

## Prayers for the confirmation candidates

Fra Gudstjenestebok for Den norske kirke, Del II: Kirkelige handlinger (1992).

### 14a

L | Let us pray for our candidates.

L | Eternal God, heavenly Father, we give you thanks for accepting us into your kingdom through holy baptism. We pray that you show the paths to faith to our confirmation candidates, so that they daily might turn to you, and throughout their lives thus learn to know your son Jesus Christ.

M | Lord, hear our prayer.

L | Lord God, guide these candidates through your Spirit when they meet this troubling and challenging world. They will meet many temptations; fortify them with your strength. Help them to pray and faithfully to turn to your word and the sacrament of communion. Help them find their home in your Christian church, so that they, together with all who believe in you, may confess your name, and in words and deeds both thank and serve you.

M | Lord, hear our prayer.

A | Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

### 14b

A short intercessory hymn (e.g. Take, O take me as I am (John Bell)) See Ancient and modern, 2013, nr. 336

### 14c

Prayers for each candidate

L | Dear candidates, You were baptised into the Christian faith. You have been taught the Christian faith. Come forth to the altar of the Lord, so that we may pray for each of you in the name of Jesus.

The candidates go forth to the altar in suitably large groups, and kneel at the altar rails.

The liturgist/priest/pastor then lays hands upon the head of each candidate (the name of each candidate is read aloud) in turn, saying one of the following prayers on behalf of them:

1. Triune God, we pray for NN. You have made us your children through baptism; give *her/him* a firm faith so that *s/he* may gain eternal life.
2. Most merciful God, we pray for NN. In Christ you have called us to your eternal glory; keep *her/him* in the grace of baptism until the coming of Christ.
3. Heavenly Father, we pray for NN. Through baptism you have freed us from the powers of darkness and given us a place in your kingdom; strengthen and keep *her/him* for eternal life.
4. Faithful God, we pray for NN. In baptism you have called us to be with you; keep *her/him* through your power, so that *s/he* can gain eternal salvation in faith in Christ Jesus.
5. Heavenly Father, we pray for NN. You have given us new life in baptism and given us a living hope in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; through your Holy Spirit strengthen *her/him* to eternal life.
6. O Lord our God, we pray for NN. You have saved us and sent us a holy calling in baptism; grant the *s/he* might be steadfast in your salvation and be part of your eternal glory, through your Holy Spirit.
7. O God, our Father in heaven, we pray for NN. You have cleansed us in baptism and made us your own people; help *her/him* through your Holy Spirit to fight the good fight and strive for eternal life with you.

Following the intercessions for each group, the liturgist/priest/pastor goes to the altar and says:

L | Peace be with you.

The groups of confirmation candidates then stand and go back to their places.

## Concluding words

When the prayers have been said for each candidate, the liturgist/priest/pastor (at the altar, westward facing) or the catechist or another representative for the congregation (from the ambo or other suitable place in the choir) reads a short greeting, which may be in the following form:

Dear congregation,

We have prayed for these candidates together. Let us also help them so that they may live the Christian faith, and mature in service to God and to each other. Let us encourage each other to read and use the word of God and the sacrament of communion and take the path which leads to eternal life.

Those who have been confirmed today will continue to be enveloped by the prayers of this congregation. God is faithful and his love is unfathomable and without boundaries. Even in times of apathy, loss and doubt, God will be near and call you to be with him. Keep yourselves near to him. He will then complete his good works in you until the day Christ comes again.

The service concludes thereafter with a closing hymn and blessing.