

Litany in Times of the Coronavirus

Leader O God, make speed to save us.

People ***O Lord, make haste to help us.***

Leader Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

People ***The Maker of heaven and earth.***

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from all fear may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. ***Amen.***

Confession

Heavenly Father, we confess to you our fears, our worries, and our anxieties. You have given us your perfect love which casts out all fear and your peace which transcends all understanding, but even still we feel dislodged, displaced, untethered, and uncertain during these times.

We believe, Lord;

help our unbelief.

God the Father,

Have mercy on us.

God the Son,

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,

Have mercy on us.

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

A PRAYER FOR A TIME OF PESTILENCE

Oh Lord, you who are the refuge of the poor and needy,

we ask that you would save us

from the pestilence that stalks in the darkness

and the plague that destroys at midday.

Be our sun and shield.

Be our fortress.

Be our comfort this day.

May we not fear any evil

but rather trust in your might to save and your wisdom to guide,

so that we might rest always in the shadow of the Almighty.

In the name of the One who heals our diseases. ***Amen.***

Psalm 40

- 1 I waited patiently for the Lord, *
and he inclined to me, and heard my call.
- 2 He brought me out of the horrible pit, out of the mire and clay; *
he set my feet upon the rock, and secured my footing.
- 3 He has put a new song in my mouth, *
a song of thanksgiving unto our God.
- 4 Many shall see and fear, *
and shall put their trust in the Lord.
- 5 Blessed is the man who has set his hope in the Lord, *
and has not turned to the proud, or to those who go about lying.
- 6 O Lord my God, great are the wondrous works which you have done, and also your thoughts toward us; *
there is none who can be compared with you.
- 7 If I should declare them and speak of them, *
they would be more than I am able to express.
- 8 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, *
but my ears you have opened.
- 9 Burnt offerings and sin offerings you have not required, *
and so I said, "Behold, I come;
- 10 In the volume of the book it is written of me, that I delight to do your will, O my God; *
indeed, your law is within my heart."
- 11 I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation; *
behold, I will not restrain my lips, O Lord, and that you know.
- 12 I have not hidden your righteousness within my heart; *
my talk has been of your truth and of your salvation.
- 13 I have not concealed your loving mercy and truth *
from the great congregation.
- 14 Withdraw not your mercy from me, O Lord; *
let your loving-kindness and your truth always preserve me.
- 15 For innumerable troubles have encompassed me; my sins have taken such hold of me that I
am not able to look up; *
indeed, they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart has utterly
failed me.
- 16 O Lord, let it be your pleasure to deliver me; *
make haste, O Lord, to help me.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, creator of the universe, Lord and judge of us all; You are the great physician, who gives sight to the blind and restores the palsied limbs of the lame. We cry out to you to rid the earth of this contagious virus; by your mighty hand cast it into darkness and guide us in the light of your saving Grace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are anxious and uncertain in the midst of this outbreak of COVID-19. As the sorrows of our heart and mind increase, we beseech you to save us from all trouble and fear. Cast away all works of darkness. Be our rock, a castle to keep us safe. For the Lord is our stronghold and sure defense, and he will be our Savior.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died: receive them into the arms of your mercy, grant them eternal peace, and surround those who mourn with your healing grace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those directly infected with the virus: help them recover in good health and restore them in body, mind, and spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those at high risk of infection, especially the elderly, those with underlying illnesses, the marginalized, and the poor: keep them healthy and free from all sickness.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in quarantine, the shut-in, and the infirm: help them find peace, keep them in good health, and renew their mind and spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all hospitals, doctors, nurses, and staff: protect them as they minister to the sick, relieve all stress, and provide the resources and space to meet the needs of all the infirm.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For first responders: guard them from all harm, and grant them strength and courage as they respond to all calls for help.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For service industry workers and those forced to work as their community shuts down: keep them healthy, bestow the resources to best care for themselves and their families, and assure them in times of financial and medical anxiety.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those experiencing financial loss and uncertainty of resources: have mercy on them, alleviate any fear, and provide for them daily bread and wage.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of this nation and the world: help them make sound and safe decisions to best secure the future of our planet.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all schools, students, educators, administrators and school staff: please keep them healthy and of good cheer; as schools are closed, feed those who will go hungry without guaranteed meals and shelter all students who have no place to live.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all scientists, physicians and those working to find a cure: inspire them towards your truth, and help them discover and disseminate a vaccine and cure.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all media and journalists: protect them from all harm in their reporting, and move them to be a vector of truth and certainty, and never fear or panic.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all churches: embolden them to be beacons of Christ's hope and love, and help us to gather however and wherever we can – be it in person or online – to give you praise.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of our churches: help them minister to their flocks; fortify them to be faithful pastors, to persevere in prayer, and to build up the family of God in new and creative ways.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the young: spare them from harm and fear, and keep them a joyful sign of your love and light.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all parents: build in them strength and fortitude for the time ahead, and give them the words and witness to be wise counselors and compassionate caregivers.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those for whom home is not a safe haven: grant them refuge, protection, comfort, and justice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For calm amidst the storm: as the waves toss our boat and we wonder “do you not care?”, remind us to not be afraid, that with you all things are possible, and that even the wind and sea obey you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Stir up in us a spirit of compassion and tenacity for the time ahead.

Amen.

Move us to check-in with loved ones at high risk of infection and those in quarantine.

Amen.

Ease our fear and anxiety, that we may share our resources rather than hoard them, and extend a helping hand to those in need.

Amen.

Inspire us to share the Good News of your love and hope.

Amen.

All this we ask through your son Jesus Christ our Lord: healer of the sick, ruler of the tempestuous sea, and Savior of the world.

Amen.

Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

ALL: **Lord, have mercy.**

Adapted from:

- “Litany in Times of the Coronavirus” — Written by Fr. Michael Kurth & Modified by Bp. Eric Menees
- “A Liturgy During a Pandemic” — Rev. Porter C. Taylor
- “Prayer for a Time of Suffering” — Rev. Dr. W. David O. Taylor