

Prayer for April 26, 2020

Risen Christ,

Feed us, we pray. Our spirits hunger for you. Our spirits long for you. Our spirits faint for the living God.

It is easy to be dispirited in these days. Two hundred thousand people are known to have died from this one disease around the world, O God. How many more? How long will it be until we can gaze upon someone's unmasked face in safety? How long will it be until we can embrace our friends in greeting?

We do not know.

So feed us, we pray. We need the nourishment that you alone can bring.

Lend your strength to those who are ill, whether it be with COVID-19 or due to some other illness or injury. Guide the wisdom of those who tend them as professionals and as loved ones. Comfort their fears. Feed their spirits.

Be with those who must be out and about in these times, O God. From the medical professionals to the store clerks, from the sailors on ships to the harvesters of food. May they all have your presence to lend them courage and your guidance to protect themselves effectively against new contagions. May those developing treatments and vaccines be guided by your grace. May those who set public policy speak with wisdom and with truth, and not with an eye to their re-elections.

We pray for the shocked and grieving of small communities in Nova Scotia, wracked with violence this past week. Guide us to prevent these terrible tragedies in the future, and give comfort to those who suffer.

You, O God, are the one who summons us, who inspires us, and who sees that we are fed. For this and more we give you thanks and praise.

Amen.