



Prayer Service
Common Day of Prayer
The Diocese of Meru (DME) & the
Greater Milwaukee Synod (GMS)
*September 13, 2025**

Greetings & Announcements—Bishop Paul Erickson

Opening Prayer—Bishop Paul

Music presented courtesy of Sarah Wehmeier-Aparicio/Ascension, Waukesha

TUOMBE—LET US PRAY

+ Global Peace & Reconciliation

GMS Patti Nelson/St. Stephen the Martyr, Greendale

DME Magdalena John/Bethel Parish (new, divided from Imbaseny)

+ Upcoming General Election in Tanzania

GMS Dave Holm/Our Savior's, Oconomowoc

*+ Reconciliation among our Political Parties, Leaders, & Various Groups with
Differing Points of View*

DME Bishop Elias Kitoi/Mulala Parish

+ Reduction of Gun Violence in the U.S.

DME Godwin Nderingo/Maji ya Chai Parish

+ Climate Change Crisis, Weather, & Relief for those affected

GMS Tom Scherbert/Resurrection, New Berlin

DME Tareto Nassari/Kikatiti Parish

+ Ordination of Pastors in the Diocese of Meru on 12/07/2025

GMS Sarah Wehmeier-Aparicio/Ascension, Waukesha

*+ New leadership in the ELCA—Presiding Bishop Rev. Yehiel Curry &
Secretary—Rev. Lucille “CeeCee” Mills*

DME Sirieli Pallangyo/Mulala Parish

- † Strengthening & Growth of our Partnership
GMS Gloria Becker/Adoration, Greenfield
DME Pastor Ndelekwa Pallangyo/Maruvango Parish
- † DME Economic Initiatives and Development Projects
GMS Gloria Goodrich/St. Luke's Waukesha
- † For Immigrants in the U.S. who are Living in Fear or have been Unjustly Separated from their Families
DME Dr. Sam Kiwesa/Imbaseni Parish
- † Growth and Sustainability of Diocesan Schools and Health Facilities
GMS Pat Gardner/St. Matthew's Wauwatosa

Music presented courtesy of the Diocese of Meru

Greetings & Comments—Bishop Elias Kitoi Nassari

Closing Prayer—Bishop Kitoi

The Lord's Prayer

Kiswahili—DME Pastor Ndelekwa Pallangyo/Assistant to the Bishop

English—GMS Pastor Lindsay Jordan/St. Luke's Waukesha



Go in Peace to Love & Serve the Lord

** Today's observance is the 9th annual Common Day of Prayer between the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod. Our respective partner churches will also be offering these concerns in their weekend worship services.*

2025 Common Day of Prayer | Prayer Request Prayers as listed in Program

1. Global Peace & Reconciliation

GMS: written by Julie Starks & read by Patti Nelson/both from St. Stephen the Martyr, Greendale

We pray to you dear God, for Peace. A peace that is everlasting and ever present. A peace that comforts and envelops us all with your love. A peace that warms the hearts of those who are so hardened to those they see as the "enemy" that they do not see them as people. We ask dear God, that we see one another as fellow human beings in the world we have been given and live in. Help us to live with one another as neighbors, sharing what you have given us. Provide the words for us to speak to one another that heal past transgressions, that promote future peaceful relationships and that demonstrate trust in the moment. We humbly ask this to better honor you and this place you have given us. *Amen*

DME: written & read by Magdalena John/Bethel Parish

Lord of all Creation, we come before you with humble hearts, asking for your gift of peace and reconciliation to continue in the countries of Ukraine, Russia, Palestine, Israel, Iran and other countries with conflict and war.

Lord, we ask you for peace. We pray for the children, women and elderly who are victims of injustice and violence, but also for those who have caused suffering. We pray for those who cannot enter their places of work. We pray for those who have lost their beloved ones.

We pray for those who have to live with permanent disability.

We pray for politicians, grant them wisdom and courage to search for reconciliation and peace.

Lord, we ask you to grant all to live in calm, peace and prosperity. We ask you to revive again the spirit of love among People, Countries and Nations.

Help us to build a culture of peace, justice and reconciliation.

O God hear my voice and grant unto the world your everlasting peace, love and reconciliation.

In Jesus name I pray. *Amen*.

