

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022

The Cross

“Welcome God’s work in your heart and life and God will be there for you, making your life new.”

~Romans 10:10

O God, be not far from us.

Come quickly to help us, O God.

The Invitatory

Let us listen for God’s voice:

And harden not our hearts.

Cruciform 1

We pray for the world, for those at war, for the oppressed, for captives, for refugees, and especially, for our neighbors in Ukraine who are suffering and dying

How do we pray for peace from half a world away?

How can words salve and soothe real wounds, assuage real fears, wipe tears from real eyes?

God of endless compassion, transform our prayers from words into bridges that span the distances between us, uniting our hearts with yours.

Every time we turn our keys in a lock, may we remember all who are losing their homes.

Every time we step in our cars, may we remember all who are having to flee.

Every time we embrace our children, may we remember all who are trying to shield theirs from war.

May our besieged sisters and brothers be drawn into the arms of the suffering Christ, and may our cry be heard as one voice, ringing out from every corner of the earth: **God of endless mercy, grant us peace. Amen.**

~Cameron Bellm

Week 1 (the 7 beads between cruciform beads)

Open our hearts, Lord,

And fill it with your mercy and compassion.

Cruciform 2

We pray for guidance, Jesus, in the ways of your peace that we may seek and serve your Beloved as you would.

We pray this day:

for all who have a song they cannot sing,
for all who have a burden they cannot bear,

for all who live in chains they cannot break,

for all who wander homeless and cannot return,

for those who are sick and for those who tend them,

for those who wait for loved ones and wait in vain,

for those who live in hunger and for those will not share their bread,

for those who are misunderstood and for those who misunderstand,

for those who are captives and for those who are captors,

for those whose words of love are locked within their hearts

and for those who yearn to hear those words.

Have mercy upon these, O God,

Have mercy upon us all. Amen.

~Ann Weems

Week 2

Open our hearts, Lord,

And fill it with your mercy and compassion.

Cruciform 3

We pray, God, that you give us a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others.

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

~A Prayer for the Earth, Faith Climate Action Week

Week 3

Open our hearts, Lord,
And fill it with your mercy and compassion.

Cruciform 4

For all who have asked for our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; for those who are suffering or lost or lonely; and for those who have died especially ...

Name aloud or silently

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life especially ...

Name aloud or silently

Week 4

Open our hearts, Lord,
And fill it with your mercy and compassion.

Concluding Prayer (Return to Cruciform 1 Bead)

We pray for the Church, for the body of Christ, to remember that we are Christ's hands and feet and voice in this world, and to seek the courage and wisdom to act as Christ's disciples.

Ours are the eyes through which Jesus looks with compassion on this world. Ours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Ours are the hands through which he blesses the entire world. Ours are the hands, ours are the feet, ours are the eyes, and we are his body.

~Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila adapted

The Dismissal (Return to Invitatory Bead)

Blessed be the God of compassion and mercy.

Thanks be to God.

The Cross

May the almighty and merciful Lord bless us and keep us. **Amen.**

Almsgiving

Unicef

www.unicefusa.org

Doctors Without Borders

www.doctorswithoutborders.org/what-we-do/countries/ukraine

Iowa Interfaith Power and Light

<https://iowaip.org/>

Simpson Youth Academy

<https://simpson.edu/campus-life/campus-ministry/simpson-youth-academy>

The **Anglican Prayer Beads** were designed by Mary Clare Evans - daughter of St. Timothy's first rector Bob Hedges - which reflect different elements of our sanctuary. She chose the large dark, porous beads to represent the beams; the glass beads reflect the colors of the brick; the medallion is stamped with our cornerstone cross.

With assistance from her husband Dan, Mary Clare lovingly hand-stamped over 250 medallions along with packaging the beads.

With much gratitude and love for your presence in my life, I assembled the Anglican Prayer Beads while holding each of you in my heart and prayers.

~Mary+

For more information about Mary Clare's craft, go to

www.etsy.com/people/marylclareevans

For more information about Anglican Prayer Beads, go to

<http://kingofpeace.org/prayerbeads.htm>