

# Collects for Lutheran Bible Translators – Canada

January

Almighty and everlasting God, You would have all people (souls) come to the knowledge of salvation that is theirs through faith in Christ Jesus. Through the power of the Holy Spirit CALL labourers into the field of Bible translation that all people everywhere may come to know You and Your great love for them in their heart language. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

February

Merciful Father, look with favour upon the countless people who have never heard of You in their mother tongue. Open the window of Your Holy Word to them that they may see You as their God, repent of their sins and iniquities, and rejoice in knowing that they have become a part of the family of God through faith in Christ Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. In the Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

March

Lord Jesus Christ, You suffered the pain of hell for the sake of lost mankind. Salvation from sin has been prepared for everyone, however many remain ignorant of this salvation for lack of God's Word in their own language. Fill Bible translators with a rich measure of the Holy Spirit as they struggle to produce the written Word in the language of the people who still sit in darkness. For the sake of Jesus and His work of redemption we pray. Amen

April

Alleluia! He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! Countless people around the world rejoice in the knowledge of victory over sin, death, and the devil earned for them through the death of Jesus on the cross and resurrection from the grave. Countless people remain in the darkness of their sins because they have never heard of the mercy, love, and compassion God has prepared for them in Christ Jesus. Through Bible translation tear open the curtain hiding the Written Word of God from them. Use this written Word of God to Call them into Your eternal family through faith in Christ Jesus their Saviour. Amen.

May

Dear Heavenly Father, Your Son came into the world to redeem lost mankind by carrying out Your will to perfection. He has completed the work of redemption for all who place their faith in Him as their Saviour from sin. Once His work of redemption was completed, He returned to His eternal Glory to take His rightful place as the eternal Son of God. Just as Jesus revealed the Word of God to us in a way we could understand so open His Word to people of all nations in words they can understand. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

June

Oh Holy Spirit, Comforter and Counsellor, dwell in the hearts and souls of the Children of God and cause them to diligently work at bringing the message of salvation in written form to the people of all nations. Help the Bible translators find the right words in a new language to clearly explain the law and the gospel to the readers. Since "Faith comes by hearing (reading)" it is important that all readers and listeners

understand what is read so they can believe and receive the gift of salvation for themselves. This we ask in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

## July

Heavenly Father Almighty God, we remember the time Jesus sent out the “Seventy-two” to bring the message of salvation through faith in Jesus to every community throughout the land. This message of salvation has been brought to people down through the ages and continues to this very day through the efforts of your faithful disciples. Empower them with the Holy Spirit to share the Good News with people in words they can understand in their native tongue. Call out men and women gifted in languages to write Your Words in the heart language of the people whose souls are still veiled in darkness. Open the window of the light of Your “Good News” to them for the sake of their eternal salvation. In the Name of Jesus our Saviour we pray. Amen

## August

Dear Lord, You have graciously sown the seed of Your salvation in our hearts and souls when You CALLED us through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the preaching and teaching of Your Word. This seed of eternal life has grown and become mature in us down through the years. We know we have the gift of eternal life but too often we are tempted to rest on this knowledge and live each day as it comes. Teach us Lord to know and remember that Your “Good News” is not to be kept in a store house, but shared freely and liberally with people everywhere. Open our hearts, O Lord, to give freely to others what has been so freely given to us through the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. This we ask in Jesus’ Name. Amen

## September

Dear God, the cost of being Your disciples is no small matter. Jesus spent His life for us and gave us His “ALL” so we could be His now and in glory. As His disciples we are to “take up our cross and follow Him” doing the work prepared in advance for us to do. (Eph. 2:10) Motivate and move us to put aside the cravings and desires of this life to serve You as an active missionary, Bible translator, supporter in the field, volunteer at home, financial contributor, and prayer warrior. One person can accomplish much with the encouragement of many fellow disciples. With the power of the Holy Spirit working in us we will gain the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

## October

Dear Heavenly Father, when Jesus lived among us He gave us “Words of Wisdom” to live by. He once said that when a servant came out of the field at the end of the day, he should not expect his master to serve him. Rather, he should continue serving the master until the master was satisfied and before he could take care of his own needs. Help us remember that we are Your servants and are to do the work You have set before us to do. Instil within us a full measure of desire and determination to serve You with our whole being in bringing the message of our Lord Jesus Christ to people everywhere in the language that is native to their tongue. Bless us in this work as only You can for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

## November

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we're coming to the end of the church year where we are reminded that our life in this world will come to an end. What happens to us after we die? Some say that when we die, we cease to exist. However, Jesus assures us that there is much more. He told us that even Moses at the "Burning Bush" declared that God is the God of Abraham and Isaac, and Jacob. God is the God of the "living" for all are alive to Him even if their physical bodies are in the grave. Since life goes on for all people, help us spread the "Good News of Salvation" by every means at our disposal. Help us reach the lost sheep of this world by touching their ears, hearts, and souls, with message of salvation found through faith in Christ Jesus. May this world come to its end finding Your Banquet Hall full of souls from all nations that looked with eyes of faith to Jesus as their Saviour. This we ask In the Name of Jesus. Amen

December

Dear Heavenly Father, before Jesus came into the world You sent John the Baptist ahead of Him to prepare the people for Him and His message. John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and declared Him to be "The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." In John the Baptist we see an example for us to follow. We have become Your children and it is now up to us to point others to Jesus as their Saviour and Redeemer. But for us to do this important work we must speak the language of the people. To this end raise up gifted men and women who will shoulder the work of Bible translation and with the power of the Holy Spirit bring their work to a successful conclusion for the sake of souls sitting in the darkness of their sins. Bring the light of Jesus into their lives for the sake of their eternal salvation. This we ask in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen