**The Prayers of the People—Palm Sunday, Year A, 2020** Furman Buchanan

*Intercessor*

We have begun our Holy Week observances. We celebrated Jesus’ joyful entry to Jerusalem. We also observed how things can change in the blink of an eye. With this awareness, let us turn our hearts and minds to Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not exploit this power, but rather humbled himself in order to live, suffer, and die as one of us.

For Christian people everywhere, that we may set our face like flint toward the way of the cross, knowing that the One who vindicates us in our time of trial is always near.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s suffering, ***may we also share in his resurrection.***

For those who govern in the nations of the world, and in our states and cities, and those who follow, that we may live with wisdom and courage, ever mindful of those in need and devoted to the common good.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s humility, ***may we also share in his compassion.***

For those who minister to the sick, who serve at personal risk to themselves and their families, and for others whose work places them in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s healing, ***may we also be protected by all his mercies.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s suffering, ***may we also know the healing power of his love.***

For the unemployed, furloughed, and the destitute; and for those without access to healthcare.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s poverty, ***may we also experience the abundance of his grace.***

For all who have suddenly lost the camaraderie of teammates, family members, and friends.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s loneliness, ***may we also trust the promise of his presence.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those who grieve their deaths.

*Silence, in order to remember people by name.*

Walking in the way of Christ’s sorrow, ***may we also anticipate the joy of his eternal kingdom.***

*Celebrant:*

Eternal and loving Father, in your tender love for the human family you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross. Give us the strength and courage to trust that his way is none other than the way of life and peace. ***Amen.***