



Month of Prayer

for the Church, Nation, and World



GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

As we seek to pray through the Covid-19 Crisis, we turn to the attributes of God as listed in the Westminster Larger Catechism, The Psalms, and Galatians 5:22-23 (the Fruit of the Spirit) to guide our prayer and focus our hearts and mind on the attributes of God:

DAY 01

Infinite and Unchanging in Being

Exodus 3:14

“God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ And he said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

Malachi 3:6

“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.”

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- This crisis is finite and so are we; give us eyes to see beyond the now.
 - Remind us our hope is in the eternal not in our current circumstances and help us to safely share that hope with those around us.
 - As our reality changes almost moment by moment and day by day, help us to cling to Your unchanging constancy. You are our Strong Tower, our Hiding Place, and our Rock—help us to run to You.
 - You stand outside time and space and know what we must do to get through this time. Grant us Your wisdom.

DAY 02

Infinite in Glory and Blessedness

Acts 7:2

“And Stephen said: ‘Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.’”

1 Timothy 6:15

“Which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.”

- We confess that we have sought glory in sports, entertainment, a pursuit of beauty and achievement, through education and experiences, and we have not sought You. Forgive us.
- Give us eyes to see Your glory now and help us, Your image-bearers, to carry Your glory into the dark places.
 - Be with those who care for the weak and vulnerable who bear Your image.
 - Be with the healthcare workers.
 - Be with the first responders.
 - Help Your followers and the Church to be Your hands and feet in our communities that Your name will be praised.

DAY 03

Infinite in Perfection – Holiness

Isaiah 6:1-5

“In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: ‘Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’”

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- In the presence of Your holiness, we are acutely aware of our sin.
 - We confess, in the face of this crisis, we have been tempted to be selfish, to hoard resources, and to think more about our own needs than the needs of our neighbors. Forgive us.
 - Make us more like Jesus. During these hard days, teach us to lovingly sacrifice for those You have given us to love: our families, our neighbors, our communities.
 - Teach us the joy of sacrifice as we learn to live in Your Spirit, to respond with Your compassion, and to love with Your unconditional love.

DAY 04

All-sufficient

Genesis 17:1

“When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless...”

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- Lord, we confess it is easy to look to those around us—our government, our employer, our healthcare system—to meet our needs.
 - Remind us that You are the only One who can sustain us. May we finally see we need You in every moment of our days.
 - We need You as we are surrounded by our family. The tight space sometimes brings out our worst. Fill us with Your Spirit.
 - We need You to calm our fears—we are sorely afraid of what is to come.
 - We need You to make us brave and courageous that we will be faithful stewards of the gospel.

DAY 05

Incomprehensible

1 Kings 8:27

“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built!”

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- Lord, we don't know why You have allowed Covid-19, but we know that only You can use it for our good.
 - We cling to Your big-ness, that Your ways and thoughts are higher than ours, and that You are doing far beyond what we can see.
 - We seek Your purpose and redemption of this situation.

Omnipresent - Everywhere Present

Psalm 139:1-13

1 "O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.
 3 You search out my path and my lying down
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
 behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is high; I cannot attain it.
 7 Where shall I go from your Spirit?
 Or where shall I flee from your presence?
 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
 If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
 9 If I take the wings of the morning
 and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
 10 even there your hand shall lead me,
 and your right hand shall hold me.
 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
 and the light about me be night,"
 12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is bright as the day,
 for darkness is as light with you.
 13 For you formed my inward parts;
 you knitted me together in my mother's womb."

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- Lord, we cry out to You to make Your presence tangible.
 - You are our ever-present Help in times of need.
 - Sometimes we feel lonely and rejected, forgotten by You, but Your Word tells us You will never leave us nor forsake us. So, Lord, help us to feel Your presence in our circumstance.
 - Be especially with the weakest and most vulnerable in our population.
 - Be with the young and old.
 - Be with the sick.
 - Be with the poor, homeless, and wounded.
 - Help us to know You are here with us now.

DAY 07

Omnipotent – Almighty

Revelation 4:8

“And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,
‘Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!’”

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- Lord, we admit we doubt Your power.
 - As the world around us seems to be falling apart, we cling to Your sovereignty.
 - Strengthen our faith and help us to rest in Your divine power.

DAY 08

Omniscient - All Knowing

Hebrews 4:13

“And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.”

Psalm 147:5

“Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.”

