

CHRISTMAS COMMITMENT SUNDAY SAT, DEC 7 - SUN, DEC 8

ADORATION

Blessed are You, O LORD, the God of Israel our Father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all the earth. In Your hand are power and might, and in Your hand, it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God and praise Your glorious name. But who am I, and what are my people that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. (1 Chronicles 29:10-14)

Pause and silently express your heartfelt adoration!

CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Communion Liturgy)

Pause in stillness, listen, and confess your sin.

THANKSGIVING

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that You have done for us in the past year. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us to tasks that demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments that satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on You alone. Above all, we thank you for Your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of His Word and the example of His life; for His steadfast obedience, by which He overcame temptation; for His dying, through which He conquered death; and for His rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of

Your kingdom. Grant us the gift of Your Spirit that we may know Christ and make Him known; and through Him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to You in all things. (BCP)

Thank You for how You have provided for our family in the year that is past. Please bless and prosper the work of our hands in the year ahead. Amen.

Silently give thanks for what you are thankful for today.

SUPPLICATION

We ask You, O Lord, to help us walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:1-3)

We ask You, O Lord, to help us live as ONE Body and ONE Spirit – just as we each were called to the ONE Hope that, belongs to our call – ONE Lord, ONE faith, ONE baptism, ONE God and Father of all Who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:6-7)

We thank You for the grace extended to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ. Bring us into the fullness of Christ, teaching us to speak the truth in love that we may grow up in every way into Christ. (Ephesians 4:7-15)

Teach us O Lord to put off our old self and to be renewed in the spirit of our minds, putting on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:22-24)

We ask for lavish grace to resist the temptation to sin through falsehood, anger, stealing and corrupt talk but instead help us to speak words that build one another up as fits the occasion. (Ephesians 4:25-29)

We thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, by whom we were each sealed for the day of redemption. Father, help us not grieve Him through bitterness, wrath, clamor, slander, and malice but instead to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as You in Christ forgave us. (Ephesians 4:30-32)

Lord, let us imitate You, as beloved children and walk in love as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for each one of us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Teach us to walk as children of the light; in all that is good, right, and true, discerning what is pleasing to You so that we take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness. (Ephesians 5:8-11)

Awaken us, O Lord! Fill us afresh with the Holy Spirit, that we may sing and make melody in our hearts giving thanks to You always and for everything. (Ephesians 5:14-20)

We, thank you, Lord God, for the gift of family. Bless all the marriages at Asbury so that husband and wife would submit to one another, loving each other as a witness to others of Your love. (Ephesians 5:21-25)

Gracious Father, we ask that You inspire, strengthen, and encourage parents to bring their children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

O God, remind us to put on Your whole armor, and stand firm against the schemes of the devil. We boldly ask and declare, in Jesus' Name, that the spiritual forces of evil would retreat from our church, especially as we prepare for Christmas Commitment Sunday. (Ephesians 6:10-12)

Everlasting God, teach each of us to put on the armor You have provided, fastening on the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, teaching us to pray at all times in the Spirit. (Ephesians 6:14-18)

We ask for words of truth to be given to our Pastors week after week so that they may open their mouths boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel for a harvest of disciples and a season of baptisms for Your glory. (Ephesians 6:19)

O Lord, we ask that Asbury Church be filled with the peace and love that comes from faith in You. Grant us the grace to have an undying, incorruptible love for You always. (Ephesians 6:23-24)

IN THE POWERFUL NAME OF JESUS! AMEN