

A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Most loving Father, we humbly ask that you would look down from heaven in great mercy upon your whole church, and every member of it. Be favorable to Zion, and build up the walls of Jerusalem.

Look with an eye of pity on the great ruins and desolation of your church. Heal up the wounds in all the nations. Regard it as your own flock, be gentle as to your own family, care for it as your own vineyard, love it as your own spouse.

Bless it with your grace, guide it with your Spirit,

and defend it always with your mighty power.

Scatter, confound, and overthrow any forces that fight against the church, and have mercy on the church in this land. Bless us with true faith.

Deal with us, and with those who come after us, in your grace and favor, for the sake of your great name, and for the sake of our only Mediator Jesus Christ, to whom be all praise and glory, with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore, amen.

—Arthur Dent