

July 19

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 103:1-5, 8-13

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

***Call to Worship**

One: Oh Lord, our God, you know who we are:

ALL: People with good consciences and with bad, persons who are content and those who are discontent, the certain and the uncertain, Christians by conviction and Christians by convention, those who believe, those who half-believe, and those who disbelieve.

One: And you know where we have come from:

ALL: From the circle of relatives, acquaintances, and friends, or from great loneliness, from a life of quiet prosperity, or from manifold confusion and distress, from family relationships that are well ordered, or from those disordered or under stress, from the inner circle of Christian community, or from its outer edge.

One: We are here together to praise you, through letting you speak to us

ALL: We beseech you that this may take place in this hour, in the name of your son, our Lord. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Revealing God, we would see Jesus. Open our eyes now to Christ's living presence as we attend your word in holy scriptures and listen for the voice of Christ speaking to us. Through prayer and praise, let us know that Christ is in our midst and communes with us. Amen.