

## Prayer for the Body

### INTRODUCTION

*Please stand as you are able.*

### OPENING LITURGY

P: We, of many backgrounds and identities, personalities, and ideas, gather collectively in shared pursuit of the Sacred.

**C: Together, we make up the body of Christ.**

P: Wherever one of us is in pain,

**C: our whole body aches.**

P: Whenever one of us is cut off,

**C: The whole body is wounded.**

P: Whoever is kept away by discriminatory policies or practices or prejudices,

**C: Our collective body suffers the loss of their presence.**

P: We need one another in order to be whole,

**C: God make us the body of Christ as you envisioned.**

P: May we become your presence enfleshed, in service to the world and one another.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**     *We Are an Offering*     ELW 692

*The assembly is seated.*

**PSALM**     Psalm 139:13-18

**PRAYER**

**READING**     Romans 12:1-13

**PRAYER FOR THE BODY**

The assembly is welcome to share prayers online: [padlet.com](https://padlet.com)

**MUSICAL ACCOMPANIEMENT**

*Come, Let Us Eat*     ELW 491

*One Bread, One Body*     ELW 496

### SENDING PRAYER

A: Let us pray  
Beloved One,  
though you are as close as our own breath,  
still, we treat you as a distant stranger.

**C: Forgive us for the ways we Other you  
because we cannot bear the possibilities  
of recognizing you in our own flesh.**

A: More comfortable with a god we cannot imagine  
than one whose skin is a different color than ours,  
who is disabled, queer, a refugee or stranger,  
we deny the holiness of our neighbors.

We bury the Sacred in us.

Forgive us for believing the ones who tell us  
there's somewhere you'd rather be than here:

**C: In these bodies.**

**On this land.**

**In our neighbors.**

A: O God,  
You alone are the liberator.

**C: You dwell within our bodies.  
You linger around and between us.  
You are always within reach.**

A: That Love is so close,  
That Justice is so near –  
We can hardly believe,  
But God, we desire to.

**C: In the name of Jesus,  
enfleshed Word of God, we pray,  
Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**     *In Christ Called to Baptize*     ELW 575

**DISMISSAL**

*Liturgy adapted from [enfleshed.com](https://enfleshed.com)*