Prayers from the Pomeranian Agenda

The Pomeranian Agenda was written and compiled by Dr. Johannes Bugenhagen. Sometimes we see prayers that also appear in the Saxon Agenda of 1540, and sometimes we see prayers that are known to be written by Martin Luther.

This translation is based on *Die pommersche Kirchen-Ordnung und Agenda: nebst den Legibus praepositorum, statutis synodicis und der Vistitations-Ordnung von 1736.* Evangelisch-Lutherische Landeskirche in Pommern, C. A. Koch, 1854, and is available on Google Books at <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/jhis.2007/jhis.

Note on Page Numbering

The Pomeranian Agenda has two sets of page numbers. The first (I-X, prefaces, forewords and contents) 11-137 is a book of regulations and pastoral theology for the Pomeranian church. The second set of page numbers (I-IV, preface and contents) 9-603 has some repetition with the first section, but contains mostly rites and prayers. This is the reason for the designations of "First Section" and "Second Section" below.

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FIRST SECTION

FROM AN ORDINATION SERVICE

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sit at the right hand of your heavenly Father and rule your Christendom on earth. You give gifts to your people, some apostles, some bishops, some pastors, some teachers, some servants, that your house on earth may be built and your chosen ones may be made righteous and holy by the work of your Word. Keep your Word holy and pure among us and gather your eternal chosen congregation from among us. Bless the holy office of the ministry, and give blessed, true servants for your churches and schools who will be filled and ruled by your Spirit, who will awaken true faith and true fear of God in all Christian hearts, that your kingdom may be increased and Satan's kingdom destroyed; with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign forever and ever. Amen. (p. 64#1) [1.]

SECOND SECTION

FROM AN ORDINATION SERVICE

[Same as (p. 64#1)] (p. 11#1) [2.]

FROM AN ORDINATION SERVICE

Merciful God, heavenly Father, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you have told us, "The harvest is plentiful but he workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send workers into his harvest field." Trusting your divine command, we pray that you would richly give your Holy Spirit to these your servants who have been called into the office of the ministry, and also to us all, that with the great company of your evangelists we may remain faithful and steadfast against the devil, world and flesh, so that your name is hallowed, your kingdom expanded, and your will done. You also will bring to a wretched end the great horrors of the pope, Mohammed, liars, and sects of people who work devilish things in your church, who blaspheme your name, attack your church, and strive against your will. Such is our prayer, and just as you have commanded and taught us and have promised to hear us, so graciously hear us as we believe and trust; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever. Amen. (p. 20#2) [3.]

CONFESSION, WHEN A CHRISTIAN WISHES TO COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

I, a poor sinner, confess to God and to you that I have sinned much against all the commandments of God in my thoughts, words and actions, that I am sinful by nature, born in sin and am condemned, under God's wrath and worthy of eternal death. My heart is troubled, and I am sorry that I have angered my God and Lord, and humbly pray that God would forgive all my sins for the sake of his dear Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, forgive me by his grace, and renew my heart with his Holy Spirit. Since you have the command from our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive all those who are repentant of their sins, so I ask you through Christ that you would instruct and comfort me with God's Word, and pronounce the forgiveness of sins in his name, that I may receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the strengthening of my faith, and that I may better my life with God's help. (p. 38)

FROM OFFICE OF MASS OR COMMUNION

I, a poor sinner, confess to you, O almighty God, my maker and redeemer, that I have sinned, not only with thoughts, words and actions, but that I am by nature unclean, conceived and born in sin, and inclined to all evil. I have not earned anything but your wrath, and for this I am sorry with all my heart that I have provoked you, O God my Lord. But I have access to your steadfast love, O God, my heavenly Father. I seek and desire your grace for the sake of your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, be merciful to me, a poor sinner. Forgive my sins and give me your Holy Spirit, that I may obey your divine will, and in my station in life produce much fruit to your glory. Amen. (p. 75#1) [4.]

FOR A BAPTISM

O almighty and eternal God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for this _______, your servant here presented for Holy Baptism, that you would give your eternal grace through spiritual rebirth. Receive *him*, Lord, just as you have promised, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it shall be opened to you," that *he* may obtain the blessing that those who ask receive, and the door is opened to those who knock, that *he* may receive the eternal blessing of this heavenly washing, and come to the kingdom you have promised; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (p. 96#1) [5.]

FOR A BAPTISM

Almighty and everlasting God, according to your righteous judgment you destroyed the unbelieving world by the Flood, and according to your great mercy saved faithful Noah and his family. You drowned stubborn Pharaoh with all his army in the Red Sea, and safely led your people Israel through the middle of it, foreshadowing this washing of your Holy Baptism; and by the Baptism of your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you sanctified and ordain Jordan and all waters for a saving flood and an abundant washing away of sin: look with favor on *this child* and bless *him* in the Spirit with true faith, that, by this saving flood, there may be drowned and destroyed in *him* all that *he* has inherited from Adam, and what *he himself* has added, and that, being separated from the number of the unbelieving, *he* may be securely kept in the holy ark of the Christian Church, and ever serve your name with fervent spirit and joyful hope, to the end that, together with all believers, *he* may be accounted worthy by your promise and obtain eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (p. 96#2) [6.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you a new birth through water and the Holy Spirit and has forgiven all your sins, strengthen you with his grace to eternal life. Amen. (p. 104#1) [7.]

