**What’s Next: A Season of Prayer & Discernment**

COPY and PASTE these Prayers

**Litany for Discernment** (individual parts of this could be used separately).

We give you thanks, O God, for your love and faithfulness shown to us through all generations, for sending your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world and the Lord of our lives. And now we pray that you will grant us discernment so that we may see how you are calling us to serve you in these changing times, we pray to you, O God. ***Lord, show us the way.***

O God, our Creator, you have called us through your Son to share the Good News of Jesus, to teach disciples and to work for the establishment of your Kingdom here on earth. Give us a strong commitment to this calling, we pray to you, O God.

***Lord, show us the way.***

Send a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese that we may hear your call to us and clearly see the path you are setting before our feet. Give us the courage and faith to follow you on that path, we pray to you, O God.

***Lord, show us the way.***

Bless, O Lord, those who are called to create a Mission Action Plan for this diocese, that they may in all things be led by your Spirit and guided in all wisdom and understanding. Give them a strong faith, a lively hope, and a clear understanding of your priorities for us at this time, we pray to you, O God.

***Lord, show us the way.***

Support and sustain all those who work in every parish of this diocese for the building up of your Kingdom. Bless them with faith, hope and love and help them to see how they may continue to serve you in the communities to which you have called them, we pray to you, O God. ***Lord, show us the way.***

Guide your people throughout the process of electing a new bishop. Give us wisdom to discern who you are calling to be our chief pastor, and give that person the wisdom, faith, courage and love they need to follow your call, we pray to you, O God.

***Lord, show us the way*.**

Bless all the people of this diocese as we are discerning so many matters in the months to come. Help us to hear and be faithful to your call to us, keep our hearts burning with the fire of your love so that we may work as one body to carry out your holy will, and bless all our work done for you, we pray to you, O God.

***Lord, show us the way. Amen.***

**Missional Litany Prayer**

***(Adapted from prayers based on the Five Marks of Mission, by the Very Rev. Dr. Iain Luke, dean of Athabasca)***

Lord Jesus Christ, let your presence fill our hearts and overflow in our actions,

that we may *proclaim the good news* of your Kingdom.

Let your glory fill this place, **Let your glory fill this world.**

Lord, fill us with your welcoming Spirit of truth, that we may faithfully *teach, baptize and nurture* those who come to believe in you.

Let your glory fill this place, **Let your glory fill this world.**

Lord, as you came to serve and not to be served, fill us with the compassion and insight to *respond to human need by loving service.*

Let your glory fill this place, **Let your glory fill this world.**

Lord, let the fire of your goodness and justice burn into us and through us,

that we may *seek to transform the unjust structures of society*.

Let your glory fill this place, **Let your glory fill this world.**

Lord, as you come into our lives to redeem all that is good,

guide us in our turn to *renew and sustain the life of your creation.*

Let your glory fill this place, **Let your glory fill this world.**

**Almighty God, in our baptism you adopted us for your own.**

**Fill us with your Spirit,**

**that we, being renewed both in body and mind,**

**may serve you in sincerity and truth;**

**We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**who lives and reigns with you**

**and the Holy Spirit, one God,**

**now and for ever. Amen**

**Responsive Prayer for Guidance**

**(The Book of Uncommon Prayer by Steven L. Case, p.101).**God, sometimes we can’t even find the door.

**Be our light on the path.**

We stumble around in the dark.

**Be our light on the path.**

We lose our way.

**Be our light on the path.**

We can’t see even where to put our feet.

**Be our light on the path.**

Let alone see the end of the journey.

**Be our light on the path.**

We will stop and take a deep breath.

**Be our light on the path.**

We will open our eyes to the possibilities.

**Be our light on the path.**

We will pray for light.

**Be our light on the path.**

Show us the way, God.

**Be our light on the path.**

Calm our minds and soothe our souls.

**Be our light on the path.**

Show us the way and we will go.

**Be our light on the path. Amen.**

**Responsive Prayer for Faith/Decisions**

**(The Book of Uncommon Prayer by Steven L. Case, p.97).**

God, sometimes if feels like we spend a lot of time stumbling around in the dark.

**Light the path, God.**

There are so many choices.

**Light the path, God.**

So many people who want just a little piece of our lives.

**Light the path, God.**

So many things that take up our time.

**Light the path, God.**

So many ways to mess up our lives.

**Light the path, God.**

We are not alone.

**Light the path, God.**

The dark is a scary place, but we are not alone.

**Light the path, God.**

You are with us, God.

**Light the path, God.**

We may not know where we are going.

**Light the path, God.**

We can’t see the end of the path.

**Light the path, God.**

We will trust you, God.

**Light the path, God.**

We will believe in your light.

**Light the path, God. Amen.**

**A General Prayer for Mission in our Neighbourhood**

Loving God, we pray …

… for guidance as we seek to rediscover the people who live, work, study, visit and play in our community,

… for new insight about the life and needs of our neighbours,

… for understanding about the ways we might build relationships with new people,

… to learn how to lovingly serve the community around us,

… to find ways to join with your Holy Spirit already present in our neighbourhood so that we may have the opportunity to share the Good News about Christ,

… that we would grow more and more to have a heart like Christ, as we seek to answer this missional call to our community,

… and give thanks that you are a hugely generous God who has blessed us with more than enough gifts in which to do this work for your Kingdom. Amen.

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