

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

MARCH 7, 2021

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul, the statutes of the Lord are trustworthy making wise the simple.
Psalm 19: 7

Scripture Readings:

Exodus 20: 1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

John 2: 13-22

Following our Lord in love and obedience brings peace and understanding. Let us follow that example as we continue on our Lenten journey. Let us declare His power and glory in our lives as we journey together in this trying time of a pandemic.

Collect: Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As God has called us, so we come to pray.

We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, with all its collected gifts and weakness. Give us grace to recognize, that in your spirit, we are one, and curb in us all tendency to division.

May we hear you, Lord: and want to obey.

We pray for the world in all its beauty and richness. Give us the desire to share our food and resources, to care for all people, and to foster peace and justice for all.

May we hear you, Lord: and want to obey.

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

We pray for those we love, those we see each day and those we miss. Help us to cherish one another as we live the loving way of your commands.

May we hear you, Lord: and want to obey.

We pray for all victims of selfish or violent acts, and for those whose lives are trapped in sin. We pray for all whose bodies and minds have difficulty functioning. Make us more sensitive to their needs.

May we hear you, Lord: and want to obey.

We pray for those who have died and for those who miss their physical presence. Have mercy on them, and may they, and we, in our turn, rest in the peace of your unfolding.

May we hear you, Lord: and want to obey.

We give you thanks for the loving example of Jesus, who was obedient even to death, and strengthen us in all goodness.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

MARCH 14, 2021

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Scripture Readings:

Numbers 21: 4-9

Psalms 107: 1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2: 1-10

John 3: 14-21

Our Father loves us so much, and we give thanks for His grace and mercy. He laid down His life for us so that we would not perish, but have everlasting life. Let us display this love for each other as we continue on our Lenten journey to the cross of Christ.

Collect: Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God provides comfort in all our troubles and sufferings. As we gather together in the presence of our parent God, let us pray.

Loving Father, we pray for all who are persecuted for their faith, and for whom following you brings danger. We pray for those who are new to faith and those who no longer walk with you. We thank you for the example of those whose faith shines out in their lives.

We are all your children: help us to grow in love.

Loving Father, we pray for those who are forced to leave their homes and their families for work. We pray for your peace and comfort.

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

We are all your children: help us to grow in love.

Loving Father, we pray for all mothering that goes on in our communities. We pray for those who crave tenderness and are weary from the struggles to be strong.

We are all your children: help us to grow in love.

Loving Father, we pray for all new parents, their babies, and for all mothers who are giving birth today.

We are all your children: help us to grow in love.

Loving Father, we remember those whose mothers have died and are still remembered with great affection. We pray for those mothers and grandmothers now, rejoicing in all they gave, and commending them to your protection forever.

We are all your children: help us to grow in love.

Loving Father, we give you thanks for the comfort you provide in all our troubles, and for the richness of all our relationships. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

*For God so loved the world,
He gave His only Son,
to die on Calvary's tree
from sin to set me free.
Someday He's coming back,
what glory that will be!
Wonderful His love to me!*

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

MARCH 21, 2021

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Anyone who serves me must follow me, says the Lord, and where I am, there shall my servant be also.

John 12: 26

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Psalms 51: 1-13

Hebrews 5: 5-10

John 12: 20-33

Our Father gave us the gift of love and new life through Jesus, His Son, which provided us a way to be with Him eternally. It is a love with no barriers, just open arms to come to him as we are. We are getting closer to the cross as we journey together.

Collect: Most merciful God, by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you created humanity anew. May the power of His victorious cross transform those who turn in faith to Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Through Jesus death, full life would come to people of all nations and generations. Let us pray to the God who loves us and understands our needs.

God of mercy, we pray for all church leaders, especially for our Bishop, the Right Reverend Sam Rose. We pray for teachers and essential workers, and all who are being called into particular ministries, both lay and ordained. We pray for those who are wrestling with the demands of work that they may be given courage and strength in their service.

Let your name be glorified: Let your will be done.

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

All seeing God, watch over the nations of the world in all their plans and actions, conflicts and disasters. Guard the children, guide the leaders and give us all your peace.

Let your name be glorified: Let your will be done.

God of love, be present in every heart and home to cherish, to challenge, to reassure, and to comfort us.

Let your name be glorified: Let your will be done.

God of wholeness, we bring to your love those who are weighed down with suffering, or imprisoned by their fears. Ease their burdens and give them the strength to bear what cannot be avoided.

Let your name be glorified: Let your will be done.

God of life, we bring to you those whose earthly life has ended, that in your mercy they may have everlasting peace.

Let your name be glorified: Let your will be done.

Gracious God, you are always so much more ready to give than we are to receive. Open our hearts and minds to live the costly way of love. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

*And now, O Father, mindful of the love
which bought us once for all on Calvary's tree,
and having with us Christ who reigns above,
we celebrate with joy for all to see
that only offering perfect in your eyes:*

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

*Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusing's of your grace,
our prayer so feeble and our faith so dim;
for, set between our sins and their reward,
we see the cross of Christ, your Son, our Lord.*

*And so we come: O draw us to your feet,
most patient Saviour, who can love us still;
and by this food, so awesome and so sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill;
for your glad service, Master, set us free*

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

MARCH 28, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Psalms 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Mark 14: 1-15: 47

We are celebrating the glory of God with rejoicing and waving psalms, which brings the cross so close on our Lenten journey. We can feel the heartache, suffering, pain and rejection that Jesus will go through on our behalf. But today, we know Jesus is still with us, bringing us through all we deal with on a daily basis. He is still bearing our sins and sorrows because He loves us so much it is more than we can ask or imagine. Let us consider the cross this week, and ponder on the gift of love, rejoice and be thankful.

Collect: Almighty God, whose Son was crucified yet entered into glory, may we, walking in the way of the cross, find it is for us the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Jesus enters Jerusalem, knowing that He rides towards rejection and death in order to save His people. We face up to the costly love shown by our God. Let us approach Him in humility and pray to Him now.

O God, give us in your church undivided hearts to love you and one another, and go on loving through insult and praise, through acceptance and rejection, in the sure knowledge that you are Lord.

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021

Make us strong: to do your will in all things.

O God, may the kingdoms of this world soak up the values of your kingdom, may their leaders and their peoples uphold what is right and just. May they establish a social order which is rooted in Godly love.

Make us strong: to do your will in all things.

O God, in all the heartache and joys of human relationships, may we be governed by selfless love, faithful and forgiving like you without limit.

Make us strong: to do your will in all things.

O God, draw alongside all who suffer that they may know the comfort of your presence and the healing power of your forgiving love.

Make us strong: to do your will in all things.

O God, we pray for all who are making the last journey of death, that they may be surrounded with your peace, and rest in your love forever.

Make us strong: to do your will in all things.

O God, we give you thanks that the Messiah has come to save your people. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Alongsiders' Prayers for March 2021



All Glory Laud and Honour

*All glory, laud and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!*

*Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed one.*

*The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we resent.*

To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.

You didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.

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