

Sunday Prayers.10.11.2026

Holy God, these parables we are reading in the gospel of Matthew are heart wrenching and holy. So much to comprehend in such a few verses. Today's Gospel contains so much and is so hard as we wrestle with the words. It is hard because we hear a call to turn the compass of our lives to the place of living more gracefully. It is hard because we hear a call to consider ethics, morals and our values when we like to think we already have. It is also life giving because, underneath all of this is your grace and mercy. Help us be renewed by your Spirit and tend what needs tending in our own areas of worldly impact. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Healer, so many among us are living with chronic diseases, or aging bodies, or loving people who are dealing with depression, anxiety, stress, dis-ease with the world. Maybe even, it is us. Healing is needed everywhere—in creation, in our beings, in our communities, in our government, in our leaders, in our neighbors, and yes, in us. Bring healing where healing is needed. When we can assist in such a project of mercy, use us as you will. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Resurrection, loss is hard...and heavy...and real. Losing people we love from our earthly experiences is one of the facts of life...and one of the most challenging to navigate. Sometimes we grieve the loss of mobility in our beings, or the loss of an opportunity, or the loss of a relationship we treasured. Sometimes it is the absence of a human we loved so deeply and dearly. Hold us in the midst of these things we can barely understand and fuel us forward by your grace, mercy and tender love. We especially remember...

Johnna and Mike Georgia, Jude and Paul on the death of Michael—their 8 year old nephew and cousin.

Please make your resurrection reality known in ways that we can feel it, trust it and radically depend on it. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, the wonders of the world amaze us. The colors of the trees and the leaves. The hues of the sky and water. The turning of the seasons. The changing of the human attire to layers of sweaters and jackets and warmth. The cooking of the harvest into soups and yum that signal a different time in our lives. Help us be reflective of the grace that lives within such times—and be mended with mercy in ways that refresh our sense of wholeness and purpose. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of Love, you created love. We live for it. We crave it. We depend on it...and wish for more of it in our world. You know the headlines as well as we do. You know the problems and the concerns in the same ways we do. You know what needs to change in sometimes ways we cannot look at...so help us see fresh ways to love and be loved, to give love and receive it, to celebrate love where we experience it...and make more of it for the sake of your world. We are made for it. Help us be it and become it. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy and believing in your presence and promise. Amen.