

Prayers for Peace and Healing

April 20, 2020

A candle is lit

Prayer of Honesty

We pray:

with tears for the senseless slaughter of innocent people;
with sadness that violence is seen as an acceptable way of expressing frustration;
with helplessness in the face of such hatred;
with determination that change be made in how we interact;
with grief for the survivors who must live with this for the rest of their lives;
and with the assurance that, whatever we are feeling,
we are embraced by the love of the crucified one, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Psalm 36

Transgression speaks to the wicked deep in their hearts;
 there is no fear of God before their eyes.
For they flatter themselves in their own eyes
 that their iniquity cannot be found out.
The words of their mouths are mischief and deceit;
 they have ceased to act wisely and do good.
They plot mischief while on their beds;
 they are set on a way that is not good;
 they do not reject evil.
Yet your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
 your faithfulness to the clouds.
Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
 your judgements are like the great deep;
 you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.
How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
 All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
They feast on the abundance of your house,
 and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
For with you is the fountain of life;
 in your light we see light.
O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
 and your salvation to the upright of heart!
Do not let the foot of the arrogant tread on me,
 or the hand of the wicked drive me away.

Litany of the Life of Jesus

Jesus, Saviour of the world, be gracious to us.
By your incarnation and birth, be gracious to us.
By your prayers and tears, be gracious to us.
By your grief and anguish, be gracious to us.
By your cross and suffering, be gracious to us.
By your acceptance of death, be gracious to us.
By your rest in the grave, be gracious to us.
By your triumphant resurrection, be gracious to us.
By your presence with your people, be gracious to us.
By the promise of your coming, be gracious to us.

Prayer for hard times

Out of the depths we cry to you, merciful God. Meet our confusion with your peace, our anger with forgiveness, and our sorrow with consolation. Help us acknowledge the mystery that our lives are hid with Christ in you, whose compassion is over all you have made. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Closing

We go in peace, to love and serve God's hurting world.
Thanks be to God.

The candle may be extinguished, or left to burn as a reminder of our prayers.