

Prayers and Liturgies for the Covid-19 Pandemic

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Short Prayers and Collects

Prayer for putting on a mask

We bless you and praise you, Lord Christ, for commanding us to love one another. Let this mask be a sign of your love, and let my behavior be filled with love for my neighbor. Amen

Prayer for those returning to work (Mags Trim)

Lord, you know what it is like to be alone and be afraid. You know what it is like to be sent where you did not want to go. And so we pray for those who are soon returning to their workplaces. And we pray especially for those who are returning to places which now hold memories of sickness, of trauma, of pain. Walk ahead of them and walk beside them. And especially we ask, with your loving gaze, watch over them.

Prayer for those affected by COVID and disparities therein (Mags Trim)

Oh God of all comfort, we pray for those who have been, who are, and who will be, affected by all that encompasses Covid-19. The physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, and financial burdens are great. And we know that not everyone is affected equally, or justly. We pray especially for those who are risking their lives for the protection and sustenance of others. And we pray mightily with, and for, those whose voices often go unheard. We ask that You will look upon those who the world tries to look away from. May they know especially that they are heard, they are held, and they are loved. May they know Your truth in a world full of lies. May they know your protection in a world full of violence. And may they know your abundance in a world full of poverty. No one child should have to fight so hard for the inheritance that You so freely gave to all. By Your name we are beloved, we belong, and we are beautiful. *Amen.*

A prayer for our community or church in this time (Kathleen Staudt)

Loving God, we pray for this church community in this time of crisis. Deliver us from simply desiring to go "back to normal," and give us grace instead to be open to the opportunities that your Spirit brings in this time of separation. Grant that we may come out of this crisis with open eyes, more fully available to the needs of those most vulnerable and those whose labor we have always depended on. Give us creative hearts to embrace and carry forward the new ways we have found to connect with one another; and in your good time bring us safely back together as a people renewed in the

knowledge of your faithfulness and abiding love and strengthened for the work ahead. We pray in the name of Jesus. *Amen.*

A more general prayer for mission (Kathleen Staudt)

Loving God, we thank you for calling us to be ambassadors of your love for all. Open our hearts, day by day, to see and serve those needs that we are able to meet in our communities and neighborhoods. Give us wisdom to discern and support those policies and leaders that can best serve your dream of wholeness for your whole Creation. Deliver us from the temptations of cynicism and despair, and give us courage to live always in hope, however countercultural that may sometimes seem. We pray in the name of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

In Time of Great Sickness and Mortality (*The Book of Common Prayer*, 1928)

O most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succor. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Emergency Workers (*Enriching Our Worship 2*)

God our strong deliverer: when those charged with the urgent mediation of your healing power feel overwhelmed by the numbers of the suffering, uphold them in their fatigue and banish their despair. Let them see with your eyes, so they may know all their patients as precious. Give comfort, and renew their energy and compassion, for the sake of Jesus in whom is our life and our hope. *Amen.*

For Those Who Suffer of Covid-19 (Juan Oliver)

Loving God, hope of the poor and source of all health: Look with compassion upon your creatures who suffer under the weight of this pandemic. Fill us with love toward our neighbor; deliver us from partisan motives as we strive for the common good; and strengthen those who labor for our health. We ask this through the healer of your creation, Jesus Christ, our health and our salvation. *Amen.*

For Christ's Presence (Vidai Genovez-Andrés)

Resurrected Lord: Dwell in each of our hearts, in each person who has been hospitalized, in all medical personnel, in priests and pastors, in the rulers of the nations and civic leaders, in our families at home, in our grandparents, in those who are in prison, who are afflicted, who are oppressed and mistreated, in those who do not have their daily bread, in those who have lost a loved one because of covid-19 or some other condition. May the Resurrected Christ bring us hope, strengthen our faith, fill us with love and kinship, and grant us his peace. *Amen.*

For the Outcast (Jairo Chirán)

O God, creator of the human race: We humbly pray for the men and women who suffer discrimination because of the color of their skin or country of origin, and those who are destitute and deprived of access to health care. Inspire the church to serve them better and to be a prophetic voice in the midst of sorrow and inequality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Workers and Day Laborers (Richard Acosta)

Provident Father, Creator of humankind: Your Son our Lord lived among us as a day laborer, earning thus his daily bread. We pray for these your children who are reopening their businesses in the midst of this pandemic. Support and protect them from all harm; in their adversities, give them strength to carry on; through Jesus our Lord, Amen.

For Deliverance from Selfishness (Daniel Mafla)

God, Father and Mother: Life is constantly renewed in you; as the heavens deliver the rain and the earth yields its abundance, grant that our hearts may so move in harmony with your creation that we may be delivered from selfishness, from the destructive «rat race,» from the longing for hoarding, and from the blindness and insensitivity that economic models can trigger; and thus, in your great love, may we be one with you, who lives and renews our lives. *Amen.*

For the Sick, Especially Those Who Suffer Coronavirus (Adapted from *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, especially those who suffer coronavirus, and give your power of healing to those who

minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

For the Aged (The Book of Common Prayer)

Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Those Who Live Alone (The Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Protection (The Book of Common Prayer)

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Those Who Work Outside Their Homes at this Time of Sickness (Francisco Valle Barahona)

God, Creator and Provider, in this time of trial we pray for all those who must go to their workplaces, whom sometimes we take for granted: Those who work in restaurants, grocery stores, school kitchens, food banks, waste collection, maintenance, etc. Bless their lives and the lives of their families. Renew their strength so that they can do their best work. Give them generous hearts to help every person with kindness and not to be indifferent to their needs. Above all, give them, O Lord, profound faith to believe your word and a resolute will to act correctly and do good. When they are confused, guide them; when they feel weak, strengthen them; when they are weary, renew and fill them with the light of your Spirit. As they finish their shifts today, take them in safety to their homes. All this we pray in the name of your Son Jesus, to whom be honor and glory for ever. *Amen.*

[Collect for Hope during the Covid-19 Pandemic \(Alejandra Trillos\)](#)

Bountiful God, source of the greatest good for all of us: Guide us in the right direction towards a better future for your creation. Help us to overcome our own limitations during this pandemic, and grant us steadfast love to look after each other. Give us humbleness of heart to accept that without you we cannot be real stewards of your creation. Show us ways to spread the gospel that will touch hearts and change minds for a better tomorrow for all humanity, the preservation of every creature, and the planet. In the name of your beloved Son, we ask it. *Amen.*

[Link to *Prayers for a Privileged People*, by Walter Brueggemann](#)

<https://bit.ly/3hGD06f>

When We Are Unable to Receive Communion in Person

When We Are Unable to Receive Communion in Person (1)

(Enriching Our Worship 2)

God of infinite mercy, we thank you for Jesus our Savior, our true Mother who feeds us and gives us eternal life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. Grant that we may continue for ever in the Risen Life of our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

When We Are Unable to Receive Communion in Person (2)

(A Prayer Book for the Armed Forces)

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ, proclaim your resurrection and await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and the life to come. *Amen.*

When We Are Unable to Receive Communion in Person (3)

(St. Augustine's Prayer Book)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you were already there, I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you; never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Lamentations of the People (Phil Hooper)

In sorrow and in undaunted hope, let us cry out to God, the undivided Trinity, saying:

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, your Church is splintered and sorrowful. We are undone by the virulence of the age into which you have called us. We hunger for the bread only you can give; we long for the solace of an absent embrace. Gather us close, hide us under the shadow of your wings, and strengthen us to be your ministers amidst the uncertainties that lie ahead.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, our nation is diseased. A pandemic has brought us to our knees, but we have been kneeling before false gods for too long: economic and environmental injustice, systemic racism, the death-dealing myth of white imperialism, the vainglory of unexamined consumption. We need you, the Divine Physician, to heal the heart-wounds we cannot see, so that we might heal the broken bodies and broken systems we can see.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, the world is so vast, and so small. We are overwhelmed by its complexities, yet we are reminded how tightly our lives are knit together. The old lies of extraction and exploitation have laid waste to our planet and have oppressed our siblings in every land. Lead us out into the wilderness beyond self-satisfaction, beyond denial, beyond plunder, and teach us new ways to live simply, humbly, close to the earth.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, our communities are being crushed by the yoke of sin: political enmity, economic inequality, gun violence, racism, xenophobia, disparities in health and education, pollution, loneliness, and despair. Our brothers and sisters are sleeping in the streets, weeping in the streets, bleeding in the streets, like strangers in their own land. And so many of us choose to look away. Give us, instead, your easy yoke, your light burden: to

