



Peace Sunday Worship on the Lawn

Sunday, September 13, 2020 @ 9:15 a.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church
3000 Washington Blvd. in Huntington, WV

We're glad you're here!

The Peace Sunday Liturgy

The church bell rings.

Reader: We gather here today, under the magnolia tree, remembering that fall day in 2017 when we stood outside -- ready to go into this much loved church for the first time in many months, having experienced arson, repairs, renovation and restoration. Sadly, we find ourselves unable to enter our beloved Sanctuary yet again due to the ongoing pandemic. But we know we will soon return to that holy space to worship together.

We offer to God our compassion and prayers for the young arsonist who changed the life of this Parish forever, praying that God might enter into her life and change her forever too.

That spring, on Easter Monday, a 12-year-old girl found our altar and sanctuary to be a place where she might offer the chaos of her life in fear and fire.

We pray in thanksgiving that the child lived and that even in the crisis of loss and debris this congregation was able to find peace knowing that God would sustain and provide for us and keep us intact as a community grounded in faith and fellowship. We pray again for God to sustain us as we strive to remain in community with one another while being physically distant. We recognize the struggle to find peace in the midst of our aloneness.

We pray in thanksgiving that our first response was the need to pray for the peace of that young soul who believed the weight of her life too much to carry alone. We remember that Jesus tells us to take his yoke upon us because we would discover that he is peaceful and humble of heart. And we remember his promise, that in taking this yoke we will find peace and rest for our souls.

May the peace of God that surpasses all understanding be given to the child who we remember and pray for this day. May that same peace invade our hearts and, consuming the anxiety, chaos and misery of this world, transform all things into signs of hope and songs of joy.

My brothers and sisters let us pray. God our Father, you sent your Son Jesus to show us the way to a true and lasting peace. Open our minds and hearts to hear his message of peace and follow as his disciples. We ask this through your son Jesus Christ, who with the Holy Spirit reign with you now and forever. **Amen.**

A reading from John (13:25-27)

“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

A Litany for Peace based on Psalm 88 (the chime sounds between the verses)

Let us offer now our prayers for peace, remembering the child who came to this church abandoned, frightened, outcast and in chaos. At just 12 years old she was bereft of peace and so we sound the chime twelve times to remember her pain, to pray for her current peace and to ask God to show us how to be a part of the peace so longed for in this world and in our hearts.

One: By night we cry out, by day we rage at each other

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Calm us, quiet us, settle us, to hear the cry of those who are hurting

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Steady us, balance us, ground us, let us listen to the troubles around us

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Root us in patience, embed your love within us

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Plant us in the soil of sorrow, and re-create us in empathy,

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Forgive us, pardon us, free us from bigotry and blindness,

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Support us, sustain us, protect us, as we find words to begin dialogue,

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Restore us in charity, refresh us with hope,

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Enfold us with unity, enrich us in love,

All: God of Peace, hear our prayer. *A chime sounds sounds.*

One: Embrace us with courage, temper us with gentleness,
All: God of Peace hear our prayer. A chime sounds sounds.

One: Help us see You in those around us,
All: God of Peace hear our prayer. A chime sounds sounds.

One: Help us build communities of unity and justice,
All: God of Peace hear our prayer. A chime sounds sounds.

One: So that someday we may rejoice in your welcome, and enter your Kingdom singing your praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Eternal God, let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you. Let the quietness of God's peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us begin our worship with peace and thanksgiving!

The church bell rings.

The Opening Hymn

#593 Lord, make us servants of your peace

Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow hope;
where there is hurt, may we sow light;
where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
to be consoled, but to console,
nor look to understanding hearts,
but look for hearts to understand.

Where all is doubt may we sow faith;
where all is gloom, may we sow hope;
where all is night, may we sow light;
where all is tears, may we sow joy.

May we not look for love's return,
but seek to love unselfishly,
for in our giving we receive,
and in forgiving are forgiven.

The Word of God

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us pray. *(the collect of the day is read)*

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

You may be seated.

The First Reading

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the LORD said to

Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm

Psalm 114

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Hallelujah!
When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of
strange speech, | 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back? |
| 2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion. | 6 You mountains, that you skipped like
rams? *
you little hills like young sheep? |
| 3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back. | 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of
the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob, |
| 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep. | 8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool
of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring. |

The Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass

judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God. *The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

The Sequence Hymn:

#674 "Forgive our sins as we forgive"

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|--|---|
| 1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive"
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say. | 3 In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew,
how small the debts men owe to us,
how great our debt to you. |
| 2 How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart? | 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our
souls,
and bid resentment cease;
then, reconciled to God and man,
our lives will spread your peace. |

The Gospel *Please stand if you are able.*

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Homily

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People – Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, deacons and seminarians;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Give us each grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially those in danger of losing their homes or lives to wildfires, storms, poverty or racial violence;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially _____;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds this or another concluding Collect.

