

## **March 26, 2020 ~Evening Prayer for God's Help as We Persevere~**

### **“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12**

Heavenly Father, we are thankful for scripture, your true and holy Word, and the words of teaching Paul gave to the early, Roman Christians. Your Word is timeless. We depend on it in our times of rejoicing and in our troubled times. They speak to us today and tomorrow.

God of our peace, all of us go to sleep at night and wake in the morning knowing that numbers of afflicted people in our cities, our state, the nation, and the world continue to grow. You know our thoughts, Father, and you know how we struggle to understand what's so difficult to even believe is happening. For 14 days and nights we've felt our concerns become anxiousness, our anxiousness become worry, and our worry become fear. We turn to you. You are our ever present source of hope and perseverance as we wait for days when numbers go down instead of up.

We wait knowing that every medical caregiver is courageously fighting the battle with the wisdom and strength you provided them today. Be with them again tomorrow, God.

We wait knowing your people work with determined purpose and energy to provide all our food and essential needs every day. Be with them again tomorrow, God.

We wait as teachers of your children use all the skills and dedication you've given them in the classroom as they prepared and provided instruction to their students now learning at home. Be with them again tomorrow, God.

We wait as parents and caregivers you didn't choose to be teachers use the resources they have been given, their time, and your provisions of patience, encouragement, and love to be their children's teachers at home, Be with them again tomorrow, God.

We wait as our first responders, our police, firefighters, paramedics, and emergency transport workers show up and work around the clock to protect us who are well and to get those who are critical to immediate care. You were with them today; protecting them from danger and giving them wisdom and good judgment. Be with them tomorrow, God.

We wait as both low risk and high risk people in our homes, apartments, at group living communities, and as some with no place to call home. You were close by in Spirit where we have been, Lord. Your Spirit helped us all day to be obedient to safe guidelines, to reach out to others, to call and check on someone who was alone, and to do whatever we were led to do from where we were today. Be with us and all waiting people to persevere tomorrow, God.

We wait and cry out to you for the defeat of COVID-19. Use your chosen people and their minds, skills, and judgement given them by you, Creator God, to find treatments that heal, to produce the protective medical supplies, the medical equipment, and the medicines needed more and more each day. Help the scientists, the researchers, and all your people to discover, test, and find a vaccine to prevent infection. Protect those courageous people who volunteered to be part of the testing. Be with all of these people tomorrow, God.

Keep us faithful in our prayers as wait,  
Give us patience throughout every new day.  
Help us remember what Your Word tells us about you.  
-You know all our concerns, all our anxiousness, all our worries, and all our fears.  
-You are good.

-You love us more than we can ever love one another.

-You are all powerful.

-You are present with us and always help us through whatever we must endure.

Our strength and hope is from you and in you, sovereign God.

We need you, and we place all our hope in you.

In Jesus' Name, hear our prayers. Amen.