Almighty, merciful God and Father, we give you praise and thanks that you graciously protect and enlarge your church, and have granted that this child be born again through holy Baptism, and through your dear Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, you have made *him* your child and heir of your heavenly blessings. We humbly pray that this child, who has now become your child, may be protected by the grace *he* has received through your mercy, that *he* may be brought to praise and glorify your holy name for all your blessings, lead a faithful and blessed life, and finally receive the promised inheritance in heaven together with all the saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 104#2) [8.]

FOR AN EMERGENCY BAPTISM

Almighty God and Father of our dear Lord Jesus Christ, you have given this child a new birth through water and the Holy Spirit and have forgiven all *his* sins. Strengthen *him* now with your grace, increase in *him* your Holy Spirit that in body and soul *he* may grow in the new godly life. Grant that *his* parents and all of us may faithfully and blessedly serve this child so that your divine name may be always hallowed by this child and by us all, and that your kingdom may spread through Jesus Christ. Amen. (p. 112#1) [9.]

[Same as p. 104#1] (p. 112#2) [10.]

FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you for this your blessing. O Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that you would receive this child¹ into your care forever, for you have commanded that the little children be brought to you, so we bring your gift back to you with our prayer based on your Word that you would make this child your own through your precious blood. Give this child grace, blessing, strength, power and prosperity so that we might bring this child to you with joy to enter your kingdom through holy Baptism, and give thanks for your grace with all God-fearing hearts. Amen. (p. 114#1) [11.]

CONFESSION, WHEN A CHRISTIAN WISHES TO COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

[*Same as on p. 38*] (p. 142)

¹ German: *diese Frucht*, "this fruit" as in "fruit of the womb."

A FORM FOR ABSOLUTION

Believe steadfastly and certainly that the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is gracious and merciful to you, and has forgiven all your sins for his sake, because his beloved Son suffered and died for your sins. In the name of this Lord Jesus Christ, your Savior, and by his divine command and the power of his Word, where he says, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. ...Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them," (John 20:21) I pronounce to you the forgiveness of sins, and declare you free, separated, and released from all your sins, that they have all been completely been forgiven by God, so richly and completely. Jesus Christ has earned you such grace through his suffering and death, and has commanded that this gospel be preached in all the world. This comforting command, which I announce to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, you should receive as a greatest assurance, so that your conscience and heart may be at peace and that you may steadfastly believe that all your sins are certainly forgiven, in the name of the + Father and of the + Son and of the + Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace and sin no more. (p. 152)

VISITATION OF THE SICK

If the sick person is in the last stages and about to pass away, the priest should not speak loudly into the person's ears much, but kneel and pray the Lord's Prayer with those who are nearby, along with the following prayer:

Lord God, heavenly Father, through your Son Jesus Christ you promise that where two or three come together on earth, wherever it may be, if they call upon you, they shall be with you, Father in heaven. Trusting in your gracious promise, we pray for our dear ______, your servant, who is baptized in the name of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and knows you as the eternal true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and has given testimony *his* faith in your name before us. Have mercy on *him*. Receive *him* graciously. Forgive *his* sins. Comfort and uphold *him* in all afflictions with your Holy Spirit. Give him a blessed end and take his soul dot you in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 218#1) [12.]

FOR PRISONERS

O dearest Lord God and Father, for the sake of your dear Son Jesus Christ lead me not into temptation, deliver us form evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 237#1) [13.]

HOW ONE SHOULD DEAL WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE OPPRESSED BY THE DEVIL

Pastors and preachers should not be allowed to drive out or exorcise the devils as done under the devil's banner in the Papacy with bathing in holy water, as Papist spectacles have done. Some of our people have done serious exorcisms with the Word of God, but we shall not try to imitate them, for we have no clear commandment of God, nor the institution of our Lord Jesus Christ. Also, it is not needed to confirm the light of the Gospel as a new doctrine by any new miracle. Therefore, if anyone attempts to drive out the devil as Christ and the apostles have done, he tempts God, as also do those who now demand miracles from preachers. They do not remain with Scripture but sin against God.

Meanwhile, some people who are reckless, sextons and the like, put themselves under the devil's banner, and horribly misuse the name of God and the Holy Scriptures. They deceive and afflict the poor people, and raise up a great mutiny, contempt and blasphemy against preachers, and the common careless people praise them because they have an appetite for novelty, spectacles and a good show. So, pastors or district

officials² should allow a superintendent to come in who shall put these 'exorcists' in their place and examine them with all diligence. If they determine that they have acted with deception and contempt for the divine name, they should be ordered to get out, or the authorities should be called in that they may be imprisoned or given some other punishment.

Now if a pastor suspects that there is a possessed person in his parish, he should gently but diligently remind the people that they should not think of it lightly or become convinced that they might become possessed by the evil spirit, as often happens during epidemics when people lose their minds in some senseless rage. But they should devote themselves to prayer, watchfulness and the fear of God, and to the common prayer of the Christian church, that God would have mercy on the poor person through Jesus Christ. If it is in a village, this should be done in two or three consecutive worship services.

If the people want the pastor to visit the sick person thinking that he is possessed, then the preacher should not go alone, but together with two or three others, so that together they can call to the heart of God against the devil in prayer and watchfulness, and meditate on the Holy Scriptures to prepare for the visit.

When they come into the house where the sick person is, the minister shall say:

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be in this house.

And those with him answer:

And with all who are in it.

