

Monday, May 8, 2023

INVITATION:

“Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” (Eph. 5:14)

Pause and slow your breath before entering into prayer.

BIBLE SONG: Psalm 86:1-7

Hear me, Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord,
for I call to you all day long.
Bring joy to your servant, Lord,
for I put my trust in you.

You, Lord, are forgiving and good,
abounding in love to all who call to you.
Hear my prayer, Lord;
listen to my cry for mercy.
When I am in distress, I call to you,
because you answer me.

PRAYER:

Jesus, where my heart has grown hard and calloused, where I have become numb to the suffering of others, I pray that You would soften my heart. May I weep with those who weep, and my I love justice with the same passion that You do.

Lord, I pray for countries whose military or police are corrupt, act in unjust ways, and harm the innocent. Restrain evil, change unjust policies, convict the hearts of the perpetrators and protect and rescue the powerless, I pray.

Jesus, would You give me eyes to recognise the ways You are at work – in my life and through the people around me. Forgive me when I am dismissive, make light of, or perhaps even make fun of, the things that are sacred to You.⁷

Pause and listen for what God is saying to you.

INTERCESSION:

*for our Pastoral Elders as they visit and pray for members of our congregation

*for the Refuge's building project

*for the continuing hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa

What else do you want to talk to God about?

How is God inviting you to respond?

BLESSING:

May you find peace

in your busyness,

in your journeying,

in your happiness,

in your suffering,

in your fearfulness,

in your questioning,

in your faithfulness,

in your worshipping.

May you find peace. Amen.⁵