



SERVANTS OF CHRIST  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

## A Service of Lament

July 11, 2021

As we increasingly are returning to a semblance of normalcy, we may have noticed a sense of dissonance or unease from not having adequately processed the griefs of the past year. Lament gives us space to do just that. Biblical lament expresses grief, sorrow, or loss to God and cries out for His help and deliverance. Biblical lament invites us to honestly (without filter!) pour our hearts out to God with the confidence that he hears our cries and will not leave us alone in them. This service is an opportunity to give voice to what we have experienced, whether from the impact of COVID-19, the social and racial issues facing our country, our children not being able to go to school, losing jobs, or other personal losses. As we cry out to the Lord we trust that He will meet us with His grace and healing. If we can serve you in any way, please contact us through our website, [servantsanglican.org](http://servantsanglican.org).

If you're attending this service in person, there will be prayer ministers available after the service. If you would like to receive prayer, remain seated, and they will come to you. Out of respect for those who are staying for prayer, please quietly and quickly leave the sanctuary following the conclusion of the service. You are welcome to gather and fellowship outside under the colonnade. If

you're attending online, visit [servantsanglican.org/prayer-ministry](https://servantsanglican.org/prayer-ministry) to send you need to our Prayer Team. They will reach out to you this week.

In addition to the personal griefs we each bring to the Lord this evening, we as congregation remember those we have lost since the pandemic began:

Al Thrower

James Sunwall

Ruby Cox

Raye Moulthrop

Walter Crosby

*The liturgy for this service has been adapted with permission from our brothers and sisters at Church of the Resurrection in Lutherville, MD.*

# Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome

Processional Hymn

## Call to Worship and Collect

*Officiant* For the Lord has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,

*People* And he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried out to him.

*Officiant* I will comfort you, says the Lord

*People* As a mother comforts her child, so you shall be comforted.

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Officiant* Let us pray.

God of all mercies, you make nothing in vain and love all that you have made: teach us to lament what we have lost and call upon your name, that you may comfort us in our grief, renew our hopes for the future, and console us by the knowledge of your unfailing love, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who alone has the words of life. Amen.

Worship Song

Meditation on Lament

## Naming Our Losses

### Psalm 102:1-11

1 Hear my prayer, O Lord, \*

**and let my cry come unto you.**

2 Hide not your face from me in the time of my trouble; \*

**incline your ear to me when I call; O hear me, and very soon.**

3 For my days are consumed like smoke, \*

**and my bones are burnt up as in a furnace.**

4 My heart is smitten and withered like grass, \*

**so that I forget to eat my bread.**

5 Because of the voice of my groaning, \*

**my bones will scarcely cleave to my flesh.**

6 I have become like an owl in the wilderness \*

**and like a screech-owl among the ruins.**

7 I am solitary, and lie sleepless because of my groaning; \*

**I am like a sparrow that sits alone upon the housetop.**

8 My enemies revile me all day long, \*

**and those who are enraged against me conspire to do me hurt.**

9 For I have eaten ashes as if they were bread \*

**and mingled my drink with weeping,**

10 Because of your indignation and wrath, \*

**for you have taken me up and cast me down.**

11 My days are gone like a shadow, \*

**and I am withered like grass.**

## Time of Silence



- 14 For your servants love her very stones, \*  
and are moved to pity to see her in the dust.
- 15 The nations shall fear your Name, O Lord, \*  
and all the kings of the earth your majesty,
- 16 When the Lord shall build up Zion, \*  
and when his glory shall appear,
- 17 When he turns to the prayer of the destitute \*  
and despises not their plea.
- 18 This shall be written for those that come after, \*  
and a people that shall yet be born shall praise the Lord.
- 19 For he has looked down from his sanctuary; \*  
from the heavens the Lord has beheld the earth,
- 20 That he might hear the groanings of those who are in captivity,\*  
and deliver those who are condemned to die,
- 21 That they may declare the Name of the Lord in Zion, \*  
and his praises in Jerusalem;
- 22 When the peoples are gathered together, \*  
and the kingdoms also, to serve the Lord.
- 23 He brought down my strength before my time, \*  
and shortened my days.
- 24 But I said, “O my God, take me not away in the midst of my  
days; \*  
for your years endure throughout all generations.”

