**Give us This Day**

**Welcome:**

Good evening and welcome to our prayer.

We pray the Lord’s prayer so often and we hear the words:

 *Give us this day our daily bread*

And so we gather this night to reflect on and to pray for *what we need THIS day*…

We pray for:

 Our world

 Our country

 Our parish

 Our families

 And for ourselves

In a particular way tonight, we pray for our Church…a church broken and in crisis.

A church in need of our prayers. We pray for accountability, for transparency, for a restoration of trust, and most especially, we pray for healing.

In light of all these struggles, we believe that

encouragement and hope can be found

 as we come together in prayer!

Amidst the noise and hectic pace of life,

 we take this time to stop…to slow down

 and to listen to God's gentle voice and experience God’s healing love.

During the prayer tonight, there will be some readings and music and an extended time for meditation.

As we call upon God’s Spirit to bless and heal us, please stand and join in singing our gathering song, #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Send Us Your Spirit, # \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Scripture:**

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Strengthen hands that are feeble, make firm knees that are weak

Say to the fearful of heart:

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who comes with vindication;

With divine recompense

God comes to **heal** you.

Then the eyes of the blind shall see,

and the ears of the deaf be opened

Then the lame shall leap like a stag,

and the mute tongue shall sing for joy.

For waters will burst forth in the wilderness,

The burning sands will become pools,

and the thirsty ground, springs of water;

There the redeemed shall walk,

and enter Zion singing,

crowned with everlasting joy;

They meet with joy and gladness,

sorrow and mourning flee away.

Here is your God, who comes to heal.

 The Word of the Lord

**Reading:**

**Let us listen the following words of Pope Francis:**

If healing is to occur for and within the church, we must acknowledge the heart-wrenching pain of the victims, which cries out to heaven, was long ignored, kept quiet or silenced. Their outcry was more powerful than all the measures meant to silence it, or sought even to resolve it by decisions that increased its gravity by falling into complicity.

With shame and repentance, we acknowledge as an ecclesial community that we were not where we should have been, that we did not act in a timely manner or realize the magnitude and the gravity of the damage done to so many lives.  We showed no care for the little ones; we abandoned them.

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable.

We must beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion and healing.

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. We must remember this. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention, reparation, and most of all…. healing.

 PAUSE for a slow count of 10 SECONDS

**Please see the prayer sheet you were given when you arrived for some reflection questions during this time of meditation.**

 **Song: Healer of our Every Ill**

 **Time of Meditation**

***On the table in front of the sanctuary is a bowl of water.***

In baptism, water symbolizes our total trust in and total reliance on Christ. It also expresses unity with all the saints, as well as every person in every nation on earth who is a member of

the Body of Christ.

If you would like to, you are invited to come forward

and dip your hand in the water and bless yourself.

May this blessing be a sign of your commitment to the

continued healing of our wounded Church.

 **Time of Meditation**

***On the table in front of the sanctuary is a bowl of water.***

In baptism, water symbolizes our total trust in and total reliance on Christ. It also expresses unity with all the saints, as well as every person in every nation on earth who is a member of

the Body of Christ.

If you would like to, you are invited to come forward

and dip your hand in the water and bless yourself.

May this blessing be a sign of your commitment to the

continued healing of our wounded Church.

**Intercessions:**

**Sung response: O God, Hear Us: Hear our Prayer**

**[Trish will sing it once and then have congregation sing it twice. Soft music will continue to play as intercessions are read.]**

We entrust to God’s loving care the many places and people in need of God’s care:

 **We pray for:**

 ~Those suffering from the effects of the recent Hurricane…especially in North Carolina, South Carolina, and those suffering in China from the impact of the typhoon.

 ~Those suffering under the violence in Syria, Afghanistan

 ~ Refugees, immigrants, and those striving for a better life

 ~Those caught in the cycle of addiction

**Sung response 2x**

 **We pray for healing for:**

 **~**Survivors of abuse by clergy and for all who have been abused as children

 or suffered other trauma or harm

 ~Family members of abuse survivors and all those who accompany them

 on their journey of healing

 ~Church leaders who did not act as true shepherds, as they walk the path of

 Acknowledging their sins, repentance, and conversion

~Those individuals whose faith is shaken during this time of crisis and in

 need of God’s strength and grace.

**Sung response 2x**

 **We entrust to God’s guidance:**

~Our president, congress, and all world leaders

 ~Those running for elected office

 ~The care of our earth and all its resources

 ~Those who serve in the military

 ~Those who are poor, sick, lonely, or burdened by life

 ~Those who are caregivers

 ~Those who have died

 ~Those prayers we hold within the silence of our hearts

**Sung response 2x**

**Please stand:**

**Let us pray together the words that Jesus taught us:**

[SLOWLY]

**Our Father….**

**Let us offer to one another a sign of Christ’s peace.**

As we go forth this night, let us sing together, Chris, Be Our Light!