2. **The Upcoming General Election Scheduled for October 2025 in Tanzania**

GMS: written by Deb Kohler/Galilee, Pewaukee & read by Dave Holm/Our Savior's Oconomowoc

Almighty God, under your law we live, and by your will we govern ourselves. Now, when elections are approaching in Tanzania, we turn to you asking you to guide those who aspire to hold office in government to do their work in a spirit of kindness and justice. Give all in authority the wisdom and strength to know your will and do it. Help them remember that they are called to serve all people as lovers of truth and justice. In Jesus' name we pray, *Amen*.

3. **Reconciliation among our Political Parties, Leaders, & Various Groups with Differing Points of View**

DME: written & read by Bishop Elias Kitoi/Mulala Parish

Caring God, you hold our world together in harmony, peace and cords of Love.

Please God provide reconciliation powers among political parties; leaders and various groups that have differing opinions and points of views in the political arena-USA

Leader: Lord in your Mercy.

Congregation: *Asante sana Yesu*.

4. **Reduction of Gun Violence in the U.S.**

DME: written & read by Godwin Nderingo/Maji ya Chai Parish

Lord Jesus, we thank you for the gift of life that you have provided to us. We also thank you for the Partnership between the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod that always shows the love of God to His people.

This special day we come to you Lord with heavy hearts, mourning for the lives lost due to gun violence across the United States of America. Many innocent people have perished and others remained crippled by the brutality of others. We also ask you for a comfort for those who lost their beloved ones and keep them away from thoughts of revenge. Help those who witnessed the violence heal from horror and scars of what they saw.

As we remember those who lost their lives, we ask you to transform the minds of law makers and rulers so that they can see the weight of each soul and make policies that are stricter on possession and usage of fire arms. Let the scientists invest more on matters that save lives than matters that cause destruction.

Our Savior continues to embrace this Partnership and teach us the importance of unity and the fruits that are the result of togetherness.

Glorified be your Name Jesus Christ.

5. **Climate Change, Weather, & Relief for those Affected**

GMS: written by Andy Toth & read by Tom Scherbert/both from Resurrection New Berlin

Bwana Asifiwe! (Response: Amen!!!)

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for all peoples and governments to recognize that our global climate is indeed changing, and that they take steps to reduce the ways that humans contribute to those changes.

We pray that the periods of extreme weather will be less frequent and less severe, so that homes and lives are not so frequently at risk. We pray too, for timely help for those whose homes and livelihoods have been damaged or destroyed by severe weather. And we pray for comfort and healing for those who have been injured or lost loved ones to storms and extreme heat.

We pray for shelter from the extreme heat, and clean, safe water to sustain life.

We pray for predictable seasons for farmers to know when to plant so that sunshine and beneficial rains can combine to yield bountiful crops.

Help us to find ways to restore and preserve your great earth, Lord. *Amen*

DME: written & read by Tareto Nassari/Kikatiti Parish

We glorify you our Heavenly Father, the Lord of Lords, for the gift of life you have given us and so many other blessings in our daily life.

We thank you so much that when we come to you and pray for happy and sorrowful events you hear and answer our prayers.

This day we come before you our Lord for Climate Change crisis which has caused sufferings in many countries in the world. As we see the results of Climate crisis our hearts grieve.

The Lord of mercy we are praying you to provide relief for the countries facing or have already faced the floods, wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters.

Be the comfort of people who have lost their loved ones, shelters, properties, and other basic needs, our able Lord!

We know and believe that you will provide them with whatever they need for their survival Father. We pray and trust in you, our Lord. *Amen.*

6. The Ordination of Pastors in the Diocese of Meru on 7th December 2025

GMS: written & read by Sarah Wehmeier-Aparicio/Ascension, Waukesha

For the men and women who will be ordained as pastors in the Diocese of Meru in December, we pray that God may strengthen them with His Holy Spirit, guide them in proclaiming the Gospel, and bless them in their faithful service to the congregations entrusted to their care. We ask God to give all pastors strength and endurance to face the challenges of ministry. We pray for their physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. We ask God to fill these pastors with love and compassion for the members of the church and to bless them with a heart that is patient, forgiving, and understanding. Help these new pastors to remain humble, relying on God's strength and guidance rather than their own, and remind them that they are never alone. Let us pray to the Lord. *Amen*

7. New Leadership in the ELCA—Presiding Bishop & Secretary

DME: Sireli Pallangyo/Mulala Parish

Almighty God, we thank you for giving us a gift by granting us a new presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry to lead the ELCA. You know him more than us. Dear Lord give him your wisdom and strength to lead your church. Let him be your good ambassador. In your grace make him a good connector for your entire church, not only in America, Tanzania and Africa, but your entire world. We ask this in Jesus' name our Lord. *Amen.*

