

Life-giving God, we bring to you our prayers for the world and for the church.

At the dawn of time your Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep and brought form and life to your creation: overshadow your world today and give to us a new sense of wonder and responsibility for this planet and all its creatures.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the days of the great flood you saved Noah from the waters of death and made a covenant with Noah and his descendants: look with compassion today on all in danger from natural disaster and from those catastrophes that we inflict ourselves.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In ancient times you brought your chosen people from slavery to freedom through the waters of the Red Sea: liberate your people today who are held in the bondage of cruelty, oppression or injustice, so they may live in dignity, freedom and hope.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the waters of the River Jordan, your Son Jesus Christ was baptised with those he came to save: bring your people today to seek the salvation that you offer so we may turn away from all that holds us in the power of evil.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Through the waters of baptism you seal us as your own and make us one with all who bear your name: empower us with your spirit to faithfully serve you and proclaim your good news of justice, peace, redemption and love.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

At Jesus' baptism, you named him your beloved Son and anointed him with power for ministry: bring healing today to those who are sick, hope to those in despair and comfort to the lost and lonely ones of our community.

READ Weekly Prayer sheet

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Everliving God,
By the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us to new an everlasting life: may we so pattern our lives on your Son, that we, also, may be found pleasing in your eyes and take our place with your beloved daughters and sons of every time and nation.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

**Holy God,
let your abundant blessing
descend from heaven upon your Church,
to confirm and create anew
those who in the sacrament of Baptism
have been washed in water
and born again in the life-giving Spirit.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

And then place the folder ON THE ALTAR.