

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 □ www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by introducing yourself to those you encounter and please be sure to sign our guest book (located on the stand in the Narthex).

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council members – Pat Smith, Fanney Bjargardottir

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Worship:

Council member – Martha Strand

Outreach:

Council member — Elaine Ixcot

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Council member – Suzanne Wilke

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Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand

Josh Hollinger, Pat Smith

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President

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Vice President

Pat Smith

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Bob Reuter

Secretary

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm

Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

PRELUDE

Ricercare

Giovanni Palestrina

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us.

Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

Rebuild what we have ruined

and mend what we have torn.

Wash us in your cleansing flood.

Make us alive in the Spirit

to follow in the way of Jesus,

as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen

P: Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Pat Smith, Dan Johnson

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31

Pat Smith, Dan Johnson

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them;
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25 (MSG)

Pat Smith, Dan Johnson

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³⁻¹⁵ That famous promise God gave Abraham—that he and his children would possess the earth—was not given because of something Abraham did or would do. It was based on God’s decision to put everything together for him, which Abraham then entered when he believed. If those who get what God gives them only get it by doing everything they are told to do and filling out all the right forms properly signed, that eliminates personal trust completely and turns the promise into an ironclad *contract*! That’s not a holy promise; that’s a business deal. A contract drawn up by a hard-nosed lawyer and with plenty of fine print only makes sure that you will never be able to collect. But if there is no contract in the first place, simply a *promise*—and God’s promise at that—you can’t break it.

¹⁶ This is why the fulfillment of God’s promise depends entirely on trusting God and his way, and then simply embracing him and what he does. God’s promise arrives as pure gift. That’s the only way everyone can be sure to get in on it, those who keep the religious traditions *and* those who have never heard of them. For Abraham is father of us all. He is not our racial father—that’s reading the story backward. He is our *faith* father.

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ We call Abraham “father” not because he got God’s attention by living like a saint, but because God made something out of Abraham when he was a nobody. Isn’t that what we’ve always read in Scripture, God saying to Abraham, “I set you up as father of many peoples”? Abraham was first named “father” and then *became* a father because he dared to trust God to do what only God could do: raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing. When everything was hopeless, Abraham believed anyway, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he *couldn’t* do but on what God said he *would* do. And so he was made father of a multitude of peoples. God himself said to him, “You’re going to have a big family, Abraham!”

¹⁹⁻²⁵ Abraham didn’t focus on his own impotence and say, “It’s hopeless. This hundred-year-old body could never father a child.” Nor did he survey Sarah’s decades of infertility and give up. He didn’t tiptoe around God’s promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong, ready for God, sure that God would make good on what he had said. That’s why it is said, “Abraham was declared fit before God by trusting God to set him right.” But it’s not just Abraham; it’s also us! The same thing gets said about us when we embrace and believe the One who brought Jesus to life when the conditions were equally hopeless. The sacrificed Jesus made us fit for God, set us *right with God*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

P: The Gospel according to Mark, chapter 8.

Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)

SERMON

Pastor Lyn Crase

SERMON HYMN

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- 1) Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.....
- 2) Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 3) All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 4) You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 5) In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 6) You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 7) We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
- 8) We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY—SUNG

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our lord Jesus **took bread**, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he **took the cup**, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life:
pour our your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up
as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice,
peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen

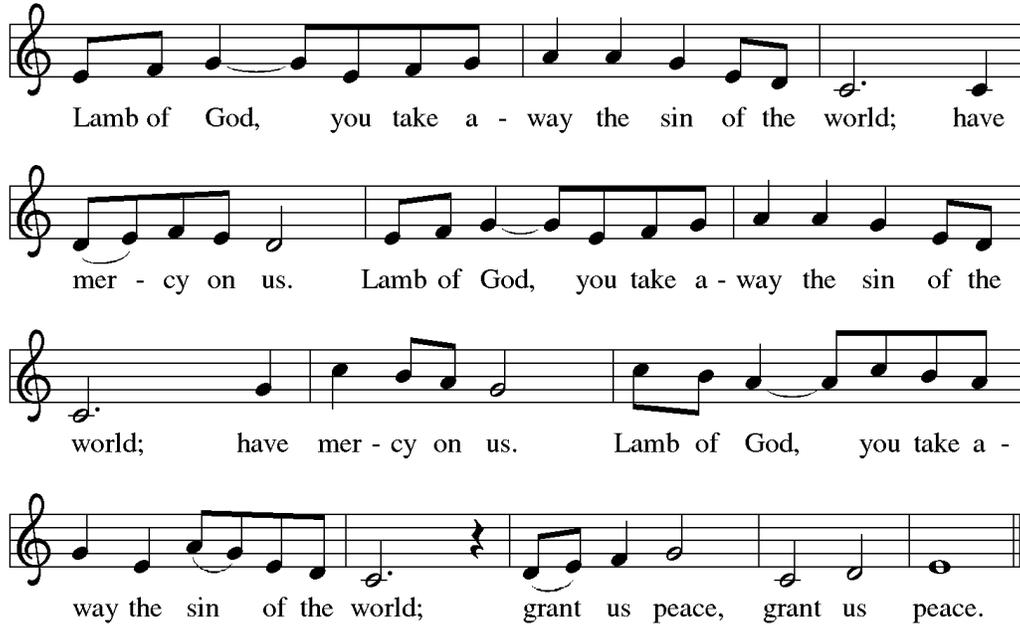
THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.
Come and be fed.

LAMB OF GOD—SUNG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Please rise.
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

BLESSING

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen

SENDING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.