8. Strengthening & Growth of our Partnership

GMS: written by Sue Johnson/Vernon, Mukwonago & read by Gloria Becker/Adoration, Greenfield

Good and gracious God, we come to you with grateful hearts for the partnership between the Greater Milwaukee Synod and the Diocese of Meru. We are grateful for the congregations of the Greater Milwaukee Synod who have been walking in faith with their Tanzanian brothers and sisters. Please continue to strengthen and grow these relationships with honesty, love, compassion, and companionship. Help us to grow the partnership by speaking to additional congregations so they can experience the love of God that our parishes in the Diocese of Meru share with us, helping us to grow stronger in our faith. We ask this in Your name. AMEN.

DME: written & read by Pastor Ndelekwa Pallangyo/Maruvango Parish

Heavenly Father, giver of every good and perfect gift, thank you for the partnership between the Diocese of Meru and the Greater Milwaukee Synod. We are grateful that we can stand together in serving your kingdom.

We ask for strength and unity in our partnership as we serve your people. Remove anything that may hinder collaboration among our churches, and bind us together with unbreakable cords of love. Send your Holy Spirit to sustain and grow our partnership for future generations. Guide us so our shared goals advance your kingdom.

May our partnership projects outreach and missions reflect your love for all people Lord, we dedicate this partnership to you; strengthen us to bring hope and light to the world. We pray this in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. *Amen.*

9. Economic Initiatives & Development Projects

GMS: written by Diane Voit & read by Gloria Goodrich/both from St. Luke's Waukesha

God of abundance, we thank you for all you have given us, knowing that your desire is for us to have life abundantly. Thank you for the economic success of the Mt Meru Coffee Project for the past 25 years. We pray for God's continued blessings on the coffee project as we pray for more people to drink the coffee that is grown by the farmers on Mt. Meru. Thank you for the economic development possible through the Hope Seeds Initiative.

Thank you for the small businesses that rent the spaces at the Huduma House. Our partners in Meru are seeking to develop the 78 surveyed plots of land that make up the Makumira Farm property. Lord, help us to discern your will as we work together to create jobs and generate sustainable income for the church through this long-term economic development that supports spiritual, social, and economic empowerment. Bless all the efforts of the faithful people of Meru. In the name of your son, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

10. **Immigrants in the U.S. who are Living in Fear or have been Unjustly Separated from their Families**

DME: written & read by Dr. Sam Kiwesa/Imbaseni Parish

God of Mercy and Justice, we lift up to you all immigrants in the Land – USA. Those who walk in uncertainty, those who live in fear, and those who have been torn from the ones they love.

You know the pain of exile, the ache of separation, and the longing of home.

You walked among the outcast, sought refuge as child and welcomed the stranger.

Wrap your arms around every mother and father longing for their children.

Hold every child crying for their parents.

Let no one be forgotten in detention, no soul be lost in silence.

Move the hearts of those in power to act with compassion and courage. Stir in us the will to defend the dignity of every person, regardless of where they were born or how they crossed a border

May your justice roll down like waters, and your peace settle like a mantle over every migrant's pass.

Until every family is made whole, until safety is not privilege but a right, and until love drives out fear, be their shelter their strength and their hope. *Amen*

11. Growth & Sustainability of Diocesan Schools & Health Facilities

GMS: written & read by Pat Gardner/St. Matthew's Wauwatosa

Creator God, you came amongst us as both a teacher and a healer and taught your disciples to continue your work caring for each other and our neighbors. We are grateful for the continued partnership between the Greater Milwaukee Synod and the Diocese of Meru, and the work undertaken to live out this command.

We pray for your continued presence and blessing upon the diocesan schools, teachers and students. We ask for your blessing on the teachers who continue to shepherd students despite ongoing challenges and shortages. Their work uplifts lives and educates in a foundation of the Word. Bless the students with a thirst for knowledge and those pursuing vocations, and give the power of wisdom to the administrators who support this work. May our Milwaukee Synod partners support the needs of the diocesan learners and educators as we work to lift each other.

We are grateful for the healing arts practiced throughout the Meru community supported by the Diocese, its clinicians and the physical places of healing. May their work continue to support the total health of the community; physical, social, spiritual and mental health. May your presence support healing that strengthens the body and spirit, so fearfully and wonderfully made. May we continue to learn from each other in promoting a life centered on you and healthy living.

We ask these things in your name. Bwana Asifiwe, *Amen*.