Celebrant: God of compassion, you created a world for us to know your love and peace yet, amidst the beauty of creation, we encounter pain and hurt and forces beyond our control. Grant your people quiet spirits and courageous hearts. Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest says:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Peace

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

This is Eucharistic Prayer A. The people stand.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth... *(the week's proper preface is said by the priest)*... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat" This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction Anthem

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impeded them from actually receiving Holy Communion. The following prayer will be used at live streamed Holy Eucharist.

The following prayer will be used at live streamed Holy Eucharist.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

The priest receives the Sacrament in both kinds.

The Communion Anthem

Deep Peace

John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world to you.

Deep peace of Christ to you.

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

The Benediction

The Celebrant gives this or another blessing to the people

Go out into the world in peace.

Have courage! Hold fast to what is good.

Return no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak,
help the suffering. Honor all people.

Love and serve the Lord your God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

The Closing Hymn:

#653 Dear Lord and Father of mankind

The Congregation may receive Communion as the Cantor sings the Closing Hymn

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!

Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives they service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

2. Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

3. Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

The Dismissal

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since, as members of one body, you were called to peace.

Colossians 3:15

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*The congregation is dismissed. The People respond to the dismissal: **Thanks be to God.***



Deaths by suicide continue to rise in all age brackets in the United States. However, suicides among teens have especially spiked, with an annual percentage change of 10% between 2014 and 2018 for 15- to 19-year-olds.

- Suicide is the **SECOND** leading cause of death for ages 10-24. (2017 CDC WISQARS)
- Suicide is the **SECOND** leading cause of death for college-age youth and ages 12-18. (2017 CDC WISQARS)
- More teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease, **COMBINED**.
- Each day in our nation, there are an average of over 3,041 attempts by young people grades 9-12. If these percentages are additionally applied to grades 7 & 8, the numbers would be higher.
- **Four** out of **Five** teens who attempt suicide have given clear warning signs
- **The Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance System (YRBS)** is a survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, that includes national, state, and local school-based representative samples of 9th through 12th grade students. The purpose is to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth in the United States.
- The surveys are conducted every two years to determine the prevalence of these health risk behaviors. Behaviors that contribute to unhealthy lifestyles and those that indicate possible depression and/or suicidal ideation are included. To view the full report, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/index.htm>

During the 12 months prior...	West Virginia	U.S.
Felt sad or hopeless (almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row so that they stopped doing some usual activities)	36.4%	36.7%
Seriously considered attempting suicide	20.9%	18.8%
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide	13.9%	15.7%
Actually attempted suicide	11.2%	8.9%
Suicide attempt resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse	3.7%	2.5%

**September is Suicide Prevention Month.
Learn to see the signs in order to save lives.**

WHAT TO KNOW:

- **Risk Factors:** history of mental illness, family history of mental illness, history of abuse, use of drugs/alcohol, significant loss, previous attempts, exposure to suicidal behavior in others, access to lethal weapons, struggles and fears of acceptance with sexual orientation.

- **Warning Signs** - changes in behavior over a period of two weeks: changes in sleep patterns, changes in eating (too much/too little), increased irritability (moodiness or rapid changes in mood), decreased interest in usual activities, isolation, risky behavior.

Should your someone you know **exhibit any of the above for two weeks**, please seek professional help immediately.

PROTECTIVE FACTORS can help keep your child safe:

- Strong coping/problem-solving skills, positive self-image, close family relationships, strong peer support, spiritual faith, involvement in activities, community connectedness, and restricted means (firearms, drugs, etc.).

If a child/student is in distress:

DO:

- Let them know you have noticed changes in his/her behavior and are concerned. *ASK how he/she is feeling.*
- Ask them if they are thinking about suicide, as in "*Are you feeling so bad you've thought about suicide?*" **Don't be afraid to say the 'S' word** - it many times gives them the freedom (safe place) to talk about their thoughts.
- Be supportive, calm, and let them know you care and that there is help.
- If a student: encourage him/her to see a school counselor.
Make arrangements for your child to see a mental health professional. (*Make sure the professional has training in suicide prevention.*)
- If your student: continue to stay in contact with them, talk to and stay in touch with the school counselor/administrator about your concerns with the student.

DON'T:

- Argue or be judgmental about the child/student's feelings or choices.
- Minimize their feelings.
- Ignore comments about suicide (even in a joking manner)
- Be sworn to secrecy
- Try to help on your own
- Not seek help for yourself and your family members, especially siblings when a child is diagnosed with a mental illness.

Per the "**Signs Of Suicide**" Program, remember to "**ACT**" when you find someone struggling:

- **A** - acknowledge their feelings - let them know they are not alone
- **C** - Care, let them know you care about them and will assist them in finding help
- **T** - Tell (if a peer or student - tell a Trusted Adult immediately; a Parent, School Counselor, Teacher, Minister, etc.)