open the doors, to step out, to speak out, to trust one another, to be taken where we do not wish to go, to the foot of the Cross, to the tomb, where you will meet us, where real life begins.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, our loved ones are sick and dying, from viruses and from violence. The silence of silenced bodies overwhelms our ears. The IV-drip of memories stings and burns as it works its way through our veins. We are weak and helpless, but don't allow us to be hopeless. Make your presence known to us, especially when we cannot be present to one another. Heal our ailments and mend our hearts.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

God, you have taken so many away. Their names tumble from our lips, a remembrance, an insistence, a plea. We say their names so that they won't be forgotten. We say their names so that we won't be the type of people willing to forget. As we grieve and grasp at the mystery of death, take their names and bind them to yourself; open your everlasting gates and welcome them home.

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.*

Prayer in times of covid-19

(Fred Vergara)

With all our hearts and minds, let us pray to the Lord believing God hears our prayers and sees our tears.

God of eternal love, this covid-19 pandemic opened a Pandora's Box of deadly virus causing untold suffering to the world, causing diseases and death to millions of people and wreaking havoc to the economy. Look with compassion upon your people, and all people are your people. Heal the sick, save the dying, give eternal rest to the dead and comfort the bereaved.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

God of all creation, you meant us to be a single people; ruled by love, justice, freedom and peace. Break down the walls of our disunity that we may build bridges of understanding, harmony and solidarity. Weave us together even in our racial, cultural, ethnic and language diversity. Knit us to be one Body in one Spirit. Help us to realize that in these times of pandemic, we are all in this together and mutually in need of each other's encouragement and grace.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the doctors, nurses and all medical and health care workers who are on the frontlines of the battle against covid-19. Cover them with divine protection and give them the double portion of your strength as they care for the sick thereby expose themselves to the virus and risking their health and the health of their families.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the scientists, the immunologists, the pharmaceuticals that they may soon discover the effective and risk-free medicines and vaccines. Give them wisdom and humility to seek divine guidance and tap into divine intelligence from the One who created the world and everything in it.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the elderly, those with pre-existing health issues and children who are most vulnerable to viral infections. Enable them to take extra precaution in physical distancing, hygienic behavior and strengthen their immunity to the virus.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for people of color who are most impacted in terms of infection and death. For the African Americans who are on the frontlines as workers of essential services; for Latino Americans who have the most number of blue collar workers; for the Indigenous Americans on the reservations with inadequate medical help; and for the Asian Americans who suffer unjust treatment due to the misnaming of covid-19 as “Chinese virus.”

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the leaders of our government that they may set aside political partisanship and work in harmony for the common good. Help them to listen to the cries from the grassroots that they their hearts may burn with compassion on the plight of the people. Enable them to make wise and just decisions, choosing public health over private profit, choosing life over death.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for religious leaders; that we all maybe one even as you and Christ are One. In these times of pandemic, we are all God’s children and siblings in Christ who suffered and died for all on the cross at Calvary. Help us to care for one another and to share God’s love in the life we lead, in the relationships we create, in the words we speak and in the works we do.

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who follow social distancing, wearing masks, frequent handwashing and all other safety precautions to avoid spreading the virus and halt infections. Help us to embrace suffering as discipline, knowing that “suffering produces endurance and endurance produces character and character produces hope” (Romans 5:3-4).

