

Rev. Karen Lang **Prayers of the People** January 10, 2021

Almighty God,

We need you. We come to you in silence- grateful for the sacred gift of praying together. Remind us O God that we are your people- that you are with us in wilderness of every kind.

Remind us we are your servants- that Love and hatred shall not overcome us.

Remind us that we are your messengers- that Life and death shall not overpower us. Light of the world, shine your light upon us and among us and in us. We, who are called to be a light in this city—send us forth to live boldly the truth of your grace upon grace, giving freely to this city and to this world.

Rev. Lex Allum Call to Confession and Words of Assurance January 10, 2021

Friends, God doesn't call us to blind faith, but to a faith that is eye-opening and mind-expanding. Too often we find it easier to pretend we cannot see or understand God's vision for creation, but it is in these moments we come to realize how much we need the saving grace of Christ in our lives. In humility, let us confess our sins to God.

Genesis chapter 1 tells us that in the beginning, when God created the world, darkness covered the face of the earth. "Then God said, 'Let there be light!'; and there was light. God saw the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness." Still today, God separates the darkness in our own lives until we radiate with the light of Christ. And this is a gift of new birth from the God who never, ever gives up on us. Friends, in the name of Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.