

Gracious and Holy God,
we thank you for the gift of life, and within it, the gift of water.
Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom.
In the waters of the Jordan your Child Jesus was baptized.

God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters of creation,
bringing order out of chaos; we thank you.

We praise you for the miracle of creation;
newborn babies- a miracle in their conception and growth;
newborn days- each, like the first day, a miracle in itself;
newborn lives- reborn lives reformed by your eternal grace.

We pray for ourselves, that we may see you, and hear you.
We pray others today;
for any who are oppressed and see no way out,
for those who are hungry, alone, ill, or grieving,

Today we pray for the workers and volunteers on the Downtown Eastside. Ease the pain and trauma on the faces of those who respond to over-dose calls day and night. We pray for the caring and brave workers who give so much in these times where programs and resources are cancelled due to Covid. We pray for those living on the streets, everywhere. Bring them comfort and shelter of every kind.

We pray the Covid vaccine will be given quickly and with discernment. In the meantime, help us to stay vigilant, and carefully, prayerfully encourage others to do the same.
We pray for those we know and love who are on our Prayer List. Grant them courage and patience as they continue their journey.
We pray for-

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God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters of the Jordan; washing away the dirt of the past, drowning old lives and giving birth to new ones; we offer ourselves to you. You know our lives are grimy with yesterday's wrongs, yet you keep calling, inviting, promising that things can be different for us, and for your world. Help us to make it so.

Today we sing! for birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions and people that bring joy to our lives.
Today we celebrate-

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As we begin another calendar year, bless us as we follow your word with love and generosity, and live your truth. We pray all these things in the holy goodness of your names,
.....saying our Lord's Prayer.....