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the whole creation, that in our common “groaning” we may see a birth of a new world, a world where love and justice meet and where freedom and righteousness kiss each other. We pray that the Reign of God will be on our lips and in our hearts spreading not the deadly virus of hate and selfishness but a life-giving virus of love, mercy and compassion. Unleash not your judgment O Lord but your forgiveness that we may incline our hearts to keep your law and love one another as Jesus loved us. May this pandemic unite us to be the kind of people that you want us to be. All these we ask in the name of Jesus Christ who holds all things together and who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church in era of Covid-19

(Kathleen Staudt)

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for the Church, your body in the world. Bless our bishops, clergy, lay leaders and congregations with the courage to lead in these times, and sustain them with your love. Deliver us, we pray, from the temptations of power, bondage of racism, class and consumerism, and all that that keeps us from embracing our true shared identity as your beloved children. Free us from fear, that we may bear witness to your liberating love in this broken world.

*Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for this Nation: for our President, our elected representatives and all who have the power to make change. Open their hearts, and ours, to see and address the human needs of those suffering from the effects of this Covid-19 pandemic. Guide our leaders toward policies that uphold the dignity of our most vulnerable communities, especially immigrants and persons of color, who are bearing so much of the suffering. Open their eyes, and ours, to see all who are ill, and all who have lost their livelihoods, as fellow human beings, not as expendable statistics.

*Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.*

We ask your protection for workers we often ignore, whose work sustains our whole society, and who are now at risk: for warehouse, grocery and delivery workers, those who harvest and process our food, and all workers vulnerable to contagion. Turn the hearts of employers and policy makers to provide for their safety and security, and give us all grace to be mindful of one another's safety.

*Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.*

We pray for healing for all who are affected by this pandemic: for all who are ill, that they may receive prompt and appropriate care, and for those who are dying alone, that they may find peace and comfort.

*Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.*

For the scientists and physicians throughout the world who are working toward treatments and vaccines, that their work may bear fruit in ways that safe, timely and fully available to all.

Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.

For our local community here: for those who are isolated, lonely or fearful, and for all in need, that they may be sustained in faith, hope and love.

Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.

For all who tend to the sick and for their families, especially doctors and nurses and first responders, that they may find continued strength and support, and that they may be protected with needed equipment and needed leave and compensation.

Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have died, especially for those in this time who have died alone, that they may be held in the company of all your saints. And for those who mourn loved ones they have not been able to accompany in their last hours.

Lord of life and love,
Hear our prayer.

(Celebrant chooses closing collect)

Prayers for a Better World

(Chantal Morales McKinney)

We lift our hearts at this time, that our collective voices, our collective hopes, our collective prayers, and our collective action will dissolve hate, racism, and violence in our community, our nation, and our world.

Starting with ourselves, we lift our hearts for love **in our homes**. That our homes may be a beacon of joy, laughter, kindness, forgiveness, love, and tranquility. Guide us towards healthy relationships so that, with joyful hearts, we can spread the love from our homes to our neighborhoods and communities.

We lift our hearts towards a spirit of peace, safety, and kinship **in our neighborhoods**. May the love of our neighbors vanquish pettiness, crime, hate, and racism. Enkindle in us a desire to break down racial tension. Help us to see one another as brothers and sisters. Guide us to appreciate each culture, each ethnicity, each language, each story, each context, all genders, all ages, and all races. Guide us towards a deep appreciation for diversity, and for unity in our diversity.

Dissolve tension found between gangs and between individuals who have hate in their hearts. Guide us toward a spirit of forgiveness, reconciliation, and healing.

Guide us towards a spirit of peace. Heal our nation's obsession with guns. Heal us from our love of violence. Protect our children, our homes, our neighborhoods, our schools, and our public gathering places.

Guide us towards right action, right communication, and right relationships. Encourage us to see ourselves as healing agents, as keepers of the Light. Encourage us to see ourselves as people who can heal our neighborhoods and be agents of positive change.

We lift our hearts towards a spirit of peace **in our city, [city or place]**. Bridge our divisions. Heal our hearts. Help us to deeply listen to one another's hurts. Move us towards a place where all people are accepted as they are, trusted, loved, and listened to. Banish racism in our city and beyond. Give those who have power in our city the hearts of a servant. Give voice to the voiceless. Help us to look forward with a spirit of hope, faith in the future, appreciating the beauty found in our differences, the richness found in our diversity, and the strength found among us all.

We lift our hearts towards a spirit of peace **in the United States**. Help us to stay grounded amidst the news headlines. Keep us rooted in a spirit of hope and peace as we

Speak out against the numerous injustices occurring in our country. Help us to remember that much good is happening everywhere on the ground, and quietly. Orient our hearts towards doing good deeds, random acts, and blessing others.

We lift our hearts at this time towards all those who are **detained at the border** by our government. Comfort the children. Encourage the parents. Heal trauma and illness. We lift our hearts in hope for a spirit of calm amidst the chaos. Guide us towards action that changes hearts, that changes racist laws and behavior.... guide us towards action that calls our government to a higher standard of treating people with respect and care.

We lift our hearts at this time towards all who have been impacted by **mass shootings**. Heal the hearts of individuals who desire to kill and wound others. Heal our culture from its attraction to violence. Protect our children and their schools. Protect all people from this evil and move our country towards the steps we need to take to dramatically decrease violent acts in our country.

We lift our hearts out of a desire to increase the **appreciation and love of all cultures**, ethnicities, and races in our countries. We are grateful for the beauty of music, clothing, colors, food, spices, games, holidays, traditions, and languages that highlight the uniqueness of different cultures. Banish a spirit of racism from those who fear our differences. Help us to be light bearers of the beauty of that which makes us unique and special.

Keep us from a spirit of complacency. Keep us from a spirit of apathy. **Keep our hearts rooted in hope, action, love, encouragement, and peace.** Guide us towards others that seek to heal this hurt country. Keep us always in a spirit of hope. Remind us of the great prophets that go before us in calling a people to a higher way of being.

We combine our prayer, our hopes, and our thoughts by honoring all traditions, and in the name of God, our Creator, and Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

(Bude VanDyke)

Great Mystery we call God, we pray for all people who comprise the many versions of your Church;

May we all honor you and each other in our diversity.

Give us the vision, courage, and wisdom to serve you and all our relatives— the elements of water and earth, the plants and animals, and all human beings;

Give our voices praise of you beyond our words.

We pray for all clergy and laity who seek and serve you;

May our true leadership be the Holy Spirit.

We pray for the leaders of tribes, people, and nations;

Let justice roll down like the waters of the great rivers.

Empower us to love our neighbors across this turtle island we call earth;

May our giving be greater than our use.

Enable us with compassion to stand in and with the pain and suffering in the world;

May healing hearts and words connect to those in need [Names of those in need may be added here].

We ask that the ancestors sleep in eternal peace;

Help us trust in Christ's eternal goodness.

We thank you for the helpful examples known and unknown to us who have shaped the road we walk.

Enlighten our own awareness of our visibility to others, and make us increasingly mindful of the impact of our choices on others and the generations to come.

Cycle of Prayer:

And we pray for these specific needs: *[Specific needs are added here].*

Way of the Cross for Times of Covid-19

(Cruz Edgardo Torres)

First Station - Jesus is condemned to death

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us pray for all those who have contracted Covid-19. May they be diagnosed early and receive proper attention in a health care system that is not taxed beyond capacity; may they recover and feel their lives renewed.

(Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Second Station - Jesus takes up his cross

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us direct our thoughts toward the health care workers who are honoring their vocation by caring for our loved ones in medical facilities all over the world. We are grateful for nurses, as well those who work in medical facilities, labs, pharmacies, cleaning services, transportation, public safety, and other responders who are helping during this health crisis. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Third Station - Jesus falls the first time

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us pray for those who are not following public health guidelines, for those who deny the gravity of this crisis and hinder a concerted response; may they be moved by a sense of universal kinship, so that they change and engage in more caring and responsible actions. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Fourth Station - Jesus meets his afflicted mother

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us remember all mothers across the world: mothers who are struggling; mothers who are trying to protect their families; mothers who feel isolated; mothers who are ill; mothers who work in health care or other essential services; mothers who are politicians, or lawmakers, or activists; mothers who are suffering because of the economic impacts of this crisis. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Fifth Station - The cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us direct our thoughts and hearts toward all those in this world who are following public health guidelines, especially stay-at-home orders, and who are thus lightening the burden placed on health care workers. May we assist, in this way, those who care for our loved ones. May our eyes be opened also to help carry the burdens of those who are economically impacted by this crisis. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Sixth Station - A woman wipes the face of Jesus