Then they should take some pious Christians to the sick person, and not let anyone else come in. First, they should begin with prayer, and let the sick person see them.

| Dear Christians, since our is sick and in great distress, we will call upon God our heavenly |
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| Father, through his only Son Jesus Christ, that he will have mercy on our friend who is in need and |
| graciously hear our prayer to his glory, and so that our is healed and well, as we believe and |
| trust in his divine, gracious promise: "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among |
| them if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in |
| heaven" (Matthew 18:20, 19). Also, "Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my |
| name, he will give it to you" (John 16:23). Therefore, let us pray from our hearts in faith: Our Father, |
| etc. |

After the prayer, the pastor stands and says:

O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Help us, for your holy name's sake and crush Satan under our feet. Amen.

Then the pastor speaks to the sick person and asks if he knows the articles of the Christian faith. And here pastors should be aware that they are not to try to drive out Satan with exorcism, attack or threats, for the devil is a proud, arrogant, reckless spirit. He enjoys pomp and seeks any opportunity to mock the cause.

First, ask if the sick person can recite the Christian creed. If the sick person says yes, before he begins to recite the articles of faith, remind him of his Holy Baptism, how he was baptized in the name the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, which is the sum of the Christian faith, how he was washed in the blood of Christ through baptism and redeemed from the power and terror of the devil, and

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² Seniores Synodi

through the Spirit and knowledge of God is sanctified, he has renounced the devil and all his ways through Jesus Christ, his faithful Savior, who has come into the world to destroy the devil's work.

So, my dear _____, in this way you should look on your Holy Baptism and remember, etc.

Now let the sick person recite the articles of faith. If he does not want to, or if it looks like he will not be able to proceed, then recite the words of our Christian faith to him, and let him clearly repeat the words after you.

Continue by speaking this confession and prayer to him (and ask him to repeat)³:

Jesus Christ has crushed the devil's head and destroyed all his work. He died for my sins, descended into hell, and has overcome hell and the devil, and has risen from the dead for my justification.

Lord Jesus Christ, my faithful God and Savior, you have also redeemed me. Because of you, my dearest Lord Jesus Christ, I also have the forgiveness of all my sins, a gracious God and eternal life. Death, devil and hell have no part with me. I am yours, dear Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Do not forsake me, O Lord. O my God, do not be far from me. O God of my salvation, help me against the devil and all evil. Come to me quickly. O Lord, you are my help and comfort forever.

If the sick person can say the articles of faith and repeat these words based on Genesis 3, 1 John 3, Romans 4, Psalm 31 and 38, then the person is not possessed, for no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit, much less could he confess that Jesus is Lord, Redeemer and a faithful Savior. And although evil spirits can sometimes acknowledge Jesus Christ as we see in Matthew 8, still, it is easy to distinguish whether this comes from the Holy Spirit or not.

Encourage the sick person also to say the Lord's Prayer with you and see if all remains well with him.

Remind him also about sin, that he should also confess before God that he is a poor sinner. Remind him about the forgiveness of sins and holy absolution. Remind him of the most precious sacrament of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for his strengthening and comfort.

A God-fearing, understanding carer of souls⁴ will be able to sense from these whether a person is possessed with an evil spirit. Other external signs can be seen in the eyes, mouth, scornful speech, cursing, abuse, tearing at the limbs, etc. but what has been mentioned already are the most obvious and most certain signs.

If you are still not convinced if a person is possessed, the preacher should advise that the person seek out doctors and other physicians so that the person can have rest and sleep and get help by other natural means. Let the common Christian prayer also be prayed for him.

If, however, you sense that Satan is present as a matter of God's judgment and as an example to drive us to repentance, you should not make gestures with conjuring and the like; but you should resist and show contempt for Satan with prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ:

Listen, Satan! We know you well (God be praised!) through the Spirit of Jesus Christ that you are a proud, reckless devil, and are a liar and a murderer. We also know why the almighty God allows such things. We have sinned, as our ancestors have, and daily sin much. But God, the Father of all mercy, has had mercy on us through Jesus Christ his Son, and through him we and all believers endure what God

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³ "and ask him to repeat" is not in the German, but it is implied by what follows.

⁴ Seelsorger

| allows, to attain salvation and blessing. If it is his gracious, fatherly will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, he will hear us and deliver our from your tyranny. May Christ Jesus, God's only Son, the Savior of the world, who has crushed your head, who has brought hell and your terror to destruction, tread you under our feet and graciously answer us, when it is his gracious will, and uphold our in soul and spirit to eternal life. Amen. |
|--|
| After this, the pastor admonishes all who are with him, be they preachers or other Christians: |
| First, we ⁵ all should recognize this miserable spectacle of Satan as a lesson in repentance, about God's wrath over sin, and about the great terror of the devil, and should cry out to God with fearful hearts and repentant spirits through Jesus Christ, who is our propitiation and King of Grace. ⁶ |
| Second, we should not expect miracles of foreknowledge or novelties here, but learn from God's Word that this great pitiful burden ⁷ belongs to the bodily needs, and in this we submit in faith to God's gracious will, just as Christ, our Lord and Savior, while fighting with death and the devil, prayed in his anguish: "Father, it is possible, take this cup from me, but not my will, but yours be done." That is why we should not demand any measure, time or place of our Lord Christ, or seek our own honor, but seek the Lord Jesus Christ's glory alone, for he will make it well, and bring about his glory and good for our salvation. |
| Third, we should join in prayer, sincerely calling on our Lord God through Jesus Christ for the poor person, against the devil and the evil spirit. God will have mercy on us and our when it is his gracious will, and deliver him from the bonds and terror of Satan for the sake of his beloved Son, in whose name we pray together as he has taught us: |
| Here the pastor lays his hand on the head of the sick person and says: |
| Our Father |
| Let us pray again: |
| O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, at your name every knee must bow, in heaven and earth and under the earth. For us and for our salvation you came down from heaven and became fully human. For us you were crucified, you descended into hell, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sit at the |

