

**PRAYERS for March 12, 2023 – Third Sunday in Lent**

**Worship Assistant:** On this third 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:** God in Heaven, Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever – not ours, only Yours. We come into Your presence today with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of praise. It comforts us to know that Your Son died for us because we are sinners. We thank Him for the good He prepared for us by His suffering, death, and resurrection. Father, we feel Your power in us and worship You in spirit and in truth. Accept our praise, our reverence, and our worship. Fill us this morning with grace, that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to You, our Rock and our Salvation.

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

**Worship Assistant:** Mighty Jesus, in Your hands are all things in heaven and on earth. With the preaching of Your Word, there goes forth a power that is the mightiest in all the world – a power to bless, a power to comfort, a power to strengthen, and a power to preserve. We feel that power in us, a power as of the One whom we must love because He first loved us. Lord, we hold Your cross before us as we journey through this Lenten season. We know we will feel Your power if we look up at Your cross with unfailing faith in You.

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

**Worship Assistant:** Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we come to You on our knees today. You are our Savior and Redeemer as we pray for calm in our country and in our world. Help us to have patience in our hearts that will grow an abiding hope; hope which will grow love; and a love that will deepen our faith in You. We pray for our government and our leaders. We pray for soldiers and first responders. We pray for volunteer workers who seek to help those in need. May Your truth and light shine in the darkness so that where there is only hatred, Your love will prevail; where there is only darkness, Your light will prevail; where there is only sin, Your mercy will prevail.

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

**Worship Assistant:** Merciful and healing Lord, sometimes the usual pattern of our lives is disrupted by illness, injury, or loss, and we do not understand why it happens. Sit beside us and help us learn the purpose that our problems are going to accomplish. Help us to see how much and how often we rely on our own strengths, cleverness, and abilities. Then remind us that we belong to You, that we should rely on You, and that we should wait on You. Thank You for becoming human, for sharing our suffering, and for giving us hope. Be with us this day, and if it is Your will, grant healing 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:** Eternal Father, we are often led astray by our worldly passions. We live in troublesome times. We see grave dangers in our world. We cannot know the full meaning of the chaos that surrounds us, but we have faith that You will restore order in Your time. With all the great moral and spiritual confusion, we forget that You gave us commandments to guide us through our lives. Help us remember Your faithfulness and draw us back to You.

**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**