

# March 3, 2021

## Welcome

### Table Grace

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### Candle Lighting Song

ELW #583 "Take My Life, That I May Be"

#### VERSE 1

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

#### VERSE 2

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

#### VERSE 3

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

#### VERSE 4

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

#### VERSE 5

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

#### VERSE 6

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

### Prayer

God of grace, help us to love what is mortal. Give us the courage to hold it close and, when the time comes, to let it go. Amen.



### Scripture

#### Mark 8:31-38

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

### Poem

"Logos" p. 179 of "Mary Oliver's Devotions"

Why worry about the loaves and fishes?  
If you say the right words, the wine expands.  
If you say them with love  
and the felt ferocity of that love  
and the felt necessity of that love,  
the fish explode into many.  
Imagine him, speaking,  
and don't worry about what is reality,  
or what is plain, or what is mysterious.  
If you were there, it was all those things.  
If you can imagine it, it is all those things.  
Eat, drink, be happy.  
Accept the miracle.  
Accept, too, each spoken word  
spoken with love.

## Table Conversation

### Song

ELW #583 "Take My Life, That I May Be"

#### VERSE 1

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

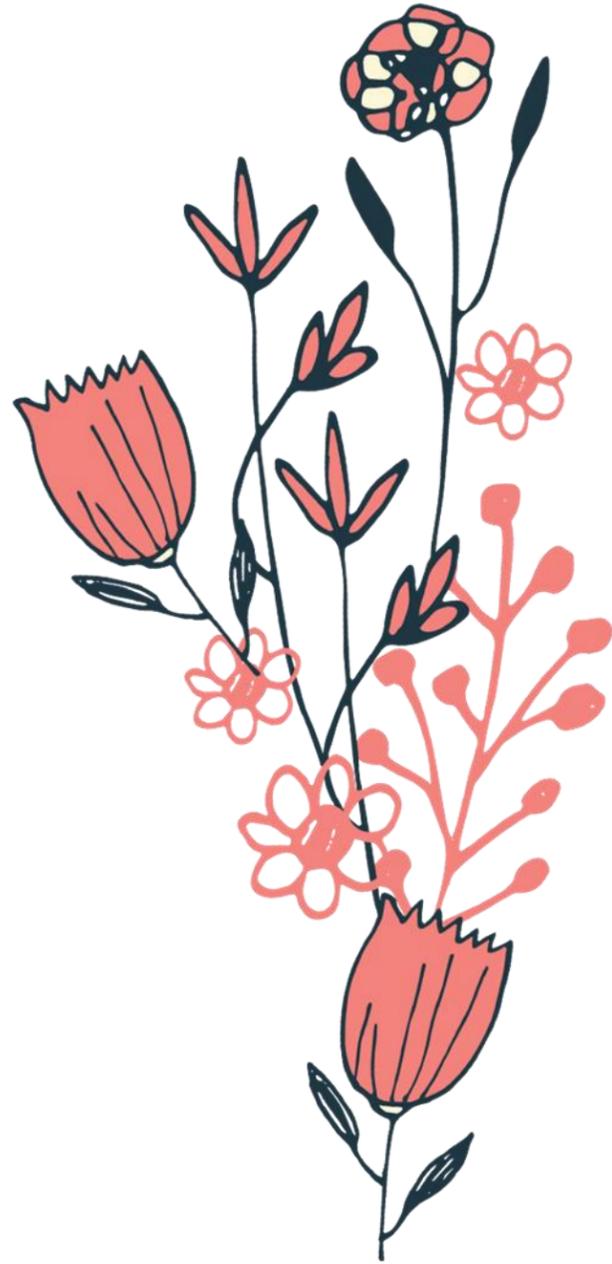
## Best Part of Your Week

### Lord's Prayer

from *New Zealand Prayer Book*

Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of s all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through  
the universe!  
They way of your justice be followed by the  
peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created  
beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and testing,  
strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that  
is love, now and for ever. Amen

### Blessing



TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD  
YOU MUST BE ABLE  
TO DO THREE THINGS:  
TO LOVE WHAT IS MORTAL;  
TO HOLD IT  
AGAINST YOUR BONES KNOWING  
YOUR OWN LIFE DEPENDS ON IT;  
AND, WHEN THE TIME COMES  
TO LET IT GO,  
TO LET IT GO.

+ MARY OLIVER