

PRESIDER

Dear friends, when united with Jesus the true vine, our lives give glory to God and bear much fruit for others. Let us offer our prayers with his for all our sisters and brothers.

READER

We pray for God's people around the world, that their lives will testify to the transforming power of the Spirit dwelling within us. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for an end to violence against women, that their right to live in safety in their own homes and in public places will be respected by all. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Orthodox Christians beginning Holy Week today, that their celebration of the paschal mysteries will refresh their faith in the crucified and risen Lord. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the displaced and starving people of Sudan, that their extreme needs will not be ignored by the world but met with sustained and generous assistance. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for journalists, especially those reporting from dangerous places, that this week's World Press Freedom Day (3 May) will reinforce their commitment to bringing the truth to light. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will dwell for ever in God's loving embrace. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

God of unfailing love, you make us new in Christ. Remain with us always and make our lives bear much fruit for life of the world. We ask this through Christ, our risen Lord.