



3-16-14 Search Committee Trinity Episcopal Church

## Opening Prayer

Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth, with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Saviour. Amen. (BCP, p. 816)

## Reflection:

### *Some questions to be considered:*

What is the unique mission of our parish?

What do we need to accomplish that mission?

What difference would it make to us, to our community, the world, if we no longer existed?

## *Silence*

To consider this week:

**“A goal of a discernment group is to reach spiritual consensus, which the Quakers call “sense of the meeting.” For the Quakers, this consensus is a way of sensing the will of God. Spiritual consensus incorporates rational consideration, but comes most especially through prayerful listening.”**

Excerpt From: Suzanne G. Farnham, Joseph P. Gill, R. Taylor McLean and Susan M. Ward. *Listening Hearts*

## A Song of Penitence — Kyrie Pantokrator

### Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, \*  
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
and of all their righteous offspring:  
You made the heavens and the earth, \*  
with all their vast array.  
All things quake with fear at your presence; \*  
they tremble because of your power.  
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; \*  
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.  
O Lord, you are full of compassion, \*  
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.  
You hold back your hand; \*  
you do not punish as we deserve.  
In your great goodness, Lord,  
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, \*  
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.  
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, \*  
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.  
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, \*  
and I know my wickedness only too well.  
Therefore I make this prayer to you: \*  
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.  
Do not let me perish in my sin, \*  
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.  
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, \*  
and in me you will show forth your goodness.  
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,  
in accordance with your great mercy, \*  
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.  
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, \*  
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

# Closing Prayer

## From Psalm 113

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; \*  
praise the Name of the LORD.  
Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.  
From the rising of the sun to its going down \*  
let the Name of the LORD be praised.  
The LORD is high above all nations, \*  
and his glory above the heavens.

## *A Reading from Isaiah 26:3; 30:15*

O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength.

## *Prayer the Search Committee and Vestry*

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, p. 818)

## *The Lord's Prayer*

## *The Collect*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.