# Year A RCLPRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

In faith, let us pray to the Lord, saying....

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

We come to you with thanksgiving, O Lord our Maker, Kneeling in worship, because you are indeed present with us. You are our God. We are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

## Silence

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

Come, Holy Spirit, and transform us by your love.

Renew our hope in a world torn by self-interest, violence, brutality, injustice, hatred and fear.

May You, Lord Christ, the one who reconciles sinners to a holy God, be forever welcomed, praised, and exalted with all thanksgiving in every corner of the world.

I invite you to pray for the world and her leaders, remembering especially...

## Silence

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

O Lord, God of all sorrow, grant your church grace to rejoice in our sufferings. We want to be people of character, marked by hope and endurance, Yet we confess that we often shrink from suffering and pain. How we praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, for your faithful obedience unto death! Help your church throughout the world to stand fast in the faith And in the joy of your unfailing love.

I invite you to pray for the church throughout the world.

## Silence

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

We pray for those who suffer because of sin and human evil.

We remember the abused, the enslaved, the imprisoned, the orphaned, the widowed, the rejected and slandered, and those injured by addictions and despair. We pray for the depressed, the lonely and forgotten, for those weighed down by anxiety and guilt, the bereft and grieving, and for anyone whose spirit has been crushed and deeply wounded.

We remember the starving, the sick, the refugees, the poor, the homeless, the terminally ill, and those crippled by pain and infirmity.

The groaning of the world is too much for us to bear.

Come quickly to us, Lord Jesus, you who took on flesh and understand all our pain.

I invite you to pray for the needs of others.

#### Silence

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

Merciful Lord, keep us near to you this week.

Give us a hunger for your Word,
And help us to make space to listen to you.
We confess our need for you:
For your wisdom and guidance,
For your protection and provision,
For your help and comfort.
In every area of our lives we need you, Lord,
And we ask that you would be our daily portion.

I invite your prayers for the upcoming week..

## Silence

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

Look in the deep places of our beings, and create in us clean hearts. Give us a right abhorrence for our own sins.

Help us to be alert and self-controlled,

That we may flee the snares of our enemy.

Show us where we have withheld forgiveness,

And, because of your great mercy, grant us grace to forgive others.

I invite your prayers for repentance and perseverance.

#### Silence

Lord in your mercy, *Hear our prayer*.

We thank you for your church,
For all who have been given your grace in Christ Jesus.

We remember now those who have died in the faith, trusting that they are in your care.

## Silence

Lord in your mercy, *Hear our prayer*.

Lord, we believe that you are indeed among us,

That You alone offer living water.

We have tasted your faithfulness,

And we trust in your everlasting guidance and provision.

Come, Holy Spirit, and soften our hearts,

That we may be worshippers who worship in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.