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

We pray for those who, like the unnamed woman who wiped the face of Jesus, may be unknown. We pray for those who are most vulnerable during this crisis, especially for those who are in danger of being invisible: for the poor and the marginalized, for migrants, for Native nations and other disadvantaged ethnic groups, for LGBTI people, for the disabled, for those living with HIV and other immuno-compromised conditions, for the aged and so many others. May we see their suffering; may we see Christ's face in their faces. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Seventh Station - Jesus falls a second time

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us seek peace, lest we fall into despair, fear, frustration, rancor, or hatred. This unusual crisis calls us to stand up and be a light to the world, spreading messages of encouragement instead of rumors or resentment. We are grateful for the selfless work of mental health professionals who, during this time, are counseling people online. May those who struggle with anxiety and anger find help. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Eighth Station - Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us pray for women in situations of domestic abuse who must now stay-in-place with their abusers. Let us pray also for lesbian women, trans women, women with disabilities or who are their families' sole breadwinners, women who are sex workers, and women living with HIV/AIDS or other chronic health conditions. Let us pray for older women and for the women who raised us. Let us commit to support all women. May we resist the cultural prejudices that oppress them. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Ninth Station - Jesus falls a third time

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

May God inspire our minds and hearts, so that, as global citizens, we may find ways to help all people recover from the economic damage produced by this health crisis. May we rise together, united, as we should always have been. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Tenth Station - Jesus is stripped of his garments

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

Let us pray for those who are in quarantine, separated from their homes and their families so that the rest of the population may be protected. We commit to love and support them; may their places of shelter be places of growth and learning, and may they know that they are supported and loved. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Eleventh Station

Jesus is nailed to the cross

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

We pray for governments and civic leaders across the world—that they may receive timely and appropriate guidance, that they may act in concert, and that they may make time to rest and avoid burnout. We are grateful for those leaders whose actions have been bold and expedient, and we pray for those who do not yet understand the gravity of this crisis. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Twelfth Station - Jesus dies on the cross

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

We pray for those who have died; may God's perpetual light shine upon them. We pray for those who mourn their passing; may they have supportive friends and relatives; may they find pastoral support and professional care to alleviate their sorrow. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Thirteenth Station - The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

We pray that the rich and powerful, directors of corporations and financial institutions, will be moved to do what is in their power to mitigate the current global economic crisis. May they be awakened to, or may they renew, a commitment to the marginalized and disadvantaged, so that all of us may stand together as one after this emergency has passed. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Fourteenth Station - Jesus is laid in the tomb

*We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:
By your cross, you redeemed the world.*

We pray that all of us, together, may use the time through which we are living as an opportunity to question and transform our values, our struggles, and our passions. May we find hope to rise again and create a world that is stronger, more united, more inclusive, more harmonious, and more loving. May we never lose faith in humanity. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*Jesus was obedient, even unto death;
And died on the cross for our salvation.*

Fifteenth Station - Jesus rises from the tomb

We worship you, O Christ, and we bless you:

By your cross, you redeemed the world.

We pray for the needs of any and all whom we have not yet mentioned yet they are here with us today and need our love and commitment. In the new ways of relating to one another that we are forging, and in all that we are learning in this crisis, may we find Christ. May we be joy and peace in all that we say or post during this time; may we join the world in cheering on our health care professionals, in singing from balconies, in playing together online. May we never forget that we are one human race, one being, one love. (Pause)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Jesus was obedient, even unto death;

And died on the cross for our salvation.

Quotes to Inspire Hope

“You cannot reap what you have not sown. How are we going to reap love in our community if we only sow hate?”
—Archbishop Óscar Romero

“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.”
—Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

“Some issues are not left versus right or liberal versus conservative- they are right versus wrong. We must shock this nation with the power of love. We must shock this nation with the power of mercy. We must shock this nation and fight for justice for all. We can’t give up on the heart of our democracy. Not now, not ever.”
—Rev. Dr. William J. Barber.

“The ones who have a voice must speak for those who are voiceless.”
—Archbishop Óscar Romero.