

Loving God,

we give you thanks for the joy of simple people and devout pilgrims as they follow Jesus into Jerusalem. We give thanks for this particular hour on earth when he was given a joyful parade.

We are thankful for those who cheered him on, even if they didn't understand the heartache he was already beginning to feel.

We are grateful for each waving tree branch, and for every excited and joyful shout, "Hosanna!" We thank you for the amazing love of Christ, which boldly took him from Palm Sunday into the growing dangers of Holy Week.

Please give us the grace, Loving God, to pray with our hearts as well as our lips, and to serve with our actions as well as our prayers.

In places where the church celebrates with joy today, where it laughs with little children and praises with the elderly until "Hosannas" overflow from every loving heart.

*Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

In places where ordinary people are disillusioned with the greed and injustice that want the poor and the weak blamed for the misfortune and situations they find themselves in.

*Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

In places where people are at their wits end, angry, or frightened, ready to act with violence toward those around them, or falling into despair...even planning to take their own lives;

*Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

Holy God,

enable each of us to enter into partnership with the Spirit of Christ;

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Today we pray for our own community; our families and our friends...

We pray for those whose names are on our prayer list, and the private names that are not;

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We pray for three year old Grace, Mutana, known to us through Joanne Ogawa. She has stage four bone cancer and a tumour in her stomach. We offer Grace and her family to you in prayer. Bless them, encourage them, give them your strength, comfort and love them.

Prayers for the Galang family; hold them and give them courage;

-Jose's Uncle Jurio (in the Philippines) who is on life support due to Covid

-niece, Emily, who is living with mental health issues

-George (brother) who is still recovering from multiple heart attacks and a stroke

We pray for places in the world where there are natural disasters...help those affected rebuild their homes and their lives with the help of generous and caring hearts.

There have been thousands of vaccines given across Canada, and we are so thankful. We pray there will be deep consideration by those who are undecided whether to receive one or not. Be with them as they make their choice. Help us support them no matter what they decide.

We clap our hands with joy as we celebrate with all those who are having birthdays, or anniversaries this week. Happy Birthday!

And we thank you for everything we have, everything is from you, including You. When we forget to offer you our gratitude, forgive us and make us whole. We offer you all praise and joy from our hearts.

We end all of these prayers with the one Jesus taught us;

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us, this day, our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen