

## May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

A God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

A You guide your people to the waters of life. Make your church a nourishing place for all who are thirsty for hope and healing. Renew us in the waters of baptism, and send us forth as signs of your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

A You bless us with a glorious and life-giving earth, and you tend to the earth, sustaining life in all places. Revive fragile ecosystems and restore species in danger of extinction. Teach us new ways of living in balance and harmony with all of creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

A You lead us along right pathways. Grant wisdom and compassion to judges, lawyers, mediators, and legal advocates. Dismantle systems of mass incarceration, empower processes of restorative justice, and encourage all who strive for healing in our communities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

A You wipe the tears from every eye. Tend to all who struggle with anxiety or depression, loneliness, or despair. Enfold all who are in any need in your shepherding care, especially those who mourn Ann Bell, Sue, Lester, Art, Pastor Julie, and those we name aloud or in silence. (*pause for about 10 seconds*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

A This Mother's Day, bless mothers, grandmothers, and all who offer mothering care. Come close and give comfort to those who long to become mothers, who struggle with fertility or whose relationships with their families are difficult. Console all who grieve the loss of mothers, mother figures, or children. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P You are the source of everlasting life. In deep gratitude for all your saints, especially the apostle Matthias, we rejoice in the joy and hope of the resurrection made known to us in Jesus, our beloved Redeemer. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

**Amen.**