"Deep Peace"	#1018 ACS
"O God, We Call"	#1075 ACS
"Christ Our Peace"	#1037 ACS
"Though the Earth Shall Change"	#1035 ACS

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CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: Gathering our many prayers into one,

let us pray. You are gracious and merciful, O God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You draw near to those who call upon you, crying out from their hearts.

> <u>All</u>: Hear our cries, receive our prayers, and fill the whole world with your blessing, until needy no longer; Your whole creation sings your praise, Through your Son Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Adapted from Susan R. Briehl, "Litany for the Nations," in Holden Prayer Around the Cross: Handbook to the Liturgy, © Augsburg Fortress, 2009.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

<u>Leader</u>: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

DISMISSAL

<u>Leader</u>: Let us leave this place with God's peace in our hearts and on our lips. <u>All</u>: Amen. Let it be so.

POSTLUDE

We will leave the sanctuary quiet and dark for those wishing to remain to pray in silence.

Please join us for refreshments downstairs.

Our Lenten offering (*plates at the back*) will go to Lutheran Campus Ministry, whose mission is to proclaim and witness, through word and sacrament, to the saving grace of God in the academic community, among students, faculty, and staff.

Thank you to Chris Martin, Marie Lovrod, Heather Ward, Cherie Jarock, Deborah Buck, Katie Ottley, the Augustana-St. Timothy's Choir, and the ELW for their assistance with the service and refreshments, and to Pr. Ron Bestvater for the reflection.



Couple Reaching Up, 1981 (painted relief), Williams, Evelyn (1929-2012)

HOLY LAMENT: *Communal Lament*

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE

March 20, 2024 at 7:30pm

Augustana Lutheran Church 1201 Broadway Avenue Saskatoon, SK (306) 242-9553 *augustana@sasktel.net* Pastor: Kirk Tastad

PRELUDE & WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

Adapted from Susan R. Briehl, "Litany for the Nations," in Holden Prayer Around the Cross: Handbook to the Liturgy, © Augsburg Fortress, 2009.

GATHERING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

Holy and merciful God, in times of distress, turn our hearts and minds toward you. Let our communal laments be signs to those around us that we worship you, a God who hears and holds our cries. As we lament together in community, may we provide space to all searching for ways to voice their own pain and grief. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

GATHERING SONG: "Beautiful Things" **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Gracious God, we thank you for making one human family of all the peoples of the earth and for creating all the wonderful diversity of cultures.

All: Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us. Forgive us when we knowingly or unknowingly participate in the inherent systems of oppression that exist in our world.

Teach us to be bold and forge a new path

in the way of peace and love for all.

Break down the walls that separate us.

And help us to find that unity that is the fruit of righteousness and will enable us to become your beloved community.

Leader: Empower us to speak boldly for justice and truth and help us to deal with one another without hatred or bitterness, working together with mutual forbearance and respect.

All: And work through our struggles and confusion to accomplish your purposes.

Leader: God, who is rich in mercy, loves us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

All: Amen.

Adapted from the United Church of Christ's "Prayers for Racial Justice Sunday" (www.ucc.org/worship/ways) and from the United Church of Canada (www.united-church.ca/bfw/resources.shtm)

SONG: "Kyrie Eleison"

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. 1&3) Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

2) Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

A READING FROM PSALM 44 (after p. 338 in the ELW red hymnal) Psalm 44:1-10, 13, 17-26 (to be read responsively by verse)

MEDITATION: Pastor Ron Bestvater (*Zion Lutheran*)

A brief time of silence for reflection

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Let My Spirit Always Sing" LITANY FOR THE NATIONS

#1020 ACS

Adapted from Susan R. Briehl, "Litany for the Nations," in Holden Prayer Around the Cross: Handbook to the Liturgy, © Augsburg Fortress, 2009.

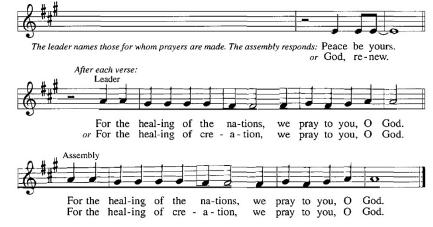
SINGING OUR PRAYERS

#925 ACS

As we sing/pray please be invited to light a candle and place it around the cross. Stay to pray as long as you like. If you wish to remain seated, you can participate by tracing around the cross pictured with your finger. We lift our prayers in silence and song.



For the Healing of the Nations or For the Healing of Creation



Text: Susan Briehl

Music: John D. Becker, from Litany of the Saints

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