



**Praying for the Healing of the World;  
Prayer Vigil June 21, 2018  
St. Bart's, Yarmouth**

*You are invited to sit in silence, to pray whatever is in your heart,  
or to use these prayers provided as you wish.*

*Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35*

**Opening**

Holy One, you lavish love upon us.  
**make us people of extravagant love.**

**Prayer**

Holy God, lover of our souls, we come before you as people created by and for love:  
Gather us in this time to hear again your word of love, to renew our trust in its breadth and depth. In the sacrifice of your love for us, may we find renewal and be your love in the world. **Amen.**

**Praise**

*A Song of God's Love (I John 4:7-11)*

Beloved, let us love one another,  
for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God,  
for God is love.

In this, the love of God was revealed among us,  
that God sent his only Son into the world,  
so that we might live through Jesus Christ.

In this is love, not that we loved God  
but that God loved us  
and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.

Beloved, since God loved us so much,  
we ought also to love one another.

For if we love one another,  
God abides in us,  
and God's love will be perfected in us.

**Scripture from the book of Isaiah**

*(Isaiah 58:6-9a)*

Is not this the fast that I chose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

**Meditation**

We live in a time of struggle between truth and lies, between sincerity, which almost no one believes in still, and hypocrisy and intrigue. Let's not be afraid, brothers and sisters; let's try to be sincere, to love truth; let's try to model ourselves on Christ Jesus. It is time for us to have a great sense of selection, of discernment.  
- Oscar Romero

## **Prayers**

Beloved, we are called to love those in need:

**Let us love in truth and action.**

Beloved, we are called to be people of peace:

**Let us love one another.**

Beloved, we are called to be people of healing:

**Let us love not only God, but our brothers and sisters, also.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*

May we abide in God's love.

**may God's love abide in us.**

Savior, Redeemer, Beloved of God: Clothe us in your love, strengthen us to live gently on this earth, give us humility to see all we encounter as precious to you, and teach us to walk with kindness and patience this hour and always. **Amen.**

## **Prayer**

*Attributed to St. Francis*

*(Said in unison)*

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let us sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is discord, union;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**where there is sadness, joy.**

**Grant that we may not so much seek**

**to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand;**

**to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

**Amen.**

## **A Prayer for the World**

*adapted from a prayer written by Rabbi Harold Kushner, 2003*

Let the rain come and wash away  
the ancient grudges, the bitter hatreds  
held and nurtured over generations.

**Let the rain wash away the memory  
of the hurt, the neglect.**

Then let the sun come out and  
fill the sky with rainbows.

**Let the warmth of the sun heal us  
wherever we are broken.**

Let it burn away the fog so that  
we can see each other clearly.  
**So that we can see beyond labels,  
beyond accents, gender or skin color.**

Let the warmth and brightness  
of the sun melt our selfishness.  
**So that we can share the joys and  
feel the sorrows of our neighbors.**

And let the light of the sun be so strong  
**that we will see all people as our neighbors.**

Let the earth, nourished by rain,  
bring forth flowers to surround us with beauty.  
**And let the mountains teach our hearts  
to reach upward to heaven.  
Amen.**

### **Confession**

**Most loving God,  
we confess that we have not loved  
in thought, word, or deed.  
We have not loved you or our neighbors or ourselves.  
We are sorry.  
Remind us that you love us unconditionally  
and help us to rest in your love.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Loving God, have mercy on us, forgive us for forgetting to love,  
and renew our ability to give and receive love in all that we do. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Holy One, you hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of this world's anger and sorrow; give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Going Out**

Holy One, you lavish love upon us.  
**make us people of extravagant love.**

*Thank you for joining us as we pray on behalf of a broken world. Today we pray in particular for those families who have been separated, for parents and children who are afraid, and for those who care for them. For those in the system who tend to them, for those in position to make a change to the policies in place. We pray for all who flee violence and oppression, for those who endure conditions we cannot imagine, and for quality of life for all. We pray for those who have died, those who grieve, all who suffer and those who are afraid. We pray because we believe that God's love and mercy can change the world from what it is now to what it should be. We pray because we believe that prayer is one of the ways we participate in healing and restoring this broken world. Thank you for being part of this work with us.*

*- The People of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
All are Welcome at God's Table  
Summer Worship, Sundays, 9am  
[Stbartsyarmouth.org](http://Stbartsyarmouth.org)*

