

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

HYMN: *Christ, the Life of All the Living* (ELW 339)

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suffering, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.
- 2 You have suffered great affliction
and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion,
fully to atone for me;
for you chose to be tormented
that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.
- 3 Then, for all that bought my pardon,
for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden,
I will thank you evermore;
thank you for the groaning, sighing,
for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry,
praise you evermore on high.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gospel: John 11:17-27, 33-35, 38-44

The holy gospel according to John, from the eleventh chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

... ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep ...

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."

⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION (for the text, visit www.raspberryman.wordpress.com, "The Larger Life")

PRAYERS OF PETITION*, IN SONG:

Refrain: You are the Center, you are my life, you are the center, O Lord, of my life.

- 1. Come, Lord, and guide me, Lord of my life; send me your Spirit, Lord of my life. You are the center, Lord, of my life. [Refrain]*
- 2. Come, Lord, and heal me, Lord of my life; come, Lord, and teach me, Lord of my life. You are the center, Lord of my life.*

We make our prayers this day singing to God, "You are the center, you are my life," and responding; "**You are the center, O Lord, of my life.**"

May we who are merely inconvenienced by the crisis now in the world
Remember those whose lives are at stake. You are the center, you are my life ...

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable. You are the center, you my life ...

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health
or making their rent. You are the center, you are my life ...

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close,
Remember those who have no options. You are the center, you are my life ...

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go. You are the center, you are my life ...

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all. You are the center, you are my life ...

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home. You are the center, you are my life ...

As fear grips our country,
Let us choose love. You are the center, you are my life ...

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbor. You are the center,
you are my life ...

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us;
save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Go in the blessing of the life, love and being of Christ. **Amen.**

* Prayers of petition adapted from St. Paul's Anglican Church, Charlottetown, PEI; written by St. Paul's Church, Lexington, Kentucky and shared by Canadian Anglican Primate Linda Nichols
+Hymns and music covered by OneLicense.net #A-732801