

Sunday Prayers 2.11.2024

Holy One, Peter declared that it is good for us to be here. Here. Not somewhere else. Not with someone else. But right here. Right now. Then you showed Peter and James and John who you were. Mind blowing, we understand. Unfathomably clear in unimaginable reality. It is real. You are the Messiah. You are the Christ. You are the one that changes the world... changes the trajectory of reality. You are the one who will show us again that from death, we rise with resurrection. Sometimes in small ways. Sometimes in almost unnoticeable ways like the way the seasons evolve. Sometimes in the kind of ways that we cannot yet fully imagine. Help us trust your truth, your way, your love, your life. We need everything you have to offer us. Lord in your mercy....

Holy Healer, recoveries from illness can be slow. Whether it was a life sustaining surgery, or a seasonal virus, or a chronic or long term illness, healing can seem to take forever to the one in need of the healing. Bring them patience by the truckload, a powerful spirit of hope, and a triple serving of energy to let the healing come. Give them good sleep and crazy good dreams. May they imagine wellness in whatever way it can happen. Allow their caregivers, that same spirit and energy, too. May the healing that happens bring a sense of renewed zest for life, for love and compassion for all that are finding their way through the anatomy and anxiety of an illness. Lord in your mercy...

Gracious God, how can people live in war zones? How can people live with disasters? How can our world allow such suffering? How can you allow it? That is our deepest question. And then we remember...that you have called us...all the people on the globe of this earth, to change the way we live together. You have told us again and again to love each other the way you love us. You have empowered us, equipped us, and continue to invite us to be the change our world needs. Help us....help each other. Help us...think in terms of loving our neighbors...and the strangers on the earth. Help us...be the people you have created us to be. We especially remember our nearby neighbors who are recovering from the tornados this week. Lord in your mercy...

Holy Wonder, thank you. Thank you for the people in our congregation that serve at the food pantry, and Waunakee Neighborhood Connection...and are volunteering with CARA Waunakee to help settle refugee families in our

larger community. Thank you for the people who are doing things subtly and singly to make the world a better place. Thank you for empowering the people here...right now...these people...to love in the best ways they know how. Let them know that even if no one notices...you do...and the differences they are making in this world are stunning. Lord in your mercy....

Holy God, if we love...we also grieve. Whether it was a week ago, or months ago, or years ago...when we have loved people who have died, we miss them. We miss the sound of their voice, the way they looked in the moonlight, the way they laughed and how their hand felt in ours. We also grieve losses that come from misunderstandings, and mistakes, and mistrust. Guide us into your grace. Let us deposit our grief into your care. Particularly, be with these folks who have recent losses of loved ones...

- Edie Litsheim, Tom and Mary Klein and Cherie Litsheim on the death of Edie's son, Mary's brother, and Cherie's husband, John Litsheim.
- The Roso family on the death of Arthur.
- Sherry and Jerry Johnson on the death of their friend, Phyllis and her daughter, Molly.

Grace-filled Trinity, you invite us into your life and your love. You cherish us as we are this day. You see us as beautiful humans—who are ready to be your church in the world. Send us out this day refueled and filled, satiated with your food and drink, fed and forgiven to try again. Remind us that this life that you grant is sacred always...and wherever we go, you are there...with us...every minute of everyday. Amen.