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, at your name every knee must bow, in heaven and earth and under the earth. For us and for our salvation you came down from heaven and became fully human. For us you were crucified, you descended into hell, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sit at the right hand of the Father in heaven. God and man, our Savior, our brother and redeemer, you have led captivity, sin, death, devil and hell captive, you have crushed Satan's head, you have destroyed his work, and all of us who have been baptized in your name you have redeemed from the terror of the devil. Faithful Savior, you have promised with an oath: "Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ...Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:23-34). "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do" (John 14:12-13). Based on this, your Holy Word, Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that you would look with mercy on this, your brother who is baptized in your name, redeemed with your precious blood, washed from sin, anointed with your Holy Spirit, your member, who is your flesh and blood, and graciously deliver him through your divine power from the tyranny and terror of the devil, whose afflictions drive us to repentance and serve as a warning for us. Drive Satan from him, when it is your

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⁵ These three paragraphs are written as instruction in the third person plural, "First, that they should realize..." and then shifts to first person plural "God will have mercy on us and our ____ when it is his gracious will." For a consistent translation, I used first person plural throughout.

⁶ ...durch Jesum Christum, unsern Gnaden-Stuhl, ...

⁷ erbärmliche Kreuz

will. For the sake of your most holy name, hear our prayer, so that your name alone may be praised, worshiped and glorified. Amen.

After this, the pastor says over the sick person:

God the Father bless and keep you.

God the + Son make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

God the Holy Spirit look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

To commend the sick person to the mercy of the heavenly Father in Christ Jesus, parents or friends should be admonished that it will be enough for them to pray diligently, and live repentant and watchful lives, not become impatient or weary, but be still and wait for the Lord who will make all well for our good at the right time, as it pleases him.

If it is announced in the Christian congregation, the wretched people are to be brought to the church of the saints of God to a certain place and be kept there while the people pray patiently and persistently⁸ in the name of Jesus Christ for him against Satan, and in other surrounding churches the Christian common prayer should take place until God relieves the need.

Here the preachers can warn the community about this pitiful case and teach it, as before, and pray for the possessed with the Lord's Prayer together with the Christian congregation.

We cannot do more than this. We must commend the need to God, watch, pray, wait for the Lord and not grow weary.

FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

Almighty God, through the death of your Son, you destroyed sin and death and restored grace and eternal life through his resurrection, so that we might be saved from the terror of the devil. Through the power of your resurrection, you will also awaken our bodies from the dead. Grant that we may believe this with all our heart, and yearn for the joyful resurrection of our bodies with all the blessed; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 256#1) [14.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

THE GERMAN LITANY

V. O Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins,

R. nor repay us according to our iniquities. [Psalm 103:10]

Lord God almighty, you do not disregard the cries of the poor, and you do not despise the longing of troubled hearts. Look upon our prayers which we bring to you in our needs and hear us graciously, so that everything that the devil and the sinful world set against us comes to nothing, and that they may be converted by your good counsel, so that we may be undisturbed by any affliction, thank you in your congregation, and praise you at all times; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 280#1) [15.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

V. The anger of the Lord is but for a moment,

R. and his favor is for a lifetime. [Psalm 30:5]

Or:

V. Call upon me (says the Lord) in the day of trouble

⁸ "pray patiently and persistently" so lange im Namen Jesu Christi anklopfen, that is, "for a long time knock in the name of Jesus Christ."

R. I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me. [Psalm 50:15]

Lord God, heavenly Father, you do not desire the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his evil way and live: We pray, graciously turn from us those punishments which we have deserved by our sins, and grant us grace ever hereafter to serve you in holiness and pureness of living; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 280#2) [16.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

- V. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name;
- R. deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake! [Psalm 79:9]

Lord God, heavenly Father, you know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 281#1) [17.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

- V. Both we and our fathers have sinned;
- R. we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness. [Psalm 106:6]

O Lord, in your tender goodness and mercy loosen the bonds of our sins and graciously turn away all punishment. You want our assembly and the whole Christian church to dwell in all blessedness and peace. Purify all Christians from their faults, increase the good in them, give us your peace and all health, bring all our enemies to shame who strive against your Christian church, and divert the devil's deceptive guile. Grant us good weather, increase of the fruits of the earth, soundness of body, and protection from pestilence, difficult times, and sudden and evil death. Give us and all our enemies your divine love and concord; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (p. 281#2) [18.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

IN ADVENT

Awaken us, O Lord God, with your grace for the future. As you graciously forgive our sins, protect and strengthen us from all danger of future sins, so that we may serve you with a clear conscience, and joyfully receive our Lord Jesus Christ when he comes again in glory; he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.. (p. 282#1) [19.]

Dear Lord God, awaken us, that we may be ready when your dear Son comes, that we may receive him with joy and serve you with pure hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 282#2) [20.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you with our whole heart that you ordained and sent your Son Christ as a Messiah to comfort us poor sinners, to be a righteous King and Savior, who would redeem his people from sin and the devil's tyranny, and save us from eternal death. We humbly pray that you would also enlighten, rule and lead us by your Holy Spirit that we may rightly know our righteous King and Savior, trust him alone instead of our own meager strength, obey his Word and not complain about his rule, but in true faithfulness remain forever blessed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 282#3) [21.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, by your Son you have revealed to us that heaven and earth will pass away, that our bodies will rise again and that we all must appear before the judgment throne. Keep us by your Holy Spirit in your Word, establish us in the true faith, graciously defend us from sin and preserve us in all temptations, that our hearts may not be obsessed with carousing, drunkenness, and foolish cares, but that we may always watch and pray and trust fully in your grace, await with joy the glorious coming of your Son, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through your beloved Son, Jesus

Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen (p. 283#1) [22.] (By Veit Dietrich, Advent 2)

FOR CHRISTMAS

Lord God, dearest Father, help us to take part in the new birth of your beloved Son Jesus Christ in the flesh, and to set aside our old sinful birth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. (p. 282#2) [23.]

