your church family the courage and boldness to step into their lives and give them physical sustenance and spiritual guidance in Jesus' name.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

* Jesus our Saviour. You give life to the full to all Your people. Some who live long lives and some who only have fleeting time on this earth. Be with the children and the workers who with Pastor Solomon minister in the Shelter in India to give children with HIV positive a bright future which leads them to Your eternal home of peace and love. Give Your church the heart to support them with prayer, contributions, and other necessary provision as we enter a new ministry program.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

* Heavenly father. Be a true father to all our young people in the world by giving them simple instruction about who You are and what life is about. Focus them on the real hope in Jesus Christ as their redeemer and saviour. Be with the young people of our congregation as they defend the gospel truth and seek more of Your promises in their daily lives. Be with Pastor Hans and Lynda as they begin a new 'Growing Faith' program to equip our young people for their First Communion.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

* Spirit of Truth. Our church is looking at ways of sustaining itself for the future and of sharing Your Gospel to the world and to the people in Australian and New Zealand. Enrich and embolden the LCANZ as they continue the Way Forward Process to bring about a peaceful and practical vision for the church to be a strong witness for Jesus. May all who partake of this process be comforted with the promise that You are the God of Gods and King of Kings, and Your truth is real and will set us free as we journey from earth to heaven.

Stand among us, Lord, and give us Your peace.

Concluding Prayer

- Father, open Your word to us and lead us by Your Spirit, so that we may witness to Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, for he lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
- C Amen.