Morning Prayer F: Week of 4.29.24 COMPASSION FOR THE WORLD

It is Christ you tend in the poor. It is his wounds you bathe, his sores you clean, his limbs you bandage...When you serve the poor and hurting, you serve our Lord Jesus Christ. -Mother Teresa

When I look at the lives of compassionate people, I see some common characteristics: a generous heart, a nonblaming and non-judging mind, a passionate spirit, a willingness to sacrifice their life, a keen empathy, and a love that embraces the oneness of all creation. -Joyce Rupp

OPENING SENTENCES

The world belongs to God, the earth and all its people. How good it is, how wonderful, to live together with tender compassion. Love and faith come together, justice and peace join hands. If Christ's disciples keep silent the walls of our dwellings would shout aloud. Open our lips, O God, and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

CONFESSION

Holy God, Maker of all have mercy on us. Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor have mercy on us. Holy Spirit, Breath of life have mercy on us. Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty ...

... silence is kept ...

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness: to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world. **May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.** Amen.

Before God, with the people of God, we confess to *our* brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR GOD'S HELP

Move among us, O God; give us life: let your people rejoice in you. Make our hearts clean within us: renew us in mind and in spirit. Sanctify our vision, that we might see the face of Jesus in every person we encounter. Expand our love, that we might extend it more dynamically in our daily walk.

And now as Jesus taught us, we say: 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 in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PSALM 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; worship the Lord in gladness. Come into God's presence with gratitude. Know this: God is God: God made us and we are God's. We are God's people, God's well-tended flock. Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, And God's courts with praise; Give thanks to God and bless God's name. For the Lord is good;

the Lord's love is generous, And God's faithfulness is for all generations.

SCRIPTURE READING

With humility we open our hearts and minds listening for a deeper wisdom...

Monday- Genesis 1:26-31 Tuesday- Ruth 1:15-18 Wednesday- Matthew 14:13-21 Thursday- 1 John 3:11-17 Friday- Luke 10:25-37

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us **Thanks be to God.**

... a silence is kept ...

PRAYERS FOR MYSELF & OTHERS

O God, we offer prayer: for the needs of the world ... *pause* for nations at war ... *pause* for all in trouble, illness or distress ... *pause* for those who are hungry and homeless ... *pause* for the addicted, the despondent, and the heartbroken ... *pause* for those facing death and those who grieve ... *pause* for all who make a new beginning this day, even myself ... *pause* for the well-being of your Church ... *pause*

Bring healing, O God, to these weary souls. Bring an awareness of your presence, grace, and love to these desperate hearts. Deepen our compassion for all those who suffer. May your love find new expression in our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

And voices joined as one say **Amen.**

Loving One, set your blessing on us as we begin this day. Confirm us in the truth from which we wrongly turn. Make us instruments of your gracious compassion as we encounter the hurting souls of this world you love. We offer this day and ourselves for you and to you, through Jesus Christ, our model and our hope. **Amen.**

CLOSING SENTENCES

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. We will not offer to God offerings that cost us nothing. Go in peace to love and to serve; we will nurture compassion and offer it. In the name of the Trinity of Love, God in community, holy and one. We give this day to God!

--readings for morning prayer adapted from **A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God** by Norman Shawchuck & Rueben P. Job —prayer liturgies are adapted from the Iona Community resources