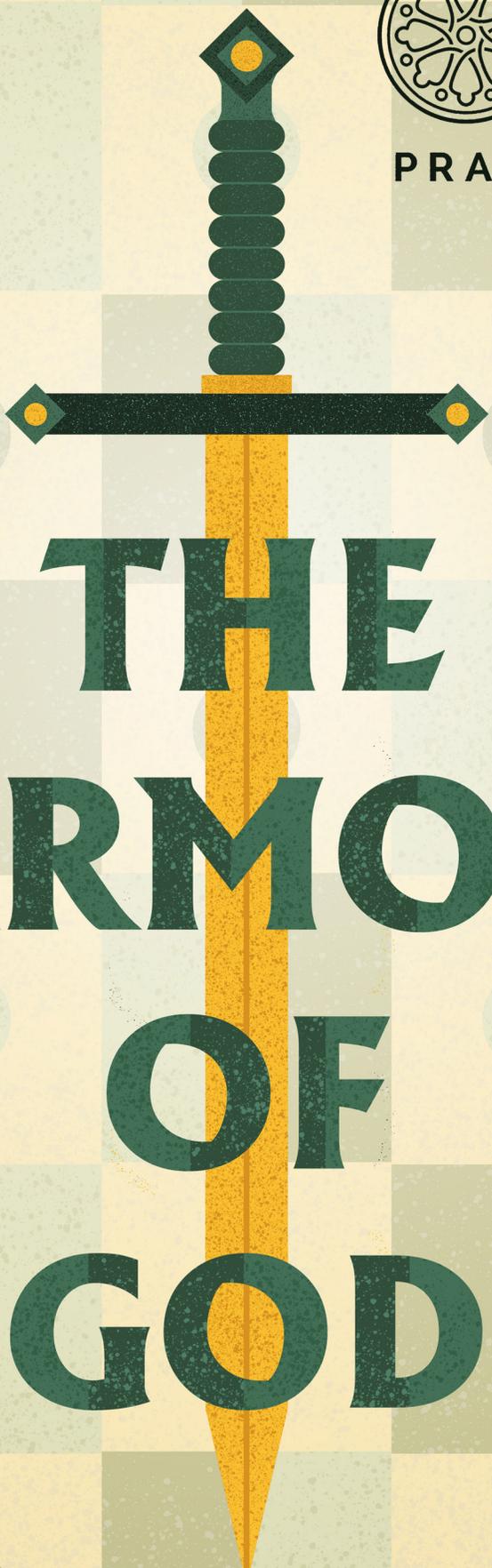
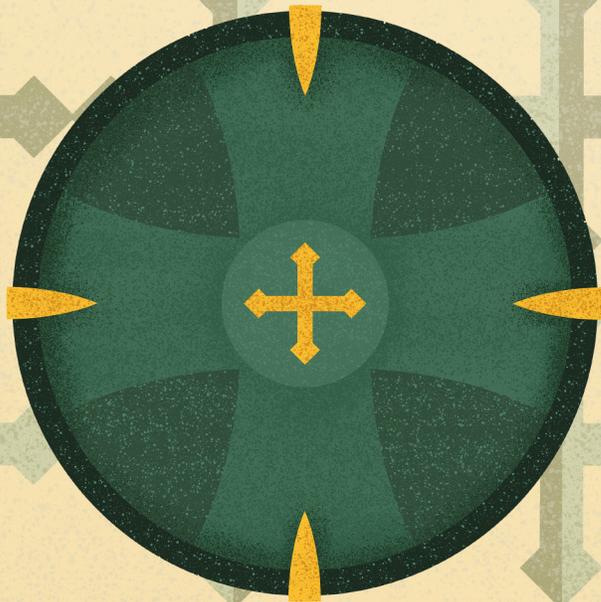
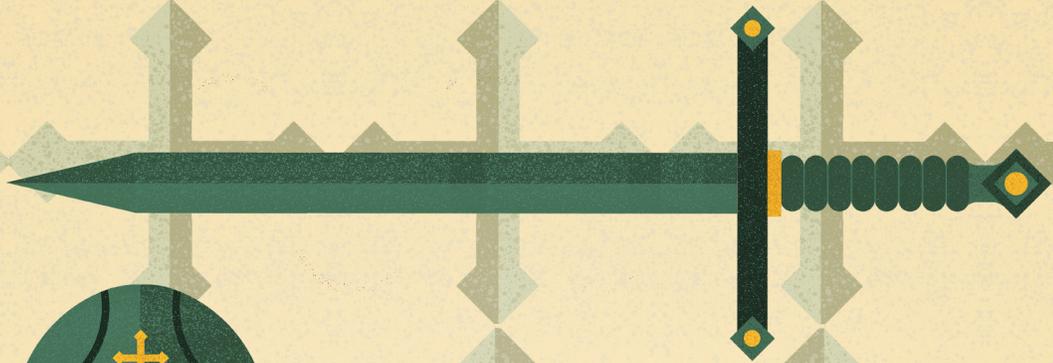


LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

PRAYER RESOURCE

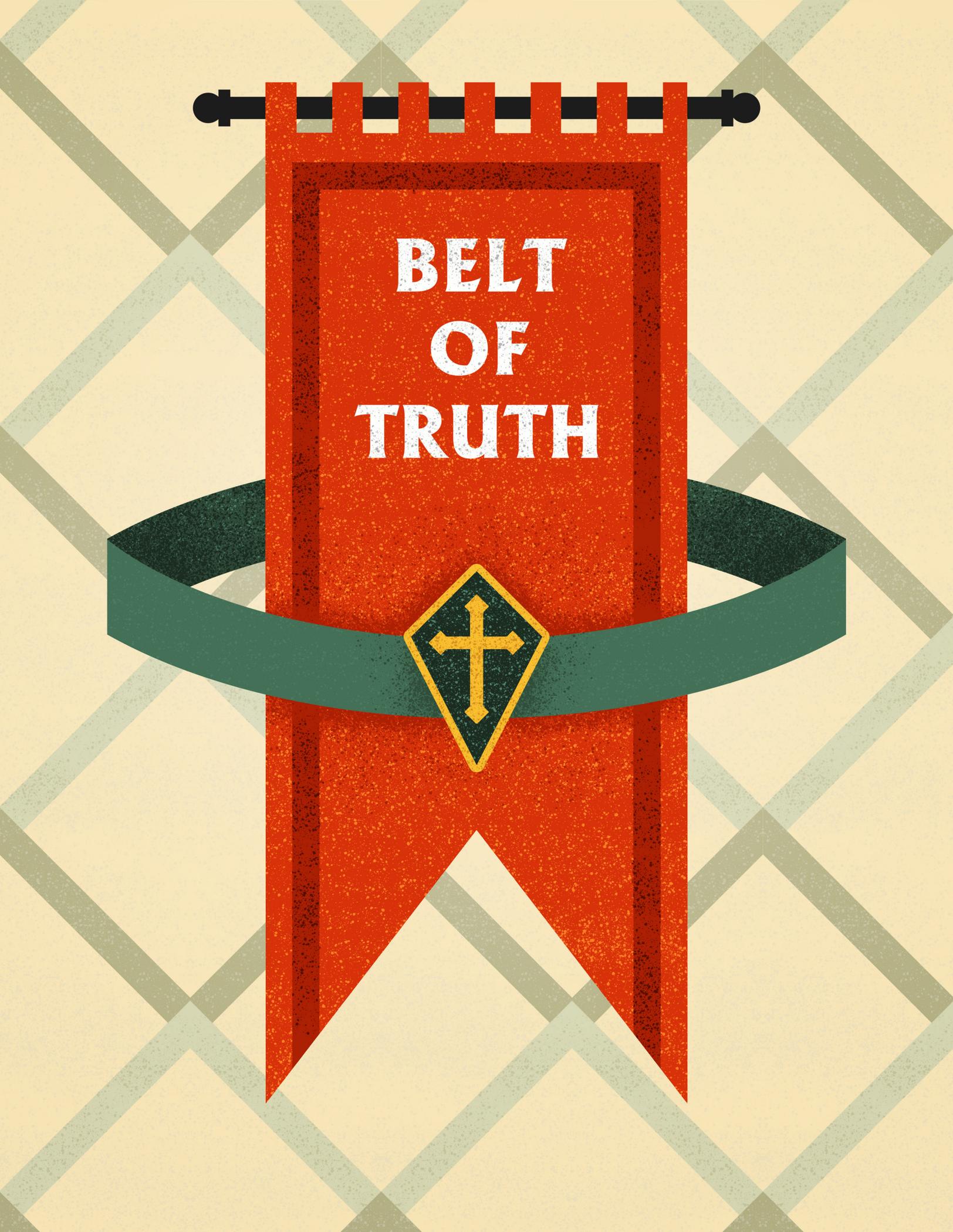


**THE
ARMOR
OF
GOD**



Good King, as your disciples, we are at war. Our enemies – the self, the world, and the devil – relentlessly attack us in hopes that we will grow to hate what God loves and love what God hates. Enable us to lay aside laziness and laxity and to live vigilantly, knowing that we are hunted by the enemy. As we fight, please keep our focus on who the real enemy is. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, authorities, and powers of this dark world and the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm. We confess that we do not have the power, resources, or stamina to face the battle day after day. Like Jehoshaphat, we exclaim: “We have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you.” Enable us to be strong in the Lord and in your mighty power and to put on the whole armor of God that we may be able to stand against the devil’s schemes. We rest in you, our Shield and our Defender, and we ask that you would plant deeply in our hearts and minds this battle song: “‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the LORD Almighty.” In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

