

Pastoral Prayer

March 7, 2021

O God who is greater than the marketplace,

Once more we look around the world and see that the worship of wealth and power and privilege. We see public health measures sacrificed on the altar of “re-opening,” even as public health experts warn that vaccines have not been widely administered enough to prevent a return to soaring numbers of sick people.

Do we really prefer our wealth to our health, O God? Do we really live alongside people who choose their power over the lives of others? Will we really do this again? God, would you please protect this human race from its hubris, folly, and greed?

We ourselves know the temptations. We know about the impulse to put self first and others second. We know what that does to them. We know about what it does to us – and even though it might look good initially, our souls bear the scars. Holy One, forgive us our sins, and guide us in grace.

Bring your grace to the people of Myanmar striving to recover control of their nation from people with power and a lot of weapons. Bring your grace to the people of the world who are severely ill of coronavirus or cancer or heart disease or environmental degradation. Bring your grace to the people of the world who mourn; let them be comforted. Bring your grace to us, for we are still anxious and we are still lonely and some of us, some of our neighbors, wonder how the next meal will come.

We ask these things in Jesus’ name, who taught us to pray, saying...

Amen.