

Prayers of the People¹

Praying in our homes while gathered together in the Spirit of Christ, we ask God to bestow peace upon a needy world, using words from today's psalm: Protect us, O God, for we take refuge in you.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, we pray for the church around the world. Enter into our countless separate houses with your gift of peace. Guard the health of our bishops, pastors, teachers, and musicians. As Christians around the globe are united in their suffering through the coronavirus, so unite us also in the hope of life in the Risen Christ.

A brief silence.

Protect the church, O God,

for we take refuge in you.

Creating God, we pray for the earth that you have given into our care. As human society is quieted by sickness, give your plants and animals, lands and seas, a time to renew and replenish themselves. Nurture the fields that will supply our food.

A brief silence.

Protect the earth, O God,

for we take refuge in you.

Righteous God, we pray for the nations. Give peace to our troubled world. Bless the efforts of the United Nations and the World Health Organization. Strengthen democracies. Bring an end to violence between nations, across borders, within countries, between gangs, and inside homes. Uphold the governors of our land. Bless our country with integrity in government, attention to the needy, persistence in facing the pandemic, and wisdom in proceeding into an unknown future.

A brief silence.

Protect the nations, O God,

for we take refuge in you.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in any need. Comfort the bereaved. Accompany the sick, especially the multitude who have contracted the coronavirus, and those we remember in our hearts (*especially*). Visit the homes of all who are isolated, and hold the lonely and fearful in your arms. Grant your peace to the millions of unemployed; give them food for today and hope for tomorrow. Help us find a home for refugees. Support medical care workers in their endless and sometimes fruitless tasks of attending to the pandemic patients. Provide needed medical supplies for hospitals.

A brief silence.

Protect the needy, O God,

for we take refuge in you.

Gracious God, we pray for children and youth. Shelter them from all sickness. Keep homebound children safe from hunger and abuse. Nurture teenagers with a vision of life beyond this pandemic. Give them assurance as they are separated physically from friends and mentors. Give to all children and youth forbearance beyond their years.

A brief silence.

Protect children and youth, O God,

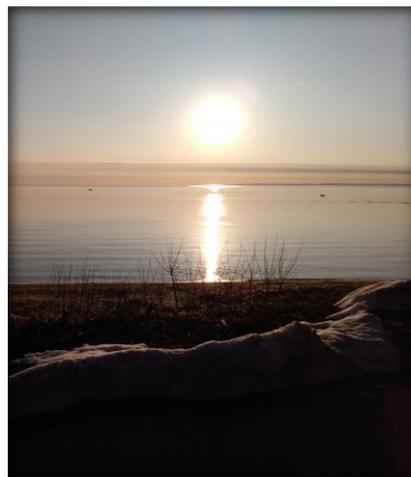
for we take refuge in you.

Loving God, we pray for ourselves. Renew our spirits with the living hope of Christ's resurrection, and hear also the private petitions of our hearts.

A longer period of silence.

Protect us, O God,

for we take refuge in you.



¹ Based on resources at <https://blogs.elca.org/worship/>. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

Eternal God, we praise you for the lives of all who have died in the faith, especially today the Petri brothers of Sweden and those we name here before you (*especially*). Sustained by the promise of healing and resurrection, free us from the fear of death, and bring us at our end with all the saints into the joy of your presence.

A brief silence.

Protect your people, O God,

for we take refuge in you.

With bold confidence in your peace which passes human understanding, we offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, now and forever.

Amen.

Then conclude with these Prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.
Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!