**BELT
OF
TRUTH**



Holy God, we praise you for disclosing yourself to us in your Word. What an unspeakable privilege to know you intimately through Spirit-inspired revelation! We understand that our first task of engaging in the spiritual fight is to put on the belt of truth. You call us to this daily, deliberate, and decisive action which acknowledges that it is wartime. With belt tightened, help us show ourselves alert and ready. Forgive us for our laziness and our presumption that someone else will put it on for us. Give us vigilance that we might gird ourselves with truth in order to be set free to fight. Jesus, you prayed before your Father, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth." We ask now for your Spirit to provide us with diligence and discipline so that each day truth is the first thing we put on. May we hear, read, memorize, meditate, and sing your Word so that it governs every aspect of our embattled lives. Give us faith to believe that although we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does, as the weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. Make truth our life support so that we stand ready to "demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." Strengthen us in truth. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**BREASTPLATE OF
RIGHTEOUSNESS**



Giver of grace, we adore you, for you are our righteousness! We praise you for sending Jesus, the spotless and sinless Son of God, who has rendered a perfect obedience to every part of your law. And yet, though perfectly righteous, you made him responsible for our sins, and he perfectly bore them in his own body on the cross. Jesus, you are our perfect, final, and sufficient substitute and our perfect, final, and sufficient record of righteousness. You are our impenetrable breastplate by faith through grace. Your righteousness imputed to us guards us from Satan's fiery darts of lies and accusations against us. On our own, we have no armor to guard us against the judgment of sin and death. But now, with Martin Luther, we can proclaim, "When Satan tells me I am a sinner he comforts me immeasurably, since Christ died for sinners." May the truth of our justification by faith alone, in Christ alone, be our guard and our defense all of our days. Help us remember our union with you that allows us to stand each day in you. When we are embattled with enemy attacks of unbelief, unworthiness, and insufficiency, show us our sure and certain breastplate of righteousness: "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

SHOES OF PEACE



Prince of Peace, we praise you that in Christ we stand firm in the security of favor with God as we engage in spiritual battle. Understanding that Paul had in mind the strong sandal of a Roman soldier with firm straps and studs, help us to acknowledge that as believers we are in wartime and not on vacation. We are too often lazy and dull and become easy prey as we wander about in casual flip flops rather than sturdy battle shoes. The shoes of peace that you command us to wear demonstrate our need in the Christian life for stability, protection, and mobility. We thank you for the confident stability that we gain in the Gospel of peace that keeps us from falling and becoming easy prey for the enemy. We also thank you for the protection of your Word that guards us from camouflaged traps of deceit and danger. Make us watchful and alert for the enemy's schemes and protect us when we are in the hard hour of temptation. Finally, help us to recognize that, though we stand firm to suit up, we suit up to go out. Clothed with the shoes of peace, enable us to live as the sent ones who go throughout the world of war with the hope of Gospel peace. While we move toward your mission, maintain our unity with others who share our sandals, and deliver peace within by removing anxiety and worry from our minds. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

