



ST. ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH • ELYRIA, OHIO
EST. 1837

“Sharing God’s Unconditional Love”

October 26, 2025
Proper 25



The Pharisee and the Tax Collector -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 300 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio, 44035-5618
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The Rev. June Hardy Dorsey, Rector 804-370-2989

Welcome to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

We are one of the parishes that make up The Diocese of Ohio and are part of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America. We are also part of the worldwide Anglican Communion and at the head of the Anglican Communion is the Archbishop of Canterbury.

St. Andrew's is made up of diverse people who find meaning and experience community through relationships – with God, with ourselves as we seek to know God, with each other and with the world in which we live. We are old and young, female and male, gay and straight, cis-gender and non-binary in gender identification. We are single, married, divorced, widowed, black and white across a wide socio-economic range. In fact we are like everybody. We work in our communities and invest in work around the world. We study and we ask questions as we move deeper into the mystery of God. We support one another in good times and bad, and we try to see Christ in everyone we meet.

St. Andrew's mission statement is, "Sharing God's Unconditional Love. "We believe that we are participating with God in God's work in the world. We are an open and affirming, inclusive community of faith, believing that God loves everyone, no exceptions.

Since December of 2019, we have made the work of anti-racism a priority by confessing, studying, praying, advocating and in activism for racial equity and social justice. We have been described as "Traditional in pews and kneelers, ornate altar and vestments. Modern in energy, ordination of women, and respect for all people regardless of the many ways God makes us different. Common in the humble, simple way these people, place and time come together to be extraordinary."

Commitment to Racial Justice

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Elyria, Ohio recognizes that the church, as a body of Christ, has a responsibility to act on behalf of others, especially the marginalized and the oppressed. We vow in our Baptismal Covenant to "seek and serve Christ in all persons" and to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being." We believe that this includes directly confronting the legacy and reality of racism, both individually and that which is systemic and institutionalized in our society. We must work to end economic, educational, employment, healthcare, housing and other injustices in our own lives, institutions, communities, and the world. To that end, we must be aware and well informed, and thereby better able to determine the actions our faith requires of us – actions that help us to practice justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

Visitors

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you. We want to know more about who you are and so we ask that you please complete the visitor's card (in pews or ask usher) and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Acolyte for October 26

Hans Van Wormer

Lectors for October 26

8:30am: Judi Hudnutt

10:30am: Matthew Van Wormer

Usher for October 26

Myki Van Wormer

Eucharistic Ministers for October 26

8:30am: Greg Hebble/Judi Hudnutt

10:30am: Hans Van Wormer/Jean Hays

LOOKING AHEAD

TODAY, after 10:30am service: Orientation and Information Luncheon (Parish Lounge)

October 29, at 8am: Midweek Worship on Zoom

October 30, at 7:30pm: Service of Remembrance

November 2, at 10:30am: All Saint's Sunday (No 8:30am or Zoom Service On This Day)

November 5, at 8am: Midweek Worship on Zoom

November 6, at 9am: First Thursday Breakfast (Rubin's at Chestnut Commons)

Holy Eucharist

8:30am Enriching Our Worship 10:30 am

BCP = Red Book of Common Prayer, Blue Hymnal 1982,
Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal (LEVAS), Wonder, Love and Praise Hymnal (WLP)

Prelude*

“Prelude on Two Traditional Tunes”

Lee Hastings Bristol

Processional Hymn*

Hymn 637 “How Firm A Foundation, Ye Saints Of The Lord”

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Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God’s reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria (8:30am – Spoken)

(10:30am – Sung) WLP 900 (*Green Hymnal*)

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Please sit for the Lessons)

A Reading from Sirach 35:12-17

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 84:1-6

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *

**by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.**

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

A Reading from 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as able)

Sequence Hymn*

Hymn 398 "I Sing The Almighty Power Of God"

© Ralph Vaughan Williams

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Deacon: The Gospel of our Savior.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

(Please sit for the Sermons)

Children's Sermon
Sermon

Ben Holcomb
Rev. June Hardy Dorsey

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.
Who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

You are invited to read the role of the intercessor as you are led. If more than one voice reads the same lines, please listen to one another and read simultaneously. The People's response is the text in bold.

Deacon: God of justice, hear us, make your presence known to us, and respond to us as we say: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Show us how to be the body of Christ today, that your Good News might enter every human heart. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Be in the eyes and ears and on the lips of our civil leaders, that they might lead through serving the welfare of all and help us to hold our leaders accountable to the needs of the whole nation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Open our hearts and our hands to our neighbor's needs, that they might encounter Christ through us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Bring peace with justice where there is conflict, bring freedom where there is oppression, and bring restoration to lands ravaged by greed, that your creation might be renewed and your purpose for us fulfilled. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Be with those who suffer. Be their strength and their firm foundation throughout their struggles. Especially we pray for....*(please add your own prayers aloud or in silence)* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Welcome all who have died, that they might continue towards the bright future of your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deacon: Loving God, you have showed us how to love you by loving others and ourselves. Hear our prayers and answer us as may be best for us and to your glory. All this we ask through Christ, our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins to God. *(Silence may be kept)*

All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you. *(Please greet one another with the Peace of the Lord.)*

Welcome, Announcements, and Special Prayers *(Please be seated)*

Christ's Welcome

All: No matter where you come from or where you're going. No matter what you believe or what you doubt. No matter what you feel or just don't feel today. No matter whom you love... You are welcome at St. Andrew's to be met by God who loves you, who knows your mind and heart, and who wants to have a relationship with you.