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- Lord, this virus is not a surprise to You. You knew about it and its dangers long before we did.
 - And You already know how You can use it for our good, to refine us, and to teach us to depend on You.
 - Help us to trust, calm our doubts and fears, and teach us what we need to do so that we can be faithful stewards of this time.
 - Also, teach those who are researching treatments and cures for this disease.

DAY 09

Most Wise

Romans 16:27

“To the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.”

James 3:17-18

“But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”

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- You tell us in James to ask for wisdom, so, right now, we ask for Your wisdom.
 - We confess that we think ourselves wise in our own eyes, and we fail to seek Your guidance. Forgive us.
 - In Your wisdom, Lord,
 - Guide our nation’s leaders at every level: at the local, state, and national levels. Unify the different political parties and remind us that the enemy is the virus, not those who have different opinions than we do.
 - Guide our churches so that we will know how to care for Your people as we seek to minister in our communities, as we seek to be a light on a hilltop that draws people into a relationship with You. Help us to connect and instruct virtually so that our community is deepened as we seek to love without infecting each other.
 - Guide our educators as they seek to instruct and educate children from afar.
 - Guide our world leaders as they close borders, martial a wise response, and try to protect their populations. Lord, provide the resources they need to minister to the weakest in their populations.
 - Guide us, as individuals, businesses, doctors and hospitals, governments, and churches that we will learn from this pandemic and put procedures and protocols in place should the need arise again.

DAY 10

Most Just - Justice

Deuteronomy 32:4

“The Rock, his work is perfect,
for all his ways are justice.
A God of faithfulness and without iniquity,
just and upright is he.”

- Lord, it's so easy to respond to crisis with anger at the injustices we see around us.
- Remind us that You are a perfect Judge, that You are the Defender of righteousness, and that we can trust in Your eternal justice.
- Help us to be agents of Your justice as we have opportunity.
- Teach us what Your righteousness is, because our vision is sometimes tainted by our sin, our experiences, or our opinions.

DAY 11

Most Merciful and Gracious

Exodus 34:6

“The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, ‘The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.’”

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- Thank You for Your abundant mercy and grace. Thank You that You don’t treat us as our sins deserve. Help us to see our sin in relation to Your mercy so we may be humbled.
 - We confess that sometimes in our quest for justice, we can fail to be agents of Your mercy. Forgive us.
 - Help us carry Your mercy into our homes, our neighborhoods, our communities, and around the world, so Your people will reflect Your grace and mercy.

DAY 12

Patient - Long-Suffering

2 Peter 3:9

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”

- Oh, Lord, You are so much more patient than we are. As we look back to the Garden and trace the journey of Your people through Scripture, we see You are never “in a hurry.” Your timing is perfect, but sometimes we forget.
- We want this pandemic to be over—yesterday. We don’t want to wait because waiting is hard, and it is so easy to be afraid in the waiting.
- Help us to be patient as You are patient.
- As we wait, fill us with Your peace and help us to trust in Your timing.

DAY 13

Provider - Abundant in Goodness

Psalm 107:8

“Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!”

Romans 2:4

“Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”

Psalm 144:13

“May our granaries be full,
providing all kinds of produce;
may our sheep bring forth thousands
and ten thousands in our fields.”

1 Timothy 6:17

“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.”

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- Lord, thank You for Your abundant provision. It is so easy to see what we don’t have and not to see Your many blessings. Forgive us.
 - As we look at the world economy, we have so many questions. How will we ever recover? Forgive us for looking to money for our security and not to You, our Provider.
 - Help us trust in You. Please comfort those directly hurt by the quarantine.
 - Complete industries that have been devastated by this —airlines, hospitality, hotels, cruise lines, . . . and small businesses. Be with the workers, who live paycheck to paycheck or don’t know how they are going to care for their families. You are their Provider, let them see Your faithful provision.
 - Help the governments know how to support people and businesses without developing dependence.
 - Help those who have to share with those who do not have. Pour out Your generosity through Your people and Your churches. May we be as generous as You are.

DAY 14

Abundant in Truth

Deuteronomy 32:4

“The Rock, his work is perfect,
for all his ways are justice.
A God of faithfulness and without iniquity,
just and upright is he.”

Hebrews 6:18

“So that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.”

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- Lord, we are so easily led astray, so easily distracted, and we believe lies so quickly. Please, remind us of what is true!
 - Draw us to Your Word daily. Lead us to worship and to listen to podcasts and sermons that fill our hearts and minds with what is true, noble, and trustworthy.
 - In quarantine our families are watching hours and hours of media. Help us to be discerning. Help us teach our children to see the messages that are in their media and to equip them with a biblical worldview.

