

# A Service of Healing Prayer For Tuesday of Holy Week

April 7, 2020

## Gather in the Name of God

*Officiant* God's peace be to all who are gathered here today for healing prayer.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Officiant* Let us pray.

Gracious God, we commend to your loving care all who suffer, especially those who come seeking your healing grace for themselves or others. Give them patience and hope in their distress; strengthen and uphold them in mind and body, and grant, by your intervention, that all your people may be made whole. *Amen.*

## Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength--he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The Word of the Lord,  
Response: *Thanks be to God*

## Psalm 71:1-14

1

In you, O God, have I taken refuge; \*  
let me never be ashamed.

2

In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; \*  
incline your ear to me and save me.

3

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; \*  
you are my crag and my stronghold.

4

Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, \*  
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

5

For you are my hope, O GOD, \*  
my confidence since I was young.

6

I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;  
from my mother's womb you have been my strength; \*  
my praise shall be always of you.

7

I have become a portent to many; \*  
but you are my refuge and my strength.

8

Let my mouth be full of your praise \*  
and your glory all the day long.

9

Do not cast me off in my old age; \*  
forsake me not when my strength fails.

10

For my enemies are talking against me, \*  
and those who lie in wait for my life take counsel together.

11

They say, "God has forsaken him;  
go after him and seize him; \*  
because there is none who will save."

12

O God, be not far from me; \*  
come quickly to help me, O my God.

13

Let those who set themselves against me be put to shame and be  
disgraced; \*

let those who seek to do me evil be covered with scorn and reproach.

14

But I shall always wait in patience, \*  
and shall praise you more and more.

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord,

Response: *Thanks be to God*

## Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; \*

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; \*

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his  
Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; \*  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of  
mine enemies; \*  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days  
of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### **John 12:20-36**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say--`Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

The Word of the Lord,  
Response: *Thanks be to God*

*Question: How has your unexpected time at home offered you a chance of healing (physically, spiritually, emotionally), or not?*

### **A Litany for Healing**

*The Leader introduces the Litany with this bidding*

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers.

*The People audibly name those for whom they are interceding.*

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying "Hear and have mercy"

Holy God, source of health and salvation,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Holy and Mighty, wellspring of abundant life,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Holy Immortal One, protector of the faithful,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Grant your grace to heal those who are sick, we pray to you, O God,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Comfort, relieve, and heal all sick children, we pray to you, O God,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Give courage to all who await surgery, we pray to you, O God,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Support and encourage those who live with chronic illness, we pray to you, O God,  
*"Hear and have mercy"*

Strengthen those who endure continual pain, and give them hope, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Grant refreshment of peaceful sleep to all who suffer, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Give rest to the weary, and hold the dying in your loving arms, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation and hope of joy, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Uphold those who keep watch with the sick, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease, we pray to you, O God,  
*“Hear and have mercy”*

O God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you

for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory now and forever. *Amen*

### **Confession of Need**

Let us confess our need for God’s healing grace,

*Silence*

*Leader and People*

Compassionate God,  
we confess our weaknesses and our need for your  
strengthening touch,  
We confess that some illnesses stem from our own fault  
while other are beyond our control,  
We turn to you, source of life,  
and ask in your name  
for the gifts of true healing and life in you, *Amen*

*Leader*

May the God of love visit you in your times of trial and weakness, and raise you to newness of life, in the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*

### **Confession of Sin**

*The Leader says*

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence maybe kept.*

*Leader and People*

God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,

in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen

Leader

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins,  
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep  
us in eternal life. *Amen*

### **Additional Prayers**

#### *Collect of the Day*

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of  
shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross  
of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son  
our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

#### *For Cancer Patients*

Loving God, we humbly pray for all those who are fighting cancer.  
Give them the hope and courage they need each day. Comfort them in  
their pain bless them with healing and strengthen their family, friends,  
and caregivers. Amen

#### *For Caregivers and Others in Support of the Sick*

Compassionate God, support and strengthen all those who reach out in  
love, concern, and prayer for the sick and distressed. In their acts of  
compassion, may they know that they are your instruments. In their  
concerns and fears may they know your peace. In their prayer may  
they know your steadfast love May they not grow weary or faint-  
hearted, for your mercy's sake. Amen

#### *For those we Love*

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your  
never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come,  
knowing that you are doing for them better things than we  
can desire or pray for. *Amen*.

#### *For Those Who Fear Losing Hope*

Loving God, inspire by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing  
hope. Give them a fresh vision of your love, that they may find again  
what they fear they have lost. Grant them your powerful deliverance,  
*Amen*

#### *For the Victims of Addiction*

O blessed God, look with compassion upon all who through addiction  
have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of  
your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them;  
strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care  
for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. *Amen*.

#### *For Peace among the Nations*

Almighty God, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice  
and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of  
righteousness, that they may become your kingdom on this earth.  
*Amen*.

#### *For our Enemies*

O God, you commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us  
from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and  
revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before  
you. *Amen*.

*For the Nation*

Lord God Almighty, who has made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. *Amen.*

*A Prayer of Self-Dedication*

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to *you*, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly *yours*, utterly dedicated to you, and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to *your* glory and the welfare of *your* people. *Amen.*

*In the Evening*

O God, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. *Amen.*

Please add your own petitions and thanksgivings at this time.

*For the Answering of Prayer*

Almighty God, who has promised to hear the petitions of those who ask: We beseech you mercifully to incline your ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto you; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to your will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of your glory. *Amen.*

*Blessing*

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. *Amen.*