SHIELD OF



FAITH

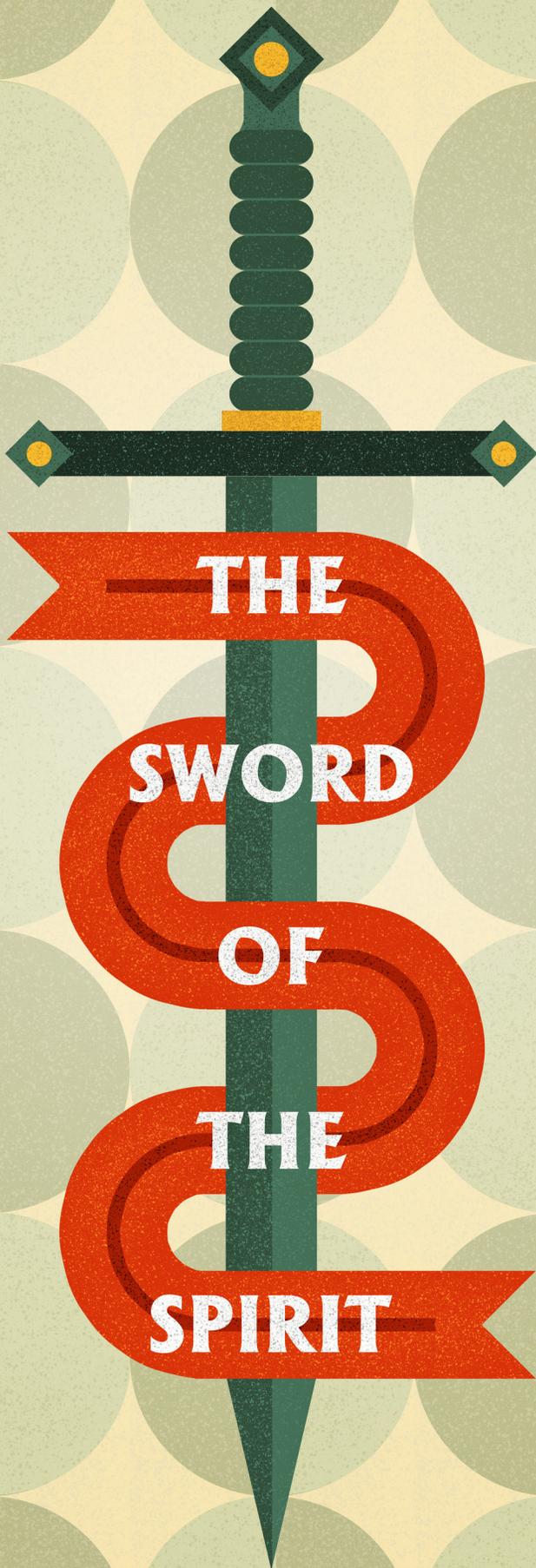
Our Shield and our Defender, we rest in you. You are our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. We adore you and give thanks for your protection in the battle. Enable us to hide in you like Roman soldiers who hid behind fireproof metal shields that covered them like a door. Increase our faith so that when the evil one throws fiery darts at us, we can extinguish them by faith in you. When we think of you, by faith defend us from darts of falsehood that would lead us to doubt your goodness, justice, wisdom, and love. When we engage in prayer, by faith defend us from the dart of distraction. When we find ourselves in trial, by faith defend us from darts of doubt and fear. When we pick up your Word for study, by faith defend us from darts of worry, fatigue, and mindlessness. As we engage in relationships, defend us from the darts of pride, division, and bitterness. Make us ever aware that the darts may fly at any moment. All our days, cover us with faith that what you promise, you perform, and that what you reveal about your character is reality. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



**HELMET OF
SALVATION**



God of all truth, we praise you that your words are true and eternal. Forgive us for how frequently and flippantly we exchange the truth of God for a lie. Hearing Paul's call to put on our helmet of salvation, empower us to demolish every pretension and argument that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. Grant us discipline and diligence to take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. As those who have been raised with Christ, knowing that our life is hidden with Christ, enable us to set our hearts and minds on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Deepen our knowledge of the fullness of our salvation. For not only have we been saved, but we are being saved and one day will be saved forever, fully and finally. Praise to you, the Author and Finisher of our salvation! When we are tempted to lose heart or doubt the truth, may your Spirit bring us sure confidence that indeed our salvation is nearer than when we believed. Grounded in your revealed Word, may our minds be rooted in whatever is true, noble, right, pure, holy, lovely, admirable, excellent, or praise-worthy. Lord, we recognize that as your church, we are "mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of war." Convince us in mind and heart that the day is surely coming when "the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest." In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.



THE

SWORD

OF

THE

SPIRIT

Our Faithful God, who with delight chooses to reveal himself by his Spirit and Word, we praise and thank you. When we consider the way our Lord Jesus, the Word made flesh, resisted the temptation of the devil with the weapon of your Word and the filling of the Spirit, we are rebuked in our arrogance. We so often seek to win the battle in our own strength and not by the sword of the Spirit, your Word. Forgive us, we pray, because of the finished work of Christ Jesus. Teach us to resist the devil with the truth of Scripture in full confidence that he will flee when we take up the sword. We remember that, in the garden, the tempter questioned our first parents, "Did God really say?" Remind us that failure to remember what you have said to us ruins us with misery and death. Enable us to be a people who delight in the law of the Lord and meditate on your Word day and night so that we may be like a tree firmly planted no matter what season or temptation. Strengthen us to remember that all Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that we, servants of God, may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. Convince us that our only offensive weapon in the armor of God is the Word of God. Make us warriors of your Word who are ready to resist the devil and attack the enemy with your truth. For the sake of your glory and our good, we ask this in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Amen.



PRAYING

AT

ALL

TIMES

We praise you, God, for your constant and faithful attention to us. Kindly and wisely, you hear our prayers. We adore you. After calling us to put on the full armor of God, you command us through Paul to pray at all times. May we put on each piece of armor prayerfully. Remind us that we can only enjoy the protection and provision of the armor of God when we wear it while relying and depending on you. We confess to you that our lives do not embody our belief that apart from you we can do nothing. We often fight in our own resources, strive by our own strength, and hope in our own ability. Forgive us and dress us in the strong provision of Christ. In this relentless and daily battle, as followers of Jesus, teach us that “the only way to avoid fainting is to pray” (Luke 18:1). For the glory of God and our strength in the fight, please foster in us these realities: unceasing prayer, vigilant petitions, and dependent wakefulness. Make prayer prominent among us. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.