

The Prayers of the People

Leader: In prayerful partnership with all faithful people throughout the world, let us pray for the needs of all people and for all creation, asking God to hear our prayer.

Leader: Dear People of God: Let us pray that as we walk the way of love with compassion, justice and reconciliation in our hearts, that we may inspire all the world to serve Christ in every living thing.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for all those who hold authority in every community and every nation. That they may not lose sight of the most vulnerable among us, and that they may especially seek to protect women and children and the natural resources that help them to thrive.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for the staff and partners of Episcopal Relief & Development as they facilitate healthier, more fulfilling lives in communities struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster and disease. We pray that you guide them as your servants in the world and that their work truly changes lives for the better.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for those struggling with poverty and hunger throughout the world, that all peoples, especially the children in countries both rich and poor, may reach their God-given potential to learn, grow and thrive.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for the health and well-being of all people. May every person have the resources they need to live and thrive in safety and may all people in every nation have access to life-saving vaccines and medicine. Let us pray for those who are in need of care, that they may be comforted, especially those we name now, aloud or in our hearts...

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar God's creation, especially the barriers to freedom faced by God's children throughout the world because of gender; providing women

and girls with equal access to education, health care, a living wage, and equal political and economic representation; so that all who have been formed in God's image might know equality in the pursuit of the blessings of creation.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for this fragile earth, our island home, that we may be emboldened to act on behalf of all of God's creation on land, in the seas and oceans, and in the air; protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of the land God commanded us to till and keep so that it will continue to bring forth the fruits of the earth in abundance.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for justice and peace throughout the earth, following the way of Jesus and learning from his example, seeking to serve him in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and respecting the dignity of every human being.

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us pray for those who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart; and for those we wish to name at this time...

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Let us offer to God our gratitude and thanksgivings. For all those, who out of their compassion and generosity, support the work of Episcopal Relief & Development and its partners around the world; for Ministry Partners and Disaster Volunteers; for all those who hold this work in prayer; for the many gifts present that help achieve God's dream in every community; and for the blessings we now name...

Silence

Leader: God of grace and love,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant continues:

Eternal God, continue to grace your people with the will to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you as we discern your presence in all challenges we face, for we have been redeemed by your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**