DAY 15

Healer

Exodus 15:26

“Saying, ‘If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer.’”

- In the first days after You delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt, You said, “I am the LORD, your healer.” Oh, Lord, we need Your healing!
- We need You to heal . . .
 - Those struck by Covid-19—the sick and suffering.
 - Those suffering from spiritual blindness.
 - Our land, which is filled with modern idolatry.
 - Your people, who are hurting and fearful.

DAY 16

Comforter

Psalm 23:4

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.”

2 Corinthians 1:3

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.”

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- We confess that we seek comfort in response to this crisis. We turn to food and drink, entertainment, physical comforts, or we make demands that others can never fulfill, but none of those bring the comfort we seek.
 - In these times of suffering, we need Your comfort.
 - Give us Your presence, Your peace, Your eternal perspective.
 - Fill our minds with Your truth and fill our hearts with Your courage.
 - Comfort us, so we may be a comfort to others.
 - Use Your people to bring comfort to . . .
 - The many who have suffered loss, whether family members, friends, or jobs.
 - The hungry and homeless. Help the Church to minister to them in a substantial and safe way.
 - The lonely, who must endure this quarantine without companionship. Help Christians to know how to reach out to them safely and to make Your presence with them known.

DAY 17

Protector

Psalm 59:1

“Deliver me from my enemies, O my God;
protect me from those who rise up against me.”

Psalm 68:5

“Father of the fatherless and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.”

Psalm 91:4

“He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.”

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- Masks and social distancing are wise practices, but help us to remember that You are our Protector.
 - We can be brave and courageous and live without fear because our trust is not in our wise practices but in You. May that knowledge not make us foolish, but faithful.
 - We also ask for Your miraculous protection for . . .
 - Our healthcare workers. They are on the front lines of this pandemic. Protect them—physically, mentally, and emotionally—as they respond to the needs of their patients.
 - Those in emergency services who risk exposure and/or bringing it back to their families because of their jobs. Protect them, Lord. Sustain them and help them to continue to care for those in their communities.
 - Our friends and families and those people You bring to our minds—that they will miraculously be kept safe.

DAY 18

Defender

Exodus 14:14

“The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

Deuteronomy 1:30

“The LORD your God who goes before you will himself fight for you, just as he did for you in Egypt before your eyes.”

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- Fear can make us angry or selfish. Lord, help us to remember You are our Defender.
 - We mustn't fight each other—those in our families, in our communities or churches, or those with different political opinions—because those fights distract from the real enemy.
 - The evil one would use Covid-19 to divide us, to fill us with fear. In the heavenly realm, Lord, will You fight for us?
 - Where there is conflict, will You bring peace? Where there is confusion, will You bring understanding? Where there is anger, will You bring mercy? And where there is division, will You bring unity? Help us to not give the devil a foothold in our homes, our churches, or our nation.

DAY 19

Love

Isaiah 63:7

“I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,
the praises of the LORD,
according to all that the LORD has granted us,
and the great goodness to the house of Israel
that he has granted them according to his compassion,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.”

1 John 4:7-8

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

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- You tell us that the world will know we are Your followers because of our love for one another because You are love. Help us to be agents of Your love.
 - Help us to love . . .
 - Our families. Being together can be hard; may Your love abound in our homes.
 - Our communities, especially our churches. May You bring to our minds the weak and needy in our communities and equip Your people to be the hands and feet of Your love.
 - Our nation. So much divides us right now. May Your people be agents of Your love as we seek to be encouragers and faithful stewards of all that You have given us. Help us to be a part of Your solution and redemption of this crisis.

DAY 20

Joy

Psalm 16:11

“You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

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- We confess, sometimes our joy is dependent on our circumstance, not our faith.
 - May we find our joy overflowing because of Your presence in our lives and the eternal hope we have in Christ Jesus.
 - Turn our grief into dancing and teach us to share our reason for joy with those around us in a loving and winsome way.

DAY 21

Peace

Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be
upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Romans 14:17

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

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- The only way we can be agents of peace is by Your presence because of the work of Christ.
 - Lord, help us to rest in perfect peace because of You.
 - Help us to be anchored to You—not our circumstances—because You are the Prince of Peace.
 - And help us to remember that ultimately our fight for peace was won at the cross and through the resurrection. We don't have to do anything more, because You have already done it all.

DAY 22

Self-control

2 Timothy 1:7

“For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”

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- Oh, Lord, how easy it is to face this crisis by either indulging our desires—shopping online, eating and drinking too much, binging on streaming services or online games—or by indulging our fears. May we have self-control that reflects our eternal values and may we live according to the Spirit.
 - May we use this time strategically.
 - May we seek Your purpose in our quarantine.

