

## March 20, 2020 – Chaplain Venessa's Prayer

## Psalm 42:1-2

As the deer pants for streams of water, so we long for you, O God. We thirst for you God, the living God.

Merciful Creator, we are together in spirit and in voice to seek your face, to lift-up the prayers of our hearts and to find peace in the moments we feel your presence.

God, give us comfort during this time. We are trying to find a new normal, but it is difficult being separated from our families. We pray for healing, as a sister was admitted to ICU, and strength with a peaceful mind as the desire to support her is overwhelming.

We wish blessings for birthdays. Bring courage to those who are in school challenged with a new way to learn, with new tools to learn and we ask for a spirit of self-discipline and focus to sit alone in the new online environment. We especially lift-up SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS, help them to be successful in school. You are with us God as we fall to our knees during these struggles, and we trust that in you we find the strength stand again.

Protect this staff at Juliette Fowler, from this awful disease we are battling. And help us to remember, even as we sit alone, the virus is not in control and it does win – because we know you God and you are on our side – providing protection with a calming Spirit for us to lean into.

Lead the hearts and thoughts of this staff as they make decisions each day for the residents to keep them safe. Give them love, grace, forgiveness, encouragement, and peace. This team unselfishly cares.

We praise you, O God for your wisdom and direction. And we are thankful for these updates regarding the world, the state, the cities and our community. Continue to lead our communication efforts and do not let us forget you are with us each step of the journey.

Help to know when we are tired and need a break and give us the courage to say enough rather than having short tempers and saying words we regret. Provide relief – we look to you our refuge.

We ask for blessing on every soul at Juliette Fowler, and we ask forgiveness when we fail to love each other.

Be foremost in thoughts Oh God, so that we seek your way first. As you have told us in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthian 13:4 - *Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant* – we desire to do you will.

God of Mercy and Grace, pour out yourself upon this community and upon the world – help us Lord to stop this disease. We know of your abundant love.

## Psalm 33:22

Yes Lord, let your constant love surround us for our hopes are in you alone.

Our hearts are open, and our hands are ready. God of this body - We love you.

## AMEN