

6 For the Lord knows the way of the right-eous,
But the way of the ungod-ly shall per-ish.
Glory be to the Fa-ther and to the Son,
And to the Ho-ly Spir-it.
As it was in the be-gin-ning,
Is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

L. The Lord be with you.

C. **And with your spirit.**

L. Let us pray.

Various petitions based on the reading just expounded.

--Confession of our sins and sinfulness.

--Requests for things that we now know we need.

--Praise and Thanksgiving for who God is and what He has done.

--The final petition

V. The LORD will give strength to His people;

R. The LORD will bless His people with peace. (Ps 29:11)

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. ["For Peace," LW, p.234]

L. Let us bless the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

L. The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C. **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace, composed in the later half of the fifth century, is found in the Gelasian Sacramentary. It is unsurpassed in beauty and spiritual appeal. Each age has its own turbulent times in which we pray to be "defended from the fear of our enemies."

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Responsive Prayer For Catechesis



Martin Luther and Elector Frederick the Wise Praying.

"This fight must be begun with repentance, and we must reform our lives, or we shall fight in vain.... After people have thus been taught and exhorted to confess their sin and amend their ways they should then be most diligently exhorted to prayer and shown that such prayer pleases God, that he has commanded it and promised to hear it, and that no one ought to think lightly of his own praying or have doubts about it, but with firm faith be sure that it will be heard; all of which has been published by us in many tracts. The man who doubts, or prays for good luck, would do better to let prayer alone because such prayer is merely tempting God and only makes things worse" (Luther's Works, v.46, p.171-172).

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