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you for seeing us in our sorrow and sending your only Son to become fully human. Graciously enlighten our heats that we may hold fast to his blessed comfort, rejoice greatly in the birth of your beloved Son, praise and rejoice in you with all the holy angels, endure all trouble patiently, and overcome all by your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (p. 282#3) [24.]

We thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, that you are the Word and living image of the eternal Father, our Immanuel. You took on yourself our human nature, and you support and protect your Christendom against your enemy, the devil. Give us the light of your holy Word. Forgive us our sins and give us eternal life. Be our mediator and intercessor, and plead for us. Hear and help us as you have promised: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Have mercy on us. Pray for us before your everlasting Father, sanctify and rule in us with your Holy Spirit. Protect us against all treachery and terror, and the lies and murder of the devil so that with pure and joyful hearts we may serve you; with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign forever and ever. Amen. (p. 284#1) [25.]

FOR THE CIRCUMCISION OF THE LORD

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for your fatherly grace to poor sinners, that your Son put himself under the law to be fully obedient, and to still your just anger over our disobedience and save us. Enlighten our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may have comfort despite such disobedience, our sins, and a troubled conscience, and in faith and true holiness and righteousness begin and end the new year that the sinful desires of our flesh may be set aside by your help; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (p. 284#2) [26.] (Very similar to the Collect of Veit Dietrich, but with a different ending.)

FOR THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Almighty and eternal God, heavenly Father, on this day you revealed your only Son Jesus Christ to the Gentiles through the leading of a star. Graciously grant that we may know him in true faith and be led by him to the revelation of your glorious light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 285#1) [27.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, you revealed your only Son Jesus Christ by the appearance of a star, and in these last days you have revealed him with the same light of your divine word for the confession of your beloved Son. We humbly pray that you would be gracious to us through your Holy Spirit that we would receive the light of your truth, and be frightened by no trouble or danger, and gladly offer him our worldly treasures, that your Christendom may be bettered and your Son Jesus Christ served; for the sake of your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 285#2) [28.]

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Almighty and eternal God graciously grant that all Christian rulers, fathers and parents may live as good examples to their subjects and children, that they not provoke them with words or actions, but encourage them in the training and instruction of the Lord, that by your grace they may follow in Christian, blessed

obedience; through your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit live and reign, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 285#3) [29.]

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Lord God, heavenly Father, we pray that you would bless all married couples that the might live and serve you in joy and unity, bring up their children according to your will, provide for all their needs and comfort them in all misfortune, cross and affliction; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 286#1) [30.]

PURIFICATION OF MARY

Almighty and eternal God, we humbly pray, grant that we may know and praise your dear Son as St. Simeon did, who took him up in his arms, spiritually knew and confessed him; through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 286#2) [31.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda.)

SEPTUAGESIMA

Lord God, heavenly Father, you do not delight in the death of the sinner, and you do not desire their destruction, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. We humbly pray that you would graciously turn away the punishments we have earned for our sins, so that we may better reflect your mercy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 286#3) [32.]

ESTOMIHI (QUINQUAGESIMA, SUNDAY BEFORE LENT)

Lord God, heavenly Father, with your Holy Spirit you revealed yourself at the baptism of your dear Son, and with your voice from heaven you assured us that in him you are well pleased and through him we have forgiveness of sins. Help us to rightly know you as you have revealed yourself to us, that we may listen to your Son and share in his baptism; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 286#5) [33.]

SUNDAYS IN LENT

O almighty and merciful God, heavenly Father, your mercies have no end, for you are patient, gracious, and abounding in love and faithfulness, and you forgive iniquity, trespass and sin. We have gone astray and have become godless and have often offended you. Against you alone have we sinned and done what is evil. But Lord, do not think about our sins, but give us your great mercy quickly for we are in misery. Help us, God of our salvation, save us and forgive us our sins for the glory of your holy name and of your beloved Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 287#1) [34.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, since that evil spirit, the devil, always prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us, you want to shield us by your dear holy angels from all his cunning and terror, for your dear Son's sake. Through your Holy Spirit, give us repentant hearts, that we may serve you in all soberness and vigilance; through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 287#2) [35.]

THE ANNUNCIATION

Almighty God, heavenly Father, we thank you for your great mercy in sending your Son in our human flesh to be our comfort. We pray, send your Holy Spirit so that we may share in his incarnation, suffering and death so that we know him as our Lord and eternal King, receive him, and be forever blessed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 287#3) [36.]

JUDICA

Merciful, eternal God, you did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Give our hearts such faith that we may never be frightened or despair; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 288#1) [37.]

Almighty Father, eternal God, for us you sent your Son and let him suffer the pain of the cross, that he might drive away from us all the terror of the evil foe. Move us to joyfully give thanks for his suffering through which we have received forgiveness of sins and redemption from eternal death; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 288#2) [38.]

