

## 2009 Global Mission Lenten Series

### Week One Worship Resources

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### Confession and Forgiveness

*Presiding minister*

We come into the presence of God  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us take a moment of silence to reflect on our own lives,  
our weaknesses, our struggles and our needs.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,**

**known and unknown,**

**things we have done and things we have left undone.**

**Forgive our unbelief and strengthen our faith.**

**Forgive our unwillingness to reach out to others**

**and give us a heart to spread your Word to those around us.**

**Forgive our slowness to follow you**

**and give us a zeal for serving you and all people.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit,**

**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,**

**to the honor and glory of your holy name;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*A Kyrie may be sung or spoken.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
 have mercy upon you,  
 pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
 confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
 and keep you in eternal life,  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **Litany**

*Psalm 3:1-8*

O LORD, how many are my foes!  
**Many are rising against me;**  
**many are saying to me,**  
**“There is no help for you in God.”**

But you, O LORD, are a shield around me,  
 my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.  
**I cry aloud to the LORD,**  
**and he answers me from his holy hill.**

I lie down and sleep;  
 I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.  
**I am not afraid of ten thousands of people**  
**who have set themselves against me all around.**

Rise up, O LORD!  
 Deliver me, O my God!  
**For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;**  
**you break the teeth of the wicked.**

Deliverance belongs to the LORD;  
**may your blessing be on your people!**

## **Prayers**

We pray, O Lord, today for all who are in need everywhere in the world. For us, the world seems so large, but you hold us all in the hollow of your hand. Give us a stronger sense of our kinship with people near and far around the world. Give us the willingness to care for others as you do, no matter who they are, to hold them in our prayers and to share what we can with them. Fill us with the joy of telling others about your love and the excitement of following you. Make us, dear Lord, to be fishers of people around us just as you called your first disciples to be. Fill us with a thirst for your Word and you will in our lives.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of this world, O Lord, that they may lead and serve with faithfulness and ability. Bring peace and healing to this broken world. Guide us all to care for the earth that you have created, so that it might not be destroyed or become a wasteland. Create in us a spirit of humility and generosity so that we might be instruments of your will in our society and our whole world.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we lay all our prayers, both those spoken and those expressed in our inner thoughts, and into your loving care we commit all for whom we pray.

**Amen.**

### **Hymn Suggestions**

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

852 Golden Breaks the Dawn

247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace