

God of peace

**Hear the cry of those who yearn for peace; in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious  
God of peace...hear our prayer**

God of healing

**Hear the cry of those who yearn for healing; physical and spiritual hurting, weakened, depressed  
God of healing...hear our prayer**

God of mercy

**Hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy; convicted, in need of your Grace, contrite, humble, bowed down,  
God of mercy...hear our prayer**

May you know

**The peace of God**

The love of God

**The justice of God**

The healing and mercy of God

**This day and all days**

**Amen** — excerpts from John Birch

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### **PRAYER OF BENEDICTION**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Go in Peace. **Amen.**

## **Jarrettsville Ecumenical Lenten Service Evening Prayer Service March 18, 2020**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Behold, now is the accept- | able time;  
**now is the day | of salvation.**

Turn us again, O God of | our salvation,  
**that the light of your face may | shine on us.**  
May your justice shine | like the sun;  
**and may the poor be | lifted up.**

One: Fast from judging others;

**All: Feast on the Christ indwelling them.**

One: Fast from emphasis on differences;

**All: Feast on the unity of all life.**

One: Fast from apparent darkness;

**All: Feast on the reality of light.**

One: Fast from thoughts of illness;

**All: Feast on the healing power of God.**

One: Fast from words that pollute;

**All: Feast on phrases that purify.**

One: Fast from discontent;

**All: Feast on gratitude.**

One: Fast from anger;

**All: Feast on patience.**

One: Fast from pessimism;

**All: Feast on optimism.**

One: Fast from worry;

**All: Feast on divine order.**

One: Fast from complaining;

**All: Feast on appreciation.**

One: Fast from negatives;

**All: Feast on affirmatives.**

One: Fast from unrelenting pressures;  
**All: Feast on unceasing prayer.**  
 One: Fast from hostility;  
**All: Feast on non-resistance.**  
 One: Fast from bitterness;  
**All: Feast on forgiveness.**  
 One: Fast from self-concern;  
**All: Feast on compassion for others.**  
 One: Fast from personal anxiety;  
**All: Feast on eternal Truth.**  
 One: Fast from discouragement;  
**All: Feast on hope.**  
 One: Fast from facts that depress;  
**All: Feast on truths that uplift.**  
 One: Fast from lethargy;  
**All: Feast on enthusiasm.**  
 One: Fast from suspicion;  
**All: Feast on truth.**  
 One: Fast from thoughts that weaken;  
**All: Feast on promises that inspire.**  
 One: Fast from shadows of sorrow;  
**All: Feast on the sunlight of serenity.**  
 One: Fast from idle gossip;  
**All: Feast on purposeful silence.**  
 One: Fast from problems that overwhelm;  
**All: Feast on prayer that undergirds.**  
 One: Let us pray...  
**All: Lord help us!**

*This poetic litany has excerpts written by twentieth-century Methodist lay leader William Arthur Ward.*

## **THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT**

The Lord be with you. **ALL: And also with you.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
**ALL: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set light in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ: may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE** *Mark 8:1-3 & John 20:1-3,11-12, 17-19*

**MESSAGE** *Mary Magdalen*

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

**ALL: Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.**

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

God of love

hear the cry of those who yearn for love; fractured families, broken homes, neglected, unwanted, alone.

God of love...hear our prayer

God of justice

hear the cry of those who yearn for justice; persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken.

God of justice...hear our prayer