

**PRAYERS for March 5, 2023 – Second Sunday in Lent**

**Worship Assistant:** On this second Sunday in Lent, let us pray that You might bring us closer to the cross so that we know how much You loved us and gave Yourself for us.

**Worship Assistant:** Almighty God, what joy it is to know You and to feel the nearness of Your presence as we go through this life with its joys, its dangers, and its disappointments. You are our light in the darkness and our salvation in life. Thank You for giving us strength that we may be a blessing to others and to proclaim Jesus Christ to all people. Thank You for showing us that our sins are forgiven and for allowing us to worship You during this Lenten season. We are grateful for Your unspeakable gift of grace, Your continuing promises, and Your faithful Word. You are truly our loving Father.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Lord God, You are our helper, our redeemer, and our closest friend. Just as Abraham had faith, let us continue to grow in our faith in You. Even though others may forsake us, we know that You are always with us. We do not deserve such grace on Your part, but yet we come to You, confident that You will still be with us. Our greatest joy is that You rescue us from sin. Grant us new life while we are yet here in the flesh, and grant us eternal life when our time on this earth is over. You have promised us eternal life if we believe in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Let our hearts take courage in Him that we may not perish but have eternal life.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Holy Spirit, You are the Spirit of truth and purity. We know that You want to work in the hearts of all of us to help us grow in our faith and in our Christian life. Sometimes we try to deter You. Sometimes we try to go our own way. Sometimes we care more about our earthly concerns, and we are thoughtless about our spiritual concerns. We ask You not to give up on Your children. We ask that You make us new: in mind, in heart, in soul, in life. Be with the Service Committee and the Ministry Leaders at the retreat on Saturday. May their planning for our Word of God family be fruitful and pleasing to You.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Father God, You sent Your Son Jesus Christ to be the great physician of our souls and our bodies. Deliver rest to those who wait upon You; give courage to those who suffer; impart skill to the doctors who care for the sick and injured; grant safety to the police who protect our communities; and provide patience to the missionaries and pastors who lead Your people. Lord, bring relief to the people who have been affected by severe weather and storms this week. Give them strength to rebuild their homes and lives. We ask You to grant healing and peace to those who are on our prayer list and to those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

**(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Lord God, ruler of all men, we ask that You help the American people to honor our laws, help our citizens to exercise our freedoms, and help all of us to pray for our nation. We thank You for our military men and women who put their lives in danger to protect our country and its people. Give them Your peace that passes all understanding.

**Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**