

We come before the Resurrecting-God;

We are the sheep, flocking together,
feeling safe together, following each other,
sometimes silly, sometimes confused
....always hungry.

Gentle creatures, keeping our heads down, looking for green pastures,
sometimes wandering on stony ground,
scattering- on dark and cloudy days, getting lost,
....grateful to be found.

With our soft wool,
we are huggable, simple...social...needing a leader,
hoping to be looked after.
We are the sheep.

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Today we pray for those in need of healing-
for those who need relief from illness, cancer, heart disease, a stroke, addiction,
and so many other illnesses that affect our bodies,
for those who have symptoms, and those who are sick from, the Covid19 virus.

We pray for your encouragement in their recovery, comfort in their grieving.
wholeness of mind and spirit for the lonely; those who are experiencing fear or loss
... we pray for peace in all things.

We pray for the Moderator of the United Church of Canada;
The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Bott. We pray that you will grant him strength and
spirit as he answers your call to care for all of us in this anxious time. Grant him
peace, rest, and prayer time.

We pray for all those we name out loud,
and for those we name in our hearts.

We keep these loved ones in our prayers; Dagmar Hudson, Barb Rogers,
Joanne & Tom Ogawa, Laurie Keller, the Barbosa family, Samantha Kelly, Kim,

Peggy Wilkie, Candace, Harmony, Destiny, Joanne Fraser, Shelley Stewart, Preya, Michael Brotsche, Jean & Don Burgess, Rylan, Kevin, Michael Kelly, Randy, Mary Ann Ellis, Ferdinand and his family, Marg Edmonds, Darlene, Jasmine Pearo, Dorothy Liang's son-in-law; Robert... her sister; Margaret, Silvia Bowers and her daughter, Shelagh.

.....

...silent prayer....

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for Nettie Klimec's family as they mourn her passing on Tuesday, Apr 21st
We pray for all who mourn.

We pray for the lonely, those who feel left out, the vulnerable, the refugees.
Hear our prayer.

We offer prayers of thanksgiving and praise for the "front-line" workers.
When they have no strength left after a long shift, help them see that
they can lean on you.

We pray for the work of each day

- shopping and preparing meals ...while others go hungry
- looking after our yards and homes.....while others are homeless
- caring for our children and our seniors.....while others do not have a family

O God, help us rise up with life-giving, love-giving action.

We pray for the Church, and for the thread of God's grace that holds us together.
May we continue to be your people,
no matter what our future holds...no matter where you lead us.

O God, hear our prayer.

We are the sheep. Help us to follow our Shepherd-Teacher.
Help us to care for our-selves, and others...especially in this time.

We pray all these things in the holy goodness of your names,
Our Father, who art in heaven....