

In Honor of World Day of Prayer-2005
A Lifetime Prayer by Zabelle S. Beard

God of Our Fathers, great spirit, supreme deity of all nations, creator of all peoples and everlasting giver of life.

The shadows of night have passed and a new tomorrow is dawning. Hear our petition rising to the heavens. For all the know and unknown wrong deeds of our lives we repent and humbly kneel, facing the East, to beg forgiveness. Please erase our sins from the book of life; renew us again while we strive to overcome evil with good.

As the sun rises, please hear our small voices in gratitude for many gifts and blessings given us. As we journey on we ask: instill us with honor, courage, acceptance of and compassion for each other and those in need, and guide our hearts and feet in paths of justice, hurting no one.

We praise our eternal God for helping us stand tall, and for teaching us that when we share we also receive, and when we love and forgive, we are also forgiven. Help us not to drop the olive branch of peace but carry it within our hearts and, with a smile, extend it to all mankind.

Almighty creator of all who dwell on earth and in the heavens above: hold our hands over bumpy roads lest we stumble: nurture our desire to live in peace and harmony with all peoples of your creation; and in your own good time over many pathways, grant that we may be deserving to enter rest eternal thru your grace and mercy.

Prayerfully,
Amen (So Be It)

This prayer was used at the 11:00 am service on March 6th for World Prayer Day, at First English Lutheran Church, Baltimore, MD

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