

The Litany

“Standing in the Power of Prayer Against COVID-19”

Designated Leader:

O God, as a nation, a world, a community, a church, You have our undivided attention —again! It seems that no sooner than we begin to feel self-sufficient, independent, scientifically sophisticated, we are struck by surprises that throw us collectively on our heels.

Designated Leader:

O God, we are anxious —again! Another virus; something we can't see, passing from hand to unwashed hand; something lingering on surfaces, something stubbornly hanging in the air waiting to be inhaled; something from which we humans are not yet immune.

Designated Leader:

We are being encouraged that we must not walk in fear. We are believers; we are people of faith. But we can, and we will, confess to You that we are Anxious. Worldwide, the virus has infected more than 340,408 people and finding new victims to assault every day. More than 14,573 people have died. The necrology is growing exponentially. We now know the meaning of “pandemic.”

Designated Leader:

It is a far-reaching lesson to learn. It matters not where the virus started, we are a world of neighbors. Jesus taught us, “Love your neighbor!” Our denominational motto affirms, “humankind our family.” As a result of COVID-19, we have had a lot of death in the “family.”

Presiding Elders/Pastor:

If my people who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

Designated Leader:

And, so, we do what we know to do in this kind of crisis — we pray. We “look to the hills, from whence comes our help. Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth” and the sciences, and scientists. You taught Moses in the wilderness the efficacy of “social distancing” and the power of “quarantine” for the sake of public health to mitigate against the spread of infection among the people of Israel as they journeyed to the Promised Land. “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,” so “those who looked, lived.” So, reveal to us the formula for the vaccine to hold death at bay, to restore health to Your people in every nation, in every community, in every church, affected by coronavirus.” We speak Life! Amen.