

Nov. 19 Intercessions Pentecost 24

We are all invited to God's wedding banquet; in accepting we must allow the rags of our old life to be exchanged for the freely given robes of holiness and right living.

Invited by our God, we have gathered here. Let us now voice our prayers for the Church and for the world.

The congregational response, as printed in to-day's bulletin:
As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, when either the traditional or the progressive blinds us to the truth of your will, clear our vision and speak through our prejudices until we are once again open to your changing. May we be, before anything else, your people, sharing your concerns and desires. (pause) As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, we recognise how powerful the influences are in our world which distract many and lead away from your truth. We pray for the quiet whisper of your wisdom to be noticed and acknowledged in many lives; we pray for widespread discipline of the heart, a new openness to generosity of spirit. (pause)
As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, may our homes and daily schedules be part of the territory of your kingdom, where it is your will which guides and your love which rules. (pause)
As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, our hearts rail against the cruelty and unfairness of suffering and disease, and we kneel now alongside all in pain and weep with them, crying out to you for comfort and the healing of your love. For you are no bringer of evil to our lives, but share our sorrow and give us the grace to bear it. (pause)
As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, as death takes from us those we love and we find it hard to live without them, take from us all bitterness of heart and let us share with them the peace you give over which death has no power at all. (pause)
As you have called us: **Lord, we come.**

Father, it is such an honour to be invited to your banquet; make us worthy of our calling.

Father, accept these prayers in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**