Time of Silence

**Affirming God's Character**

**Psalm 102:25-28**

25 You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, \*  
**and the heavens are the work of your hands.**

26 They shall perish, but you shall endure; \*  
**they all shall wear out, as does a garment;**

27 And as a garment you shall change them, and they shall be





## The Great Litany      BCP 91

*Officiant*      O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

*People*      **Have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*      O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

*People*      **Have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*      O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,

*People*      **Have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*      O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

*People*      **Have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*      Remember not, Lord Jesus, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forebears; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare your people, whom you have redeemed with your most precious blood, and by your mercy preserve us forever.

*People*      **Spare us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*      From all evil and wickedness; from sin, from the works and assaults of the devil; from your wrath and everlasting condemnation,

*People*      **Good Lord, deliver us.**

*Officiant*      From all blindness of heart; from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all lack of charity,

*People*      **Good Lord, deliver us.**

*Officiant*      From all disordered and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

*People*      **Good Lord, deliver us.**

*Officiant*      From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of your Word and commandments,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and food; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your holy nativity and submission to the Law; by your baptism, fasting, and temptation,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* By your agony and bloody sweat; by your Cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* By your glorious resurrection and ascension; by the sending of the Holy Spirit; by your heavenly intercession; and by your coming again in power and great glory,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* In all times of tribulation; in all times of prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

**People** Good Lord, deliver us.

*Officiant* We sinners beseech you to hear us, O Lord God: That it may please you to rule and govern your holy Church universal in the right way,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To illumine all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of your Word; and that, both by their preaching and living, they may

show it accordingly,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To send forth laborers into your harvest; to prosper their work by your Holy Spirit; to make your saving health known unto all nations; and to hasten the coming of your kingdom,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To give all your people increase of grace to hear your Word with humility, to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To give us a heart to love and fear you, and diligently to keep your commandments,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To bless and keep all your people,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* That it may please you to rule the hearts of your servant Joe, our President, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and show mercy, and walk humbly before you,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To bless and guide all judges, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth,

**People** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To bless and keep our armed forces by sea, and land, and air, and to shield them in all dangers and adversities,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To bless and protect all who serve their communities  
by their labor and learning,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To give and preserve for us and for others the  
bountiful fruits of the earth, so that at the harvest we  
all may enjoy them,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To make wars to cease in all the world, and to give to  
all nations unity, peace, and concord,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        That it may please you to show mercy on all prisoners  
and captives; refugees, the homeless, and the hungry;  
and all those who are desolate and oppressed,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To preserve all who are in danger by reason of their  
work or travel,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To strengthen the bonds of those in Holy Matrimony;  
to uphold the widowed and abandoned; and to  
comfort all whose homes are torn by strife,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To protect the unborn and their parents, and to  
preserve all women in childbirth;

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant*        To care for those who have lost children or face  
infertility, and to provide for young children and  
orphans,

*People*            **We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.**

*Officiant* To visit the lonely and those who grieve; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit; and to comfort with your presence those who are failing and infirm,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To support, help, and deliver all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To have mercy upon all people,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* That it may please you to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sin, negligence, and ignorance; and to endue us with the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy Word,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To strengthen those who stand; to encourage the faint-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* To grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

***People*** We beseech you to hear us, good Lord.

*Officiant* Son of God, we beseech you to hear us.

***People*** Son of God, we beseech you to hear us.

*Officiant* O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

***People*** Have mercy upon us.

*Officiant* O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

*People*           **Have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*       O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

*People*           **Grant us your peace.**

*Officiant*       O Christ, hear us.

*People*           **O Christ, hear us.**

*Officiant*       Lord, have mercy upon us.

*People*           **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Officiant*       Lord, have mercy upon us.

                    O Lord, show us your love and mercy;

*People*           **For we have put our trust in you.**

*Officiant*       Almighty God, you have promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in the Name of your Son: Mercifully incline your ear to us who have made our prayers and supplications to you; and grant that what we have asked faithfully, according to your will, we may obtain effectually, for the relief of our necessities and the setting forth of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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## The Ministration of Communion

*All baptized Christians may receive Communion when worshiping with us. For online viewers, the Prayer for Spiritual Communion (BCP 677) will scroll across the screen and we invite you to pray. If you're at Servants, ushers will direct you by row up to the altar rail (of course, just remain seated if you do not desire to come forward). Please take your place in front of a cushion at the rail. You may kneel if you wish. If you are not baptized and would like to receive a blessing, come forward, crossing your arms over your chest. The priest will quietly pray God's blessing upon you. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please inform the celebrant at the altar.*

## Communion Song

## The Post-Communion Prayer

## Hymn for Processing into the World

## The Blessing

## The Dismissal

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