

## Prayers of the People

*St. Paul Lutheran Church*

March 2, 2022

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Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need

God who grieves, you ask us to join in the grieving not because you demand our tears, but because we need the grace and space to fall apart, to tear open our hearts and return our bitter tears to the soil. Our grief is beautiful and ugly, momentary and eternal, collective and so very personal. Help us to know the depth of love through the fathomlessness of grief.

God in your mercy,

Lenten God, in this season we are called to the blessing of stillness and the inward journey at a time when our part of the Earth is awakening with the buzzing abundance of spring. Let us contemplate the ways in which connecting with creation can build our tolerance to simplify, sit with what is and what isn't, face our fleeting time on the Earth, and accept the unimaginable eternity of our existence in you.

God in your mercy