



# Prayers for Individual Use

## Inner Life

### **Anxiety, apprehension, fear**

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks in all circumstances and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Grant that fears and anxieties in this mortal life may not hide from us the light of your immortal love shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.<sup>739</sup>

Eternal God, my heart this *night/day* is filled with fear. Dark shadows seem to cloud each hour. The path ahead appears filled with problems and threats. Deliver me from senseless worry and protect me amid genuine danger. Teach me to trust in your unending love. Let me walk in confidence and strength as your child by faith, following after Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord. Amen.<sup>881</sup>

Lord Jesus, as you stilled the wind and rough sea so long ago and brought calm to your terrified disciples, so care for me now and calm my heart. Rescue me from fear and grant me courage to do my duty. Walk with me each step of the way and keep me in

your unending care. You know me far better than I know myself. You have been with me from the beginning. You have made me your disciple. Assure me by your Spirit that you will hear my prayer, for you have promised to be with me always. Amen.<sup>882</sup>

### **Assurance of forgiveness**

Eternal God, walk with me this day, for the problems that I face are complex. The best course of action will not always be clear; the right thing to do is sometimes hard to determine; and the struggles I confront are difficult. Assure me of your forgiving love and your steadfast care, that I may face each day with confidence that you will never abandon me. Hear me now, I pray, through Jesus Christ my Savior. Amen.<sup>883</sup>

### **Bitterness, anger**

Lord God, when we are assaulted by the troubles of life, and the deep waters of anger threaten to overwhelm us, do not let us sink. In your great compassion, hear us and help us. Deliver us from anger's power over us. Lead us out of bitter silence and hurtful words so that we may speak the truth in love. Heal every heart set on vengeance, and show us the way to honesty and reconciliation; through the one who has shown us both impassioned zeal and forgiving love, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.<sup>740</sup>

### **Commitment**

Almighty and eternal God, so draw my heart to you, so guide my mind, so fill my imagination, so control my will, that I may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use me, I pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.<sup>351</sup>

## Loss of limb, loss of sight, other major losses

Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As I go through the trials of life [especially the *loss of limb / loss of sight / other loss* ], help me to realize that you are with me at all times and in all things, and that your loving grace enfolds me for eternity. In the security of your embrace I pray. Amen.<sup>337</sup>

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. As I struggle forward now under the weight of unimaginable loss, help me still give you thanks for preserving my life. Strengthen me with the shield of faith, enable me to trust you in all that lies ahead, and comfort me with the assurance of your abiding presence; through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.<sup>890</sup>

God my refuge, when human senses fail, you alone remain our sure hope and defense. In the knowledge of your love, grant me courage and strength. I place myself in your hands, confident that nothing, not even the *loss of hearing / loss of sight / other loss* , can separate me from your love in Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.<sup>639</sup>

## Loss of memory

Holy God, you have known me since before I was born. You have been with me throughout my life. Protect me and keep me safe through all the changes that may come. In Christ you made me your own. Help me to trust that who I am will never be lost to you. Amen.<sup>652</sup>

### **After a critical incident**

I started out so bravely and now I am sinking; I am afraid. Lord, save me! I was so self-confident, so sure, and now I trust nothing and do not know where to turn for help. So I cry out to you, even when I am not sure I believe in you or in your power to rescue me. Lord, save me! When Peter called out for you to save him from sinking, you stretched out your hand and caught him. Stretch out your hand, Savior, to me. Catch me and hold me fast! Amen.<sup>903</sup>

### **Fellow service members—intercession**

O God, the heavens declare your glory and tell of your work in creation. From you come the gifts of our bodies and minds, our skills and abilities, and the opportunities to use these gifts in sustaining our lives and in helping our neighbors. I pray for the members of my unit who feel insecure; for those who bear heavy burdens and face stressful decisions; for those whose work is tedious or dangerous; for those who have experienced failure or loss; and for all who face any difficulty in their service. Surround them with your never-failing love; free them from restlessness and anxiety; keep them, in every perplexity and distress; and renew us all as we face the opportunities and challenges of daily life and work. Amen.<sup>761</sup>

### **Fellow service members—thanksgiving**

Good God, I give thanks for the courage of these brothers and sisters in arms. For the strength of their backs and their wills, for their grit and their trustworthiness, for their spirit and determination, for their integrity and their skill, I give you thanks. May I stand with them as faithfully as they have stood with me, and may your strong arm defend and empower us daily. Amen.<sup>904</sup>