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

(Please stand as able.)

Offertory Anthem*

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Nettleton, Setting By Roland E. Martin

Presentation Hymn*

Hymn 428 “O All Ye Works Of God, Now Come”

© The Church Pension Fund

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B With Expansive Language)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

LEVAS 255 (Red and Black Hymnal)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;***

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Andrew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say:

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.***

Breaking of the Bread

Fraction

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The table of bread and wine is now made ready.

All: It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; You who have been here often and you who have not been for a while. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed;

Celebrant: Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

The Holy Communion (*All are welcome to receive from God's Table*)

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

Eucharistic Minister: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Minister: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Communion Hymns*

Voices Found 96 "Healing River Of The Spirit"

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F B♭ Am7 Dm F B♭ F

1 Heal-ing riv - er of the Spi - rit, bathe the wounds that liv - ing brings.
 2 Well-spring of the heal-ing Spi - rit, stream that flows to bring re - lease,
 3 Liv - ing stream that heals the na - tions, make us chan - nels of your pow'r.

F B♭ Am7 Dm F B♭ F

Plunge our pain, our sin, our sad-ness deep be - neath your sa - cred springs.
 as we gain our selves, our sens-es, may our lives re - flect your peace.
 All the world is torn by con-flict; wars are rag - ing at this hour.

The musical score is written for a hymn in B-flat major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The piano accompaniment has a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues the melody, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Chords: F, C, Dm, C, Dm, B♭maj7, C, Dm, B♭, F, Gm7, Am, Gm7, F

Wea - ry from the rest - less search - ing that has lured us from your side,
 Grate - ful for the flood that heals us, may your church en - act your grace.
 Sav - ing Spi - rit, move a - mong us; guide our wind - ing hu - man course,

we dis - cov - er in your pres - ence peace that world can - not pro - vide.
 As we meet both friend and strang - er, may we see our Sav - ior's face.
 till we find our way to - geth - er, flow - ing home - ward to our source.

Hymn 314 "Humbly I Adore Thee"

© The Church Pension Fund

Post Communion Prayer (*Please stand or kneel as able*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing of St. Francis

May God bless you with discomfort, at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart. **Amen.**

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. **Amen.**

May God bless you with tears, to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain to joy. **Amen.**

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn*

Hymn 680 "O God, Our Help In Ages Past"
© William H. Monk

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude*

"Nun Lasst Uns Gott Dem Herren" Johann Pachelbel

Chorister rehearsal after the 10:30am service today!

Announcements

TODAY: St. Andrew's Orientation and Information Luncheon

Would you like to learn more about St. Andrew's.... how you can get involved? Come to lunch in the Parish Lounge (on the first floor) at 12:30pm on October 26. Ministry leaders will be available to share about the various ministries of St. Andrew's and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and also share about your interests and gifts.

Game Night with "I'm Possible Games" Monday, October 27 from 6pm-8pm

Come and join in on the fun! St. Andrew's is proud to be hosting another game night in collaboration with I'm Possible Games on Monday, October 27 from 6pm-8pm. All are invited to an evening of fun, games, puzzles, art, and more! These events are free and open to the public. Snacks and water provided.

Service of Remembrance: October 30, 2025, at 7:30pm

You are warmly invited to the Service of Remembrance—a quiet, contemplative gathering where we bring before God those whom we love but see no longer. Together, we will speak aloud the names of those who have died, honoring their lives and making space for our grief in their absence. You are encouraged to bring photos, mementos, or other tokens of significance to help create an altar of remembrance, a visible sign of love and memory that holds our beloved close. This service offers a sacred pause in which grace, grief, and hope meet—a holy time to let the names of our beloved be spoken, cherished, and lifted to God in prayer. The Book of Remembrance is at the back of the church. Please write the names of those you would like to have read aloud at the Service of Remembrance.

Harvest Altar

During this harvest season, the Altar Guild plans to support the Freedge and we need your help. It was suggested that fruits and vegetables with longer shelf life such as oranges and potatoes would be appropriate. Other suggestions: spam, soup, ravioli, stuffing mix, etc. Also pantry staples such as cooking oil. On November 9, 16, and 23, you are invited to place items in the Harvest Altar baskets in the back of the church. All contribution will be offered in Thanksgiving for our many gifts and the given to the Freedge for distribution.

St. Andrew's Prayer List:

Our Spiritual Leaders

Sean, our Presiding Bishop
 Anne, our Bishop
 June, our Priest
 Jane, our Deacon
 Mark, our Music Director
 Joan, our Music Director, Emerita
 Ben, our Director of Youth
 And Children's Ministry

Our Friends

Christ Church, Oberlin
 Church of the Redeemer, Lorain
 Avon United Methodist Church
 Redeemer Lutheran Church, Elyria
 Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Elyria
 The Original Glorious Apostolic Church
 Elyria First United Methodist Church
 Bellwether Farm

Our Community Partners

The Freedge
 A Place to Recover (P2R)
 Neighborhood Alliance
 Pet Pantry of Lorain County
 Second Harvest
 Urban League

Active-Duty Military: John Able, Stephanie Bacskey, Rose Buttle, Luke Colcough, Aaron Colcough, Dylan Donnelly, Charles Kellogg, Kim Reich, Gavin Schwan, Ryan Sumner, Ashley Augustine

Churches in Our Mission Area: St. Paul's, Bellevue; St. Paul's, Fremont; Christ Church, Huron; Redeemer, Lorain; St. Paul's, Norwalk; St. Thomas, Port Clinton; St. Paul's, Put-in-Bay; Grace, Sandusky; Old Trinity, Tiffin; Christ Church, Oberlin

Health Concerns: Kathy Inderrieden (Karen Blair's daughter), Pauline McKenna (Karen Blair's daughter), Paul Tanner (partner of Jolene Adkins), Scott Holcomb, Shelly Perkins, John Palermo, John Grehn (family of Ryan Palermo) Judie Housel, Karen Wells, Bob Sharkody, Ben Schuster, Russ Panchak, Karen Blair, Sally Miyara, Badger King, Mya Wissinger, Dakota Maloney (Daughter of Claire Skladan & Jeff Maloney), Roja Schuster Little, Joe Dembek; Diana, Mike and Maya (Bill Hebble's co-worker's family as infant daughter undergoes heart surgery), Deb Schwan, Ryan Palermo-Varner, Ryan (friend of June Hardy Dorsey), Sarah Schuster, Scott Pennington, Doug Elmer, Cooley Derzis, Marion King, Gwen Frazier, Lee Kauffman, Linda Wilbert, Dan Burnett, Emily Holcomb

At Home: Virginia Larson, Sally Ruth, Barbara Tobin, Patricia Pozywak, Ruth Smith, Linda Wilbert, Judith Beebe

Those Who Have Died: Cindy McClymonds, Robert Powell, Kathy Plank, Emma Fischer, Chuck Farlow (Margo Reich's Brother-in-Law), Shirley Zeh (Cousin of Badger King), David George, Karen Ramirez, Jim Toth, Phillip Wagner, Stephen Secaur (Jeremy Secaur's father), Archie Jablonski, Mary Ann Hursky (Aunt of Amy Kellogg)

Other Concerns: Dale Ann, Randy Lehman, Nancy Farlow and Family, the Family of Shirley Zeh, Eliot Prior, Maddie Smith, Scott Pennington, Jessica and Corey (friends of June Hardy Dorsey), Dee Knaack, Mark & Laura Burnett, Joyce Toth, Lonnie, Gail Peyton and Linda Dembroski, (daughters of Mary Ann Hursky)

Episcopal Church Public Policy and Witness Weekly Prayers

For Those Facing Government Layoffs

God of justice and right order, who calls rulers and nations to act with fairness, we lift before you federal employees living in fear of losing their livelihoods amid political stalemate. As courts and unions challenge Reductions in Force following the government shutdown, protect the workers whose service upholds the common good. Guard those who labor at every level of government from the weight of unjust decisions and administrative neglect. Strengthen unions, judges, and leaders who seek to defend dignity over expediency. Restore integrity where power has faltered. Through Jesus Christ, the righteous judge and servant of all, who upheld truth over authority and mercy over might. Amen.

For a World of Preventable Hunger

God of unfailing provision, who sustained the widow of Zarephath and her child when famine consumed the land, you have shown that no hunger is beyond your care and no child beyond your mercy. Yet in our world, where there is more than enough for all, children still starve to death. As the United Nations marked World Food Day this week, forgive us for the hunger that persists not from scarcity but from neglect. Move us to confront the harm in cutting aid and name it, not in statistics and words removed from our humanity, but in clear terms that highlight the broken lives and preventable deaths. Be near to all who cannot eat—especially in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan—and lead our nations toward compassion and generosity. Through Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, who feeds the hungry and fills the world with hope. Amen.

For The Wellbeing of LGBTQ+ Youth

God of compassion, who draws near to the brokenhearted and saves those crushed in spirit, we lift before you LGBTQ+ youth living under rising anxiety, depression, and fear. When rejection deepens despair, let your nearness bring healing and your love speak louder than condemnation. As the latest published report by The Trevor Project highlights how supportive environments significantly reduce risk of self-harm among these, your children, strengthen families and communities to continue being places of safety and affirmation, where every young person is seen and welcomed. Restore hope, resilience, and peace of mind to those who struggle this day. Through Jesus Christ, who wept with the sorrowful and brought comfort to the weary, our companion in suffering. Amen.

*Even the sparrow
finds a home, and the
swallow a nest for
herself.*

Psalm 84 v3