O Lord God, Father of all mercy, graciously look on your poor flock for whom your dear Son Jesus Christ did not refuse to be betrayed into the hands of sinners, and endured the shameful death of the cross. Give us your grace that we may follow the example of your dear Son and bear all suffering with patience, so that you, with your beloved Son and the Holy Spirit may be glorified always. Amen. (p. 288#3) [39.]

EASTER

Almighty God, through the death of your Son, you destroyed sin and death, and restored innocence and eternal life through his resurrection, so that we might be saved from the power of the devil, and live in your kingdom. Grant that we may believe this with all our heart, and in such steadfast faith continually praise you, and give thanks to you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 289#1) [40.]

Almighty and eternal God, merciful Father, you gave your Son for our sins, and raised him up again for our righteousness. Through him you have overcome death and have opened for us the way to eternal life. Through your Holy Spirit, grant that we may rely on this in true faith, that our bodies also will arise with Christ to eternal life, and that by remembering this comfort we may endure all kinds of sorrow in this life with patience through the power of the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 289#2) [41.]

EASTER (TO THE SON OF GOD)

O Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true man, you died for our sins on the cross, and you rose again from death, and live and reign forever as our mediator and gracious King. Graciously forgive us our sins, intercede for us poor sinners, make us righteous and sanctify and reign in us with your Holy Spirit to bring us to eternal life. Gather now your eternal church from every land. Give us good government, and protect us from the power of the evil foe; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 289#3) [42.]

ASCENSION

Almighty God and Father, grant that we may set our minds on heavenly things, and that we may be heavenly minded, since we believe that your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ has ascended into heaven and that when he comes again, he will take us to himself in heaven; through our dear Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 290#1) [43.]

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the most high, you sit at the right hand of your Father, and you rule as Lord over all in heaven and on earth, and you fill everything in every way. Let us enjoy the rule of your glorious majesty. Send us your Holy Spirit. Give us true servants of your Word, and bless them with all spiritual gifts, that they may hold to your pure Word, defy Satan and all his tyranny, and preserve your kingdom on earth by your power until all your enemies lie under your feet, and that we may finally

overcome sin, death and everything else, and enjoy eternal life with you; for you live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 290#2) [44.]

PENTECOST

Lord God, dearest Father, on this day you enlightened and taught the hearts of your believers through the Holy Spirit. Through this same Spirit, give us a right understanding, that we may always rejoice in his comfort and power; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 290#3) [45.]

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of almighty God, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts through your Word, that he may govern and guide us according to your will, comfort us in all afflictions and misfortunes, lead and uphold us in your truth against all error, so that we may stand firm in your love and offer ourselves to do good works, and through the certain hope of your free grace be blessed forever; with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 291#1) [46.]

TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

O Holy Spirit, true God, Lord almighty, when you visibly poured yourself out on the apostles, you revealed yourself as the light of truth and comfort for the soul whom the Son of God promised. We humbly pray that you would have mercy on us, and for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, awaken in us true knowledge of you. Move us to sincere prayer to your divine majesty, together with the eternal Father, and the Son Jesus Christ. Since you do not want to let us fall into temptation or error, purify our hearts and sanctify us in the fear of God. Awaken in us your true comfort, faith, hope and love. You also want to always uphold your holy Christendom and rule it with true teaching, good counsel, and unity, and to bless the secular governments with your good counsel and peace, that we may worship your divine majesty, together with the eternal Father and the Son Jesus Christ forever, and thank and praise you with joyful hearts; through our mediator Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 291#2) [47.]

THE HOLY TRINITY

Almighty and eternal God, you have taught us to know and confess the true faith, that you are three persons, equal in power and glory, yet one eternal God, whom all Christendom on earth confesses and praises as one true God in three persons. In your Word, you have revealed your name, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You have sent your eternal Son who became fully human for us poor sinners, and those who believe in him receive grace and eternal salvation. Always keep us steadfast and unwavering in this faith, that we may remain blessed with all your elect; you live and reign forever and ever. Amen. (p. 292#1) [48.]

Almighty and eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you have shown us the abundance of your grace. First, eternal Father, you created the whole world, and made us in your image. You, eternal Son of God, became fully human for us, and carried our sin to the cross. And you, eternal Holy Spirit, from eternity you proceed from the Father and Son to give us faith and make us holy through the holy gospel. O one, eternal, almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, uphold us in the true confession of your name and in the true faith throughout our lives, and forever bless us in your grace; you live and reign forever. Amen. (p. 292#2) [49.]

Almighty and eternal God, in your grace you have given us, your servants the duty to confess the true faith of the glory of the eternal Trinity, and the equal unity in power and majesty. Grant that through steadfastness in this faith we may always be empowered, and receive comfort from you in all troubles; For you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, live and reign forever and ever. Amen. (p. 293#1) [50.]

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Lord God, dearest Father, through St. John the Baptist you have pointed us all to our one true comfort, that Jesus Christ, Son of Mary, is the true Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. May we always rejoice in his preaching and find our comfort in it, and finally receive eternal blessedness with John the Baptist and all believers; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (p. 293#2) [51.]

THE VISITATION

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for all your benefits, physical and spiritual, that you so richly have poured out on us. By the example of the dear virgin Mary, protect us against arrogance and false security, that no wisdom, strength or power can help those who do not fear you. Give us, rather, true humility and holy fear, so that we may hold on to your Word, always remain in your mercy and blessing and finally be saved; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 293#2) [52.] (Some parts similar to Veit Dietrich.)

ST. MICHAEL

O Lord, almighty God and Father, we humbly thank you for your holy angels, whom you created and ordered to be ministering spirits to serve those who fear you and to keep them in all their ways and to surround them like an army, so that they may not be led astray by the devil's tyranny and the world's evil. We humbly pray that you would uphold us through your Holy Spirit in the true faith and obedience to your will, that we may always remain under the protection of your dear angels that we may live safely in body and life, house and home, wife and children and all we have on earth, day and night; for the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 294#1) [53.]

APOSTLES' DAYS

O Lord God, we humbly thank you that you have spread abroad the Word of your Gospel over the whole world through your apostles and have showered your grace upon us. Uphold us by the teaching of your holy apostles and give us your Holy Spirit, that we grow and remain in him; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 294#2) [54.]

COLLECTS FOR ANY SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Almighty Lord God, protector of all who hope in you, without your grace no one can act, nor can anything be worthy of your merit. Let your mercy richly come to us that through your holy gifts we may think what is right and through your power, be able to carry it out; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 294#3) [55.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda)

Lord God, heavenly Father, from you we receive many abundant blessings without ceasing, and day by day you graciously protect us from all evil. We pray, through your Spirit give us grace to receive your gifts with thankful hearts, and to confess the true faith, so that we may praise and thank you for your wonderful gifts and graces everywhere; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 295#1) [56.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda)

FOR ALL CHRISTENDOM

Almighty and eternal God, through your Holy Spirit you sanctify and govern your whole Christendom. Hear our prayer, and by your grace grant that we and all your members may serve you in pure faith through your grace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 295#2) [57.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda)

FOR FAITH

Lord God, heavenly Father, in your fatherly love you have given us your Son, that through faith in him we may be saved. Pour your Holy Spirit in our hearts that we may continue steadfast in such faith to the end and obtain eternal salvation; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 295#3) [58.] (Veit Dietrich, Pentecost Monday)

FOR THOSE WHO ERR IN THE FATIH

Almighty, merciful, gracious God and Father, we humbly pray for all who have strayed from the Christian faith, or who have been led astray in some part with false teaching. Seek them out in your fatherly love, lead them to know their error, and bring them back to the right path so that your name may be hallowed and praised, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 295#4) [59.]

FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WORD

Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for giving us your holy Gospel and making your fatherly heart known to us. In your boundless mercy, help us to hold on to this blessed light of your word and through your Holy Spirit guide and govern our hearts, so that we may never stray from it, but hold fast to it and finally be saved; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 296#1) [60.]

Almighty God, heavenly Father, give your Christian church the Spirit of your divine wisdom that your holy Word may be faithfully preached, increased and received, so that your Christendom may grow and endure to the end with steadfast faith in you; with the Son and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, God forever. Amen. (p. 296#2) [61.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, govern and guide us by your Holy Spirit so that we hear and receive your Word with our whole heart, rightly remember your Sabbath Day by regarding your Word as holy, and placing all our trust and hope in Jesus Christ your Son, and improve our lives by living according to your Word, avoid all anger, until we are forever blessed in your presence through your grace in Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 296#3) [62.]

THAT GOD'S KINGDOM WOULD COME

O God, the protector of all who hope in you, without you nothing is strong and nothing is holy. Increase in us your mercy on us, so that, with you as our governor and guide, we may pass through this life with your blessings, and not lose the life that is eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 297#1) [63.] (Based on a Gregorian collect, often assigned to Trinity 3)

O Almighty God, heavenly Father, you gave your Son who has redeemed us from the kingdom of the devil. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and comfort us with it in every need and against all cares. When we have sinned against your Word, graciously forgive us, and through your Holy Spirit, sanctify us so that we are finally saved, that we may praise and glorify your grace and mercy forever; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 297#2) [64.]

FOR FAITHFUL PREACHERS AND CARERS OF SOULS9

O Lord, almighty and gracious God and Father, you have commanded us to pray for faithful workers to gather your harvest, and in your boundless mercy you send us honest servants of your divine Word to put

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⁹ Seelsorger

that saving Word in their hearts and in their mouths, and open their minds, spirits and mouths that they may faithfully proclaim your commands, always teach your Word purely, so that through them we may be encouraged, taught, fed, comforted and strengthened, and be fruitful in every good work; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 297#3) [65.]

THAT GOD'S WILL WOULD BE DONE

Lord, give us a spirit to always think and do what is right. Since we cannot do anything good without you, empower us to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 298#1) [66.] (Based on a Leonine collect for Trinity 8)

Dearest Lord, turn our hearts from everything that does not please you, and through your Spirit enlighten and awaken us, that we may strive to love all that pleases you, and not to follow our own will, but always to accomplish yours; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 298#2) [67.]

Almighty Lord God, give us true faith, and make that faith grow in us day by day. Also, give us hope and love, so that we may serve our neighbors according to your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 298#3) [68.]

FOR SECULAR AUTHORITY

O merciful heavenly Father, all human authority, rights, laws and all the kingdoms of the earth are in your hands. Graciously look on your servants, our emperor, our princes, the council in this city and all other authorities that they may bear the worldly sword that you have given them according to your will. Enlighten and uphold them with your holy divine Word. Dear Lord, give them wisdom and understanding, God-fearing, obedient and teachable hearts, and a successful peaceful rule. O God of our salvation, prolong their days, so that we may have quiet, peaceful and blameless lives under their rule and protection, know the kingdom of your divine grace and the true faith, and serve you, eternal true God and Lord of lords, in holiness and righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 298#4) [69.]

AGAINST THE TURKS AND OTHER ENEMIES OF CHRISTENDOM

Lord God, heavenly Father, we confess everything to you that we have deserved the tyranny of the Turks and other enemies and all kinds of misfortune because of our misdeeds, shameful thanklessness for your dear Word, and prolonged disobedience. But Lord, forgive our sins and mercifully spare us for your name's sake. Defend us against such shameful enemies and protect your poor Christendom against them, so that your Word may spread in peace and we may better our lives in obedience to you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 299#1) [70.]

FOR PEACE

O God, you establish peace and are the fountain of love. Those who know you, love. Those who serve you, rule. Protect your humble servants. Guard them from the attacks of the enemy, so that they may not fear any weapon, since we have committed ourselves to your protection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 299#2) [71.]

Lord God, heavenly Father, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments, and that in our time, through your protection, we may live peacefully and safe from all enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 299#3) [72.] (Also in the Saxon Agenda, last Litany prayer). (p. 299#3) [72.]

Almighty and eternal God, King of glory, Lord of heaven and earth, through your Spirit you rule all things. Through your providence, you order all things. You are a God of peace, and all unity and peace comes from you. Forgive our sins and bless us with your divine peace and unity, that we may serve you in fear of your holy name, and always live to your praise; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (p. 300#1) [73.]

FOR RAIN OR FAIR WEATHER

Lord God, heavenly Father, you are gracious and merciful, and through your Son you have told us that you will be gracious to us in every need. Do not look upon our trespasses, but on our needs and your mercy, and give us a bountiful rain (or give us sunshine and good weather), so that we may strive for our daily bread, and know and praise you as our gracious God and Father; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 300#2) [74.]

O Lord, merciful Father, you rule and nourish all things. Give us, your children, good weather so that our land may be filled with its fruit by your blessing, and that we may see and praise your goodness in all things; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 300#3) [75.]

DURING PESTILENCE

O Lord God, you know what weak and poor creatures we are. Do not repay us for our weak faith and unthankfulness, but make us faithful and strong in our faith, and have mercy on us. Drive back our evil with your mercy, and graciously take away this punishment of pestilence, even though we deserve it. Do not let your poor flock be scattered so miserably, and do not let your enemies rejoice over our weakness of faith, and by that despise your Word and justice. Give us this, most merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord, mediator and intercessor. Amen. (p. 300#4) [76.]

FOR OUR SINS

Merciful God, heavenly Father, your mercy has no end, you are long-suffering, gracious, and you do not delight in the death of the sinner, and you do not desire their destruction, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. We humbly pray that you would graciously turn away the punishments we have earned for our sins, so that we may better reflect your mercy; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 301#1) [77.]¹⁰

FOR OUR ENEMIES

Almighty and eternal God, love and peace pleases you. Give all our enemies true love and desire for peace, and graciously forgive all who offend us, and protect us from their power and treachery; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 301#2) [78.]

FOR THE TROUBLED

Almighty Lord God, you are a comfort for the troubled and strength for the weak. We come before you and pray for all who are in trouble and suffer affliction who sigh and cry to you, that they may receive your gracious help and assistance in all their needs; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 301#3) [79.]

AGAINST THE TYRANNY OF THE DEVIL

Lord God, heavenly Father, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ into this world to destroy the works of the devil and to protect us poor people against such an evil foe. Protect us. Keep us safe. Uphold us in

¹⁰ In the original it says "Merciful God, heavenly Father, your mercy has no end, you are long-suffering, gracious, etc. the rest as in the prayer for Septuagesima Sunday." My assumption is that the beginning of this prayer would be merged with the rest of the Septuagesima prayer.

all affliction by your Holy Spirit so that we may have peace from such enemies and remain forever blessed; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen. (p. 301#4) [80.]

FOR DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL

Lord God, almighty Father, graciously spare us sinners. Although we sin without ceasing and have earned punishment, graciously turn these punishments from us. Finally, deliver us from all the sin, trouble, misery and sorrow in this poor life, that we may attain your eternal righteousness and blessedness; for the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 302#1) [81.]

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty Lord God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift of your Son's body and blood. We pray, in your mercy, that you would bless us with these for the strengthening our faith in you and for increasing the warmth of our love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen. (p. 380#1) [82.]

We thank you, dearest Lord Jesus Christ, for redeeming us by your innocent death and for atoning for all our sins with your precious blood. In your mercy, share with us your redemption, and help us by your grace that we turn from a wicked life and go forward in a new life; as you live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 380#2) [83.]

O dearest Lord Jesus Christ, through this wonderful sacrament you have commanded us to remember your suffering and proclaim it. Move us to make use of this sacrament of your body and blood, that your redemption may bear fruit in us daily; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 380#3) [84.]

Almighty and eternal God, we thank you for your divine mercy in giving us the body and blood of your only beloved Son to eat and to drink. Send your Holy Spirit to work in us, so that as we have received this holy Sacrament with our mouths and hearts, we also may receive your divine grace, forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and that we may hold on to eternal life with a steadfast faith, and keep it forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 381#1) [85.]

O Lord Jesus Christ, you have richly fed and refreshed my soul. Help me to love you with all my heart, truly believe in you, and live according to your will. Finally, grant me a blessed and joyful end that I may live and remain with you forever; as you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever. Amen. (p. 381#2) [86.]

PRAYERS FOR FESTIVAL DAYS WHEN THERE IS NO COMMUNION

Almighty God, we thank you that you have made your holy Word proclaimed and heard among us. In your mercy, work in us true repentance, that our faith in you may be strengthened, our Christian love for each other may be increased, and life among us all may be improved; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (p. 382#1) [87.]