

**Service of Prayer in the Evening, June 1, 2020, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church**

*Joining our hearts in prayer, we mourn those who have died from Corona Virus, and those killed by violence against people of color, and all those who suffer injustice and fear because of our collective sin of racism. (This service follows the form of Compline, or night prayer, of the monastic offices.)*

*Opening Sentence:* In the fullness of our humanity, heal us, gracious Savior.

*Officiant* Our help is in the Name of the Lord;  
*People* **The maker of heaven and earth.**

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins to God.  
*Silence may be kept.*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father:  
We have sinned against you,  
through our own fault,  
in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
forgive us all our offenses;  
and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Officiant* May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins,  
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Officiant* O God, make speed to save us.  
*People* **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*Officiant and People* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.**

*A Reading from Scripture John 13:34-35*

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.

*Meditation Written by a member of the St. Bart's community*

I keep thinking of George Floyd pleading that he can't breathe, like Eric Garner before him, and about all the people, but disproportionately in our Black and Latino communities, who can't breathe because their bodies are ravaged by this coronavirus. ... And I think of Frederick Buechner's definition of compassion: "Compassion is the sometimes-fatal capacity for feeling what it's like to live inside somebody else's skin. It is the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you too."

*For our meditation: How might we find a way for everyone to breathe?*

*What can I do to be part of making this a world of peace and joy for all people?*

*Prayer Concluding Our Meditation*

Troubled God, in every generation you call your people to contend against the brutality of sin and betrayal: Keep us steadfast even in our fear and uncertainty, so that we may follow where Jesus has led the way. **Amen.**

*Join in singing of **We Shall Overcome**, led by The Rev. Abby d'Ambruoso, Education Coordinator, St. Bart's. Originally posted on Pentecost as part of her online Sunday School lesson. (*We Shall Overcome*, by the Reverend Charles Albert Tindley, minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was first published in 1900, is now in the public domain.)*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

***The Prayers***

Let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

Jesus, faithful beloved of God,  
sometimes it is difficult for us to know how to be faithful:  
**Help us discern your will and follow you with gladness.**

Jesus, faithful beloved of God,  
in this holy week of Pentecost, we see the brokenness and prejudice of our world:  
**Help us be people who faithfully bring forth justice.**

Jesus, faithful beloved of God,  
in the midst of pandemic, we know the world longs for healing:  
**Help us be people of hope and bearers of light.**

Jesus, faithful beloved of God,  
we want to be the people you long for us to be:  
**Help us walk in your way of love.**

We offer you the prayers of our hearts:  
*please add your particular intercessions here.*

*The Collects:*

Loving God, as we seek to know and follow you more faithfully,  
we pray you will open and fill our hearts  
with the love and knowledge of your Son, Jesus.  
May we see ever more clearly what it is you call us to,  
and may we respond with lives of joy and justice. **Amen.**

Holy One, you planted us by living water,  
that we might be rooted in righteousness.  
You call us to be holy as you are holy.  
Assured of your love, help us cast aside all fear,  
so that we may love our neighbors as ourselves. **Amen.**

You have called us in righteousness.  
**Let us respond with love and justice.**

Let us pray with our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry: *(Prayers on the day of Pentecost, video)*

Closing Prayer with the Presiding Bishop:  
*(Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God, video)*

**God of all power and love,  
we give thanks for your unfailing presence  
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.  
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.  
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:  
a people who pray, worship, learn,  
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,  
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.  
Wherever and however we gather,  
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,  
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Officiant*

The Lord almighty grant us a peaceful night  
and a perfect end. **Amen.**

**Resources and Notes:**

The Book of Common Prayer, Compline Service  
Daily Prayers for All Seasons  
The Episcopal Church, Office of Public Relations  
Videos of ++Michael Curry were posted for the Sunday of Pentecost.