

Sunday Prayers. 11.17.2024

God of Mercy,

We are your church—your people. And yet, we struggle—even the most faithful among us—to figure out how we live with faith in the context of our world. What is the role of faith in our lives? What is the church called to be? What is the church called to do? We know your story...the birth, the death, the resurrection. We know that you have created us, named us and claimed us as your children forever. We are longing for the way to be your community right here, right now. We are hoping for a life of inclusivity and love—where everyone feels like they belong and are valued because they are yours. You are a community in your Triune Nature. You invite us into your love. May we see ourselves as the community of your grace and truth...that can hold all people in love. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Healer,

For those who are navigating illness, please grant a measure of health—the kind that brings deep healing physically, emotionally, spiritually and holistically. Your healing power is needed in so many lives...in so many ways. Please relieve suffering in any way you are able. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Resurrection,

Grieving is part of loving....and loving and living are so intertwined in your resurrection promise. Help those who have been separated by death to remember that your light shines in the darkness...and ultimately, life redefines death. It is hard to let go of those we love... And for all who are grieving dreams...and jobs...and the pain of current relationships... Well, dear Lord, we remember...and hold...all who are grieving Love them boldly...help them breathe. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Creation,

The earth is in need of care. We need to tend the rivers and creeks, the oceans and lakes, the mountains and valleys and meadows and farmland with care. We want the world to be fed with good food. We want our human kin to have access to clean water and healthy air. We want the beauty of the creation around us to be sustained. Lead us forward. Mend us and our ways with mercy. Open us to act today and tomorrow and all the tomorrows to come. Help us think with the future in mind as we live out these days. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Mercy and Justice,

the world needs lots of love right now. So do we. Allow us the opportunity to love ourselves forward as we do our best to spread that beyond us to humanely include others. Guide our growing. Bless our becoming. Help us build bridges wherever bridges can be created. Mend us with mercy and empower us to be empathetic lovers in the world. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Hope,

We are grateful for this day. For the worship and community we share. For the love that moves so organically among us. Help us see it. Help us be it. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, as we trust your tender mercy and give thanks for your presence in our lives. Amen.