

Prayers of the People March 22nd

by Susan Drain

Based on the Lectionary Texts of the day Lent 4A:

[Psalm 23](#); [1 Samuel 16:1-13](#); [Ephesians 5:8-14](#); [John 9:1-41](#)

Covid-19 2020

You, oh God, are our strength and our comfort. We turn to you in times of trouble, knowing that you care for us as the shepherd cares for his sheep.

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

Bless your church across the world and here in Canada, and help it be a light in the darkness. We pray for all bishops and clergy, Linda our primate, Ron our bishop and metropolitan, Paul our rector and dean, Helen our associate priest; for Heather, Ray, and Maggie our deacons; for all who minister to your people in ways great and small. Though we cannot gather at your table, we know we are in your presence.

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

Seeing beneath appearance to the very heart, you chose kings and prophets to lead and guide your people. We thank you for the spirit of co-operation we see in the world, and for our leaders' willingness to listen to evidence and experts in time of uncertainty and fear. Give wisdom and courage to those who must make hard decisions for the welfare of our global community, and confidence and trust to those who must obey.

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

You, oh God, are our strength and our comfort. We thank you for all who witness to your light in these days, all those who tend for the sick and care for the vulnerable and all those whose daily work it is to keep necessary supplies and services running. As days turn to weeks, keep them steadfast, sure in the knowledge that you restore the soul.

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

Your Son gave sight to the blind. Open our eyes to see your spirit at work around us, and the places where we can work your will in all that is good and right and true. Keep us mindful of the needs of others, and where we can do little, give us persistence in prayer, for you can do much. We pray especially for all who are ill, for all who are frightened, for all who grieve, and for those we name before you...

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

You, oh God, are our strength and our comfort. Keep us from fear and dread as we walk the path you have set before us; help us trust in the mercy and goodness with which you surround and uphold us.

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