

Prayer in a Time of Crisis  
Rev Dr Eric Kennaugh  
Immanuel, Batavia

“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

Current events have left me with no words of wisdom. So I search for words in the only place I know to turn. I invite you to join me.

Heavenly Father, we have made such a mess of things! I read this weekend how human beings are the only creatures that can live contrary to Your purpose and design, and we seem to be living well outside Your intentions lately. The whole world is groaning under the COVID crisis, and now social unrest threatens to undo everything that remains after our time of being kept at home. Fear is the order of the day: fear of disease, fear of our neighbors, fear of riots, fear of law enforcement, fear of mob rule, fear of the governing authority. Therefore, we turn to You, for You are the only one who can restore peace. Lord, we, Your children through baptism, humbly seek Your face. We seek peace for our land. We confess that we have not lived as the light of the world. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not been the people of peace You call us to be but have gotten wrapped up in the politics of division. We have judged others without charity or understanding. Forgive us Lord. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who gave His life that we might know peace with you and one another. For His sake remember the cross and make us your pure, holy and whole people again. Then, for our sake restore peace to our land. Use these days of violence and anger to bring healing. Unite us as a nation again. One nation, under Your rule and reign, for You rule in peace. So, Heavenly Father, in this troubled time when we don't even know what to ask for we turn to You and ask You to pour out Your blessings. Work all these troubling things together for the good of Your people and the land You have planted us in until we inherit our true home. Amen.