DAY 23

Gentleness

Matthew 11:29

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

Galatians 5:22-23

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

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- Lord, this world is hard, and sometimes we equate gentleness with weakness. But You called Yourself gentle, and Your gentleness never compromises Your strength.
 - During these trying times, help us to reflect Your gentleness. Help us . . .
 - To willingly serve others.
 - To walk in humility.
 - To sacrifice and serve the weak and hurting.
 - Help our gentleness to be in direct contrast to the hardness of this world in a way that brings glory and honor to Your name.

DAY 24

Compassionate

Psalm 86:15

“But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.”

James 5:11

“Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.”

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- At the tomb of Your friend, You wept. The very act of leaving the glory of heaven to walk in a sinful world reveals Your compassion. Thank You that You see and care.
 - Oh, Lord, we are so broken by sin that it is easier to think of ourselves than to see the needs of others. Only through the presence of Your Spirit can we hope to compassionately care for our neighbors, those in our community, and even our nation.
 - Grow our hearts and give us:
 - Eyes to see others the way You do.
 - Hearts to care for the vulnerable.
 - Your guidance that we would know what is truly helpful.

DAY 25

Sustainer and Support

Psalm 18:35

“You have given me the shield of your salvation,
and your right hand supported me,
and your gentleness made me great.”

Psalm 55:22

“Cast your burden on the LORD,
and he will sustain you;
he will never permit
the righteous to be moved.”

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- You call on us to cast our cares upon You because You sustain us.
 - We are weak and the burdens of this world are heavy. We are deeply in need of You!
 - Strengthen
 - Our faith that we will not doubt.
 - Our resolve to be faithful.
 - Our understanding of our need for Your presence in our lives.

DAY 26

Helper

Psalm 30:10

“Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!
O LORD, be my helper!”

Psalm 54:4

“Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.”

Psalm 118:7

“The LORD is on my side as my helper;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.”

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- You are a warrior-helper. You fight for us and help us to persevere.
 - With so much unknown, it would be so easy to quit or give up, but when we bring our burden to You, we can carry on.
 - Your help is different. It doesn't just encourage us, it transforms us. So, Lord, help us to persevere, help us to be faithful, and help us to be like Jesus— for that is our greatest need.

DAY 27

Father

Psalm 68:5

“Father of the fatherless and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.”

Psalm 89:26

“He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation.’”

1 Corinthians 8:6

“Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things
and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom
are all things and through whom we exist.”

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- Before Christ, it was hard to fathom You as our Father.
 - Jesus gave skin to Your love, and now we know Your tender care for Your children.
 - Oh, Lord, how we want to crawl up into Your lap and know the comfort of Your arms encircling us. We are afraid. We don’t understand what is happening, and we need Your comforting presence.
 - Draw us into Your lap, whisper reminders of Your love, and help us to know You are near and You care for us even more than our earthly fathers can.

DAY 28

Salvation

Hosea 13:4

“But I am the LORD your God
from the land of Egypt;
you know no God but me,
and besides me there is no savior.”

1 Timothy 4:10

“For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on
the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those
who believe.”

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- You are our Salvation; our only hope as we face Covid-19 is You.
 - Have mercy on us, Lord.
 - Save us for Your Name’s sake.
 - Deliver us from Covid-19, we pray.

DAY 29

Redeemer

Psalm 34:22

“The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.”

Psalm 77:15

“You with your arm redeemed your people,
the children of Jacob and Joseph.”

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- Lord, only You can take ashes and make something beautiful, and only You can take this catastrophe and use it for our good.
 - We cry out for Your redemption. That we won't be defeated or consumed by whatever comes, but that Your Spirit can actually use this crisis in a way that strengthens us individually, that unifies us corporately, and that teaches us things we could never have known or understood without Covid-19.
 - So, Lord, in faith, we thank You, and we watch the horizon, believing that we will see Your redemption in an unmistakable way!

DAY 30

Faithful

Psalm 26:3

“For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in your faithfulness.”

Psalm 33:4

“For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.”

Psalm 119:90

“Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
you have established the earth, and it stands fast.”

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- Lord, You are faithful, but we are not. We get distracted and forget what we know is true.
 - Draw us to You. Teach us to walk in Your ways and make us faithful.
 - Use Covid-19 for Your glory. Make us faithful stewards of this time, our resources, and the gospel.
 - Use Covid-19 to expand Your kingdom, that people will turn to You in these desperate times.