

5/23/21

Questions for Reflection

In this coming week consider how many ways and through which persons you are shown a new path for your life. Watch for startling nudges or sudden epiphanies; listen for sighs that signal letting go of something pressing so that you can hear the Spirit's guidance. What have you learned? How can you give thanks?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of newness and delight,
you greet your world again with light and life.
I awaken to your presence behind, before, beneath, above, and within me.
I thank you for another day
and ask only that you keep me so firmly in your care
that I can move gracefully through all I have to do.
Guard my family, my friends, and all my brothers and sisters in faith.
Let me be a peacemaker today; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Good and Holy One,
you have led me through this day of many encounters
to the time when I may close my eyes and dream.
I thank you for the people you have sent my way today,
for the work I have had to do,
for the food, shelter, and safety you have given.
I pray that people everywhere
may have all necessary comfort and nourishment
and that I may lie down in peace,
resting in the trust that you are watching over all creation.
I pray this in the name of the One who made Earth,
called the children to come,
and blows through our days with wisdom. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need, saying,
hear us, O God, your mercy is great.
In gratitude for all that you have done for us, Holy God, we pray:
For the people of God in every land;
for those who continually teach the faith;
for witnesses who by their example show your steadfast love;
for all who are estranged from the church;
and for the strength to walk in your ways and observe your command;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For nations, communities, and families torn by violence;
for leaders and protesters, for managers and visionaries;
for dictators and peacemakers;
for the allies of our nation and for our enemies;
especially today for the people of *[insert contemporary concerns]*;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For Earth and its riches;
for soil and wetlands, trees, bushes, rivers and lakes, oceans and air;
and for all the peoples who inhabit this great creation;
for the ability to choose life for all creatures and to honor the welfare of generations to come;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For all people who are victims of injustice;
for those who are unemployed or underemployed;
for those living on the streets of our cities;
for everyone affected by divorce;

for people struggling with addiction, anger, fear, or illness;
for all who have asked this congregation for prayer;
for those we name now aloud or in our hearts *[silence]*;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For this community of faith;
for those who come to worship every week and those who cannot come;
for the young and the old; for newcomers and long-familiar faces;
for the newly baptized in every land;
for those who are seeking to know you;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

For all else that this assembly is concerned with today,
named aloud or in our hearts *[silence]*;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Thanksgiving for all the saints who served you in life
and whose proclamation of the gospel continues to renew the church;
hear us, O God, **your mercy is great.**

Into your promises, we entrust all those whose needs are known to us today
and those whose needs are only known to you.
Grant peace to all, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**