

**basket
of
prayers + concerns + joys**

*"Have Mercy On Us"
from Kneeling in Jerusalem by Ann Weems*

O God, from whose eyes the measure of our faith is not hidden, wrench from us now all religiosity, all rules and regulations of our scheduled selves that separate us from your Holy Spirit.

O God, who calls each of us by name to be the church, give us love enough to make a difference, give us vision enough to follow, give us endurance enough to hold steadfast in the face of the unholy.

O God, who claims us as disciples, bless us now and touch us with your holiness that we might have commitment enough to be good news to the poor.

O God of the bruised, we pray for healing. Comfort those who cry in dark corners: the lonely, the strangers, the weary, the fearful, the disappointed, the anxious, the depressed, the forsaken, the dispirited, the grieving, and those who lie in sickness and pain.

O God who wept over Jerusalem, open our eyes to those around us who scream in silence the depth of their despair.

O God of compassion, heal our hard hearts to tenderness.

O God of the oppressed, fire us with justice that we might proclaim liberty to the captives.

*O God who gave us the rainbow and parted the Red Sea
we dare to pray for miracles for the powerless.*

O God of the hungry, we pray for those who have not bread. Remove, O God, the bondage of hunger by removing our shackles so that we might share our bread.

O God of the homeless, we pray for those who have no land. We pray that you will open the doors of our hearts and let your wandering people in.

O God of the captives, have mercy on those who must live out their lives enslaved to someone else because of race or politics or economics or faith. Loose our bonds that we might risk our own securities on the behalf of.

*O God of peace, give peace to our hearts and to our nation and to our world.
O Lamb of God, have mercy upon us!*

