

## **Perseverance and Renewal**

### **Opening**

**Renew and strengthen us, eternal God,  
as we prepare for resurrection.**

### **Prayer**

**Merciful God, your strength and courage  
pour forth to sustain the witness of your faithful people:  
Awaken in us the humility to serve wherever creation is  
broken and needy, that we may follow in the way of our  
brother, Jesus, die as he did to all that separates us from  
you, and be raised, as he was, to new life. *Amen.*<sup>73</sup>**

### **Praise**

**A Song of the Wilderness (Isaiah 35:1-4)**

**The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, \*  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom; It shall blossom  
abundantly, \*  
and rejoice with joy and singing. They shall see the  
glory of the Lord, \*  
the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weary hands, \*  
and make firm the feeble knees. Say to the anxious,  
“Be strong, do not fear! \*  
Here is your God, coming with judgment  
to save you.”**

**Scripture**      “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”      **Matthew 25:37-40**

**Meditation**

**Prayers**

**God of hope, help us who struggle in our daily work. When we lose our purpose,**

*renew our hope in you.*

**When we bow to hatred,**

*renew our trust in you.*

**When we despair of bliss,**

*renew our joy in you.*

**When we take offense at others,**

*renew our life in you.*

**When we compromise our values,**

*renew our faith in you.*

**When we cherish regrets,**

*renew our freedom in you.*

**When we surrender to despair,**

*renew our hope in you.*

**As we accept your renewing love, we offer our prayers to you:**

Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings...

**Hold us, and all people, in your loving care,**  
*and may we be hope for others. Amen*

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Prayer**

**God of hope, from you come every blessing and all peace: Show us that, in the midst of our struggles, you are with us. Give us the abundance of your grace that we may do the work you give us to do and that we may be for the world a sign of your presence; through Christ, the Way and the Truth. Amen.**

### **Going Out**

**Renew and strengthen us, eternal God,**  
*as we prepare for resurrection.*

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