SERVICE NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements: Please check emanuellutheran.org and remember to watch your email for updates & news from the church. If you have prayer requests, please call Pastor Lyn or the office.

From the Treasurer

With the arrival of the season of Lent I am reminded that it was just at this time a year ago that we began our long pandemic journey together. We have weathered the lockdowns, stay-at-homes, and disruptions in normal church-sponsored activities. And I for one am growing weary of all the restrictions, necessary as they have been for the health and safety of our community. However, I am bolstered by the good news that together and with the able, wise leadership of Pastor Lyn, we continue to share God's word of love and salvation for all. We can only continue in this mission by the generous ongoing support of our many members and friends. Pastor Lyn and our dedicated staff have kept busy with the work of teaching and reaching out to all whom God has given into our care, including our Daycare children. Our council has reviewed and approved a budget for the ongoing life of Emanuel in 2021. With our continued financial support, that life will be maintained. Our prayer is that God will continue to guide us with energy and wisdom, and we will soon reach the day when we can all sing **together**, loud and joyously, and celebrate our Risen Lord. Until then, please be assured that your financial support is most definitely needed and most gratefully received. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed to the support of Emanuel Lutheran Church.

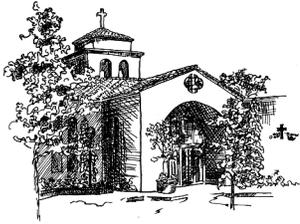
Robert Reuter

Treasurer, Emanuel Lutheran Church

FORWARD ANEW

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Our Mission

To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.

Our Vision

Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.

We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.

We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.

God is calling us to joyfully follow the Holy Spirit in ministry to others.



ENTRANCE HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise



- 1 The God of A - br'ham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
- 2 The God of A - br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand
- 3 The God of A - br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace
- 4 Your prom - ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake—its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.
and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.

Music: YIGDAL, Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797

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HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake



1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spake, "all in my way a -
2 "I am the light; I light the way, a god - ly life dis -
3 "I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your soul's sal -
4 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, and take the cross ap -



bid - ing; de - ny your - selves, the world for - sake, o -
play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day; I
va - tion; from ev - 'ry guile your heart I free, from
point - ed, and, firm - ly cling - ing to his word, in



bey my call and guid - ing. Oh, bear the cross, what -
keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



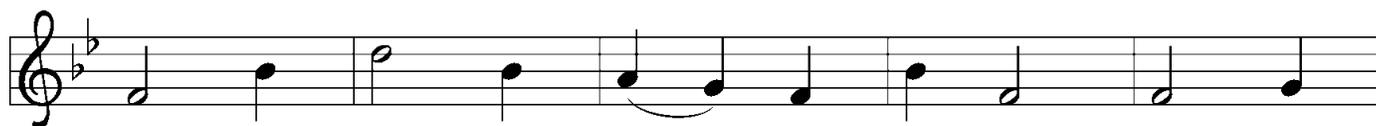
e'er be - tide; take my ex - am - ple for your guide."
well I show how you should so - journ here be - low."
of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
bat - tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677; tr. Charles W. Shaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.

Music: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT, Bartholomäus Gesius, 1555–1613; adapt. Johann Herman Schein, 1586–1630

SENDING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

Prayer Requests – February 28, 2021

- ✠ Prayers healing and comfort for Helen Opitz, who is in hospice care in Omaha, NE with multiple serious health issues. Helen is Pat Smith's sister.
- ✠ Prayers of comfort and strength for Kent Harris and family at the death of wife and mother Laura. Kent is family of members Karen & Ron Harris. (Dieterich)
- ✠ Prayers for peace and comfort for Virginia Ferreira, Marty Strand's mother.

On-going Prayers: Jean Salazar & Chris Schmidt—comfort, strength & peace (Schmidt); William Teaney—healing; Doris Emery—comfort, Delores Locke—healing & hope, Troy Slaybaugh—mental health concerns, Rita McLehand—cancer diagnosis (Teaney); Adams King (US Marine Corp)—safety & protection in Turkey (Spinuzzi); Edmond Pino—health, healing & well-being (Ixcot); Bill Beasley—as he navigate new surroundings and Yvonne Troedson as she adjusts to life changes; Bill Reinheimer—comfort, strength, and peace; Norma Christiansen—peace and comfort as she has recently entered hospice care; Leslie Lapp—strength and healing for Leslie, her husband and family (Gierhan); Sue Allen—healing & well-being; Laurie Spinuzzi—healing, Pam Black—health, healing and well-being (Silva); Brenna—healing and well-being (Marquez); Tamira Garza—healing/breast cancer treatment and prayers for Jeri as she is a source of strength for her daughter; Jeri's friend Linda Nelson—peace and comfort/pancreatic cancer; Dawn Brown—healing & well-being (Ixcot); Norma Martin, now in end-stage cancer—comfort & peace (Crawford); Pat & Jack Smith and family—comfort & peace; Lois Silva—healing after eye surgery

Pray for the church, the world and all those in need:

Doctors, nurses, technicians and all hospital personnel who care for patients & their needs.
For scientists, researchers, medical equipment manufacturers, corporations & employees who have stepped up to help during this crisis.

For those who are awaiting diagnostic tests results; for those already diagnosed with COVID-19 that healing will be complete.

For those who are dying and for those who grieve that they may be comforted with a sure and certain knowledge of Resurrection hope.

For all others who suffer from physical, emotional, mental or spiritual distress during this time we pray they may be sustained in love and grace.

For all this, and for whatever else you see that we need – we pray to you, O Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen

