

### **2025 PRE-ASSEMBLY PRAYER/BLESSING**

“Let your heart be clear and simple,  
and your soul filled with Light;  
Enter the place of gentleness,  
the heart-space of the Beloved,  
the embodiment of Love!  
For we are invited to radiate the  
Divine Presence,  
to be blessing to one another;  
Thus do we become the very image  
that we reflect.  
Whoever is wise, let them ponder  
these things,  
let all people reflect on the  
gifts of the Beloved.”

- *excerpt from Psalm 107 of “Psalms for Praying” by Nan Merrill*

Eternal Lord,

Thank you for your comfort in some very trying times. Your abiding love seeks us out during turbulent periods in our lives. In singing, we discover our voices. In the breaking of bread and pouring of wine, we are gathered and fed for the journey to which you call us. We are grateful for the opportunity to once again fellowship with our leadership, colleagues, and beloved siblings as we discern the future journey of this Synod, our shared ministries, and to chart our path forward as we seek to follow you.

We come to you with ready hands and clear hearts that our efforts in this time will collectively yield what you have planned for us.

Please bless all who will gather for this year’s Synod Assembly to dream, lament, discern and hope in the midst of uncertainty and disruption in our communities, in our nation, and around the world. Help us all to discern your call for our life together, inspire us in our discussions and debates, and bestow upon the next Bishop the courage, commitment, empathy and compassion for this position, and bless them with humility

and integrity to inspire action for ensuring the equity and dignity of all your people and your beloved creation we call home.

Give courage and wisdom to our voting members, bless (*names of the voting members*) as they carry with them our prayers and blessings for the Metro DC Synod and as they return we also may be renewed by the call we have been given for a time such as this.

Instill in us steadfastness to stand together as One Body in this ever-changing world, to soften the hardest of hearts, to ponder with curiosity and awe, and be empowered to reach out for help and to help others in a bold and boundless example of your love for all your people.

In all this we pray. **Amen**

