**The Prayers of the People**

*Priest*

Gathering all that commands our prayers, let us intercede with our gracious God, saying, Have mercy, O Lord.

*Intercessor*

For the Church:

for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;

for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Wayne, our own Bishop;

for Marvin, our Rector; Paul and Sue, our Associate Clergy; and our Staff and Vestry;

for the Anglican Church in the Congo, and Zacharie, their Archbishop;

for the people of Lui Archdeaconry in Lui Diocese;

for the people and ministry of Church of the Holy Communion (University City),

and Mike, their Priest;

that God’s commandments may be ever close to us, wonderful to ponder, and life-giving to keep, we pray:

*People*

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For the church, that those who will be baptized in Eastertide, Brier, Noah, James, Nicolas, and Desiree, may be drawn to the folly and weakness of God in Christ crucified, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For Donald, our President,

and Eric, our Governor,

for our divided and restless world, that those who hold power over others may be troubles and transformed by the demands of justice, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For children, that infants and young people of every nation may have food and learning, and that they may love their world, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For this gathered community, that the solemn brightness of Lent may open our eyes to these times, their folly and their worth, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For all who suffer want or are in distress, especially those we now remember silently or aloud *(please allow 20 seconds for the congregation’s intercessions)*, that God in mercy may turn our hearts toward one another and bring us to end our faithless reliance on weapons, war, and the threat of war, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For those observing birthdays this week:

John O'Bryan, Beverly Rhea, Adrianna Hotra, Tom Morgan, Gerald Amies, Ruth Birch,

Dorothy Bacon, Leland Schuerman, Caitlin Schuerman, and Anne Teymouri;

and for all whose lives are closely linked with ours, that we may serve Christ, and love one another as he loves us, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

For the dead, *(please allow 10 seconds for the congregation’s intercessions)*, especially those, like blessed John, blessed Charles, blessed Perpetua and her Companions, and blessed Gregory, who held to and handed on God’s commandment until our day, that they may be at peace, we pray:

**Have mercy, O Lord.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*