



## Prayer for the Season

### 'We Shall Grow in All Ways into Christ'

#### Introduction

We gather today during the Church's quiet season of Ordinary Time. This is the 'green' season, the season for growth and transformation. The growth that we celebrate is the growth of Christ's life in us. During Ordinary Time we are given the opportunity to listen carefully to the word of God over many weeks. As we listen, the word is planted deeply in our hearts and begins to grow. Slowly, we begin to understand what it means to live like Christ.

#### Reading *Colossians 3:12–17*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.<sup>1</sup>

Silent reflection

#### Response

Leader: If we live by the truth and in love

**ALL: We shall grow in all ways into Christ.**

Leader: Christ is the head. From him the whole body is fitted and joined together.

**ALL: We shall grow in all ways into Christ.**

Leader: Every part adding its own strength, working according to its function

**ALL: We shall grow in all ways into Christ.**

Leader: So the body grows until it has built itself up in love

**ALL: We shall grow in all ways into Christ.**

c.f. Eph 4:15–16

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