

Pandemic Intercessions



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Spirituality in Action

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According to John Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering and the Centers for Disease Control, on December 10, 2020 the United States averaged 2.3 deaths per minute from Covid-19.

Lighting the Incense

The priest places incense on charcoal burning in a bowl and blesses it saying

Be blessed by the One in whose honor you are burned.

Incense is a sign of our prayers ascending. Psalm 141:2 says,

*Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.*

The Litany

*Deacon Micheal
People*

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy on us.

*Deacon Micheal
People*

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

*Deacon Micheal
People*

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy on us.

*Deacon Micheal
People*

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,
Have mercy on us.

*Deacon Greg
People*

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,
Savior deliver us.

*Deacon Greg
People*

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of
heart and contempt for your word and your laws,
Savior deliver us.

*Deacon Greg
People*

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh,
and the devil,
Savior deliver us.

*Deacon Greg
People*

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying
unprepared,
Savior deliver us.

<i>Deacon Greg</i>	In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,
<i>People</i>	Savior deliver us.
<i>Deacon Greg</i>	By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,
<i>People</i>	Savior deliver us.
<i>Deacon Greg</i>	By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,
<i>People</i>	Savior deliver us.
<i>Deacon Greg</i>	By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,
<i>People</i>	Savior deliver us.
<i>Deacon Greg</i>	By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,
<i>People</i>	Savior deliver us.
<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Give your wisdom and strength to Donald and Joseph, the President and President-Elect of the United States, Gretchen, the Governor of this state, all Governors and the Mayors of our cities, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our states' legislatures, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.

<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Archdeacon Beth</i>	Bless and keep all your people,
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Keep in safety those who travel, especially emergency workers, first responders, and all who are in peril.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially those impacted by the Covid-19 virus, and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Guard and protect all children who are in danger.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.
<i>Chaplain Barrett</i>	Hear us as we remember those who have died, especially those who have died from Covid-19, and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.
<i>People</i>	Hear us, O Christ.

Deacon Micheal Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

People Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us.

The Confession of Need

Deacon Micheal Let us confess our need for God's healing grace.

People Compassionate God,
we confess our weaknesses and our need for your
strengthening touch.
We confess that some illnesses stem from our own fault, while
others are beyond our control.
We turn to you, source of life,
and ask in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ
for the gifts of true healing and life in you. Amen.

Fr. Randall May the God of love visit our world in this time of trial and
weakness, and raise all people to newness of life, through Jesus
Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People Amen.

The Collects

Deacon Micheal Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or
weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who
sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless
the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the
joyous; and all for your love's sake.

People Amen.

Deacon Greg O God our Creator, you have blessed us and given us dominion
over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery
of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the
human race, and new wisdom and determination in making
provision for its future in accordance with your will; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Archdeacon Beth Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, O God, for the love of your Word, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Savior.

People Amen.

Chaplain Barrett Sovereign Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray.

People Amen.

Fr. Randall O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, in whose embrace all creatures live, in whatsoever world or condition they may be: We pray for all who have died from complications related to Covid-19. Grant them light and rest, peace and refreshment, joy and consolation in paradise, in your holy Presence, in the ample folds of your great love. Grant that their lives may unfold in your sight, and find a sweet employment in the spacious fields of eternity. If they have ever been hurt or maimed by any unhappy word or deed of ours, we ask you to heal and restore them that they may love and serve without hindrance. Tell them, most gracious One, if it may be, how much we love them and miss them and long to see them again. Help them and us to know that in your good time, hearts that are sundered here will be reunited in the country of our hopes, where you will make us glad in your abundant answer to every humble prayer.

People Amen.

The Blessing

Fr. Randall May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah,
and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary,
and of the Holy Spirit,
who broods over the world as a mother over her children,
be upon you and remain with you always.

People Amen.

The Dismissal

Archdeacon Beth Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Ministers of the Liturgy

The Venerable Beth Drew, RN
Archdeacon, Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan

The Rev. Gregory L. Flentje, MD, PhD, Deacon & Physician

The Rev. Micheal G. Hueschen, Deacon & Healthcare Chaplain

Mr. J. Barrett Lee, ob/OSB, Healthcare Chaplain

The Rev. Randall R. Warren, D.Min, Priest
Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Liturgical Sources

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