

Pastor Prayer for April 5, 2020  
Palm Sunday

We thank you, God, for your presence in this time when we miss the daily contact we have enjoyed before – daily contact that was so ordinary we forgot to treasure it. Unite our hearts today as we keep our bodies at a distance. By your Holy Spirit, may who we love feel the embrace of our compassion and concern.

Thank you for a good word in a troubled time, and for the technology that allows us to bridge six thousand miles without moving. Be with Jonathan Lee and his family. Lend them strength and courage for these uncertain days.

We pray for those who serve the sick today: the physicians and the technicians, the nurses and the CNAs, the unit secretaries and the medical administrators, the researchers and the students, the people who make the arrangements and the people who keep everything clean. Already too many have sickened, already too many have died from infections they contracted while serving their patients. Give them the protection of your grace as well as the protection of masks, gloves, and gowns. Give them deep sleep so that they can meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Guide the leaders of the nations, from mayors to governors to presidents, in sound judgement and compassionate leadership through this pandemic. May they be wise. May they be humble. May they equip those who care for the ill. May they be servants of their people.

We pray for those who grieve today. With only a few permitted to gather, join the hearts of those who sorrow with those who ache to comfort them. Gently receive those who pass from this life to yours, and be the warm embrace for those who remain.

On this Palm Sunday, we recall that the word, “Hosannah,” means “save us.”

Holy One who rode so humbly and so bravely into Jerusalem, come and save us.

Amen.