

## **The Prayers - March 22**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. We pray especially for the ELCA, the Upstate NY Synod and our companion synod in Zimbabwe, retired pastors in our conference—*Norm Heid, Alice Moberg, Gus Wedemeyer, Marie Jerge, Nelson Gaetz, Roger Beiswenger, Steve Hluchy, Teresa Langdon, Jaent Fechner, Dave Almleaf, and Bruce Schrader*—*Barry Sisson* and the congregation of Grace Chapel, and Holy Trinity. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of those who would seek to cause violence or terror. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day, especially those named on our prayer list along with those we name in our hearts. Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. We especially pray for our area hospitals and nursing homes in this time of crisis. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of insight, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We give thanks for your saints. Join us together with them as your children in this world and the next. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**