For more information on the "Signs of Suicide" program: <https://mentalhealthscreening.org/>

Prayers for our St. John's Community

We pray for each other.

You may ask to have a name added to our list of those for whom we pray. Simply contact the parish office at office@stjohnshuntingtonwv.org or call 304-525-9105. We keep names on the list for **one calendar month**. You may renew at the beginning of each month.

We pray for all those sick or suffering, for those seeking prayer or guidance and for the departed.

You can also say the name aloud or silently during the prayers themselves. It is our privilege to pray for those you care about.

We pray for our own needs and those of others.

For the Diocese of WV, our Bishop and all churches: especially for the Episcopal Churches of Huntington; St. John's, Trinity and St. Peter's.

For our Seminarian: Klara

For St. John's as we search for a new Rector: Almighty God, give of every good gift, look graciously on your Church and so guide the minds of those who will choose a Rector in this church, that we may receive a pastor who will care for your people, equip us for our ministries and reach out to all your children in love.

For the ill or those with health concerns: Tyler and Brady, Jacky, Ann, Sue, Martha Blount, Lelah, John, Teresa, Rufus, Bill, Megan, Charles, Monica, June, Sharon, Jon, Lois, Laura, Jonathan, Bobby, Quentin, Dick, Callie, Jessie, Leo, Bob, Skip, Stacy, Frank, Elizabeth, Daisy, Sean, Sharon, James, Christie, Brian, Ray Jr., Amy, Richard, Sonya, Katharine, Michelle, Vic, Ed, Debbie, Alice, Linda, Father Watkins, Kris, Linda, Geneva, Nick, Cassie, Cohen, Jillian, Lance, James, Terry, Cora, Nedra, Gabe, Matthew, Josiah, Susan, Elsie, Carol, Giles, Amanda, Susan, Joe, Lelah, Andy

For those with cancer or in remission: David, Jeanne, Betty Sue, Hannah, Larry, Chris, Tom, Evelyn, Will, Frank, Willie, Cindy, Joan, B.J., Wilma, Emillie, Joyce, Dale, Michelle, Keith, John, Angie, Raymond, Kelly, Maggie, Julie, Sarah

For those in need of any prayer: Scott, Esther, Marty, Tom, Elizabeth, Jacob, Travis, Michel, Chloe, Lisa, Tiffany, Andres, Shane, Eric, Jennifer, Hannah, Drew, Mike, Nicole, Alex, Betsy, James, the Michaelson, Dale and Trimper families.

For racial equality in education, housing, public services, and employment opportunity:

God our Creator, you created humankind in your image, and blessed us with your love. Help us to show that love to one another as we work for equality for all races in education, housing, public services, and employment opportunity. Give us strength and courage to speak out against injustice, and to work for the transformation of unjust systems that keep some in bondage: that we may more fully live out your kingdom here on earth; through Jesus Christ your son, who came to set us free.” *(from The Diocese of WV Commission on Racism)*

For this time of pandemic: O almighty and merciful God, with whom are the issues of life and death: Grant us, we beseech thee, help and deliverance in this time of grievous sickness and mortality, and sanctify to us this affliction, that in our sore distress we may turn our hearts unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(from The Scottish Book of Common Prayer of 1929)*

For Doctors and Nurses: Sanctify, O Lord, those you have called to the study and practice of the arts of healing, and to the prevention of disease and pain. Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit, that by their ministries the health of the community may be promoted and your creation glorified.

For those in harm’s way and for all first responders: especially Tim, David, Edward, Jared, Ryan, Joey, Cody, Josh, Clay, Andy, Robert, Curt, Jordan, Kristen, Christopher, Tyler

God of compassion, you created a world for us to know your love and peace yet, amidst the beauty of creation, we encounter pain and hurt and forces beyond our control. At times like these our hearts are shaken and ache with sorrow at the destruction of lives, homes and livelihoods. Hear our prayers for those affected by natural disasters, illness and war and the turmoil in our nation and for all those working to bring relief, hope and calm.

For those celebrating birthdays: Nicholas Reynolds (9/1), Kent Higgins (9/5), Ian Castleberry (9/6), Christine Hilling (9/6), Jack Bogers (9/13), Linda Vinson (9/17), Jerry Coleman (9/23), Elijah Hilling (9/26), Jackson Rednour-Hallman (9/26), Matthew Wilson (9/26)

For those celebrating anniversaries: Karen and Jim Vassar (9/10)

For all those who have died, especially The Very Rev. Canon Donald Vinson and Dave Peyton. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, keep in your special care these, our beloved. Wipe away the tears of those whose grief runs deep. Help us to encourage each other throughout this troubled life. Keep us steadfast in faith, constant in hope and ardent in love and bring us all into that place you have prepared in your heavenly kingdom.

For those who mourn: Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with those who mourn. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Communion with Christ

*(This prayer is from the Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Services
and is prescribed for use with your devotions when Communion is not available)*

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 to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I 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 in the life to come. Amen.