

Year A RCL PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: PALM SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54

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

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord God,
The One to whom we turn in time of trouble,
Our souls are overwhelmed with terror and grief
As we consider the weight of sin and death.
Our times are in your hand, Holy God.
Rescue us from death at the hand of our enemy.
Our souls wait for you alone.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Christ, You walked among us,
You surrendered Yourself to suffering and death,
Receiving from our hand the wounds of our self-interest, violence, brutality,
injustice, hatred and fear.
You alone bear the weight of the world,
And we stand silent and awestruck in sight of the cross.

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

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Jesus Christ, we confess that you are Lord.
We think of your humility,
Your willingness to be born in human form,
Your obedience unto death on a cross.
May the whole earth proclaim your praises and rejoice in your eternal purposes.
Lord of our salvation, equip your church with the mind of Christ.
Grant us perseverance and unwavering faith
That we might humbly follow You in the work You have given us to do.

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.

Holy Spirit, we ask that you would ready our hearts for the upcoming week.
Help us to set aside anything that would hinder or distract us from making space to journey with you through Holy Week.
Grant us grace to remember,
To meditate upon your passion and suffering,
To watch and pray with you for a little while.
Our spirits are willing, but our flesh is weak.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.