



Lenten Prayer Service for Week Five

Leader: Spirit of our Loving, Provident God, bless us as we gather to pray.

All: Give us hearts that carry hope and believe in peace.

Song: (Your selection)

Reading: adapted from *Providence and Compassion*

We are all brothers and sisters with all of creation. This sense of oneness—of being related to all—brings us again to our responsibility to others. We are sisters and brothers to each other, even to plants and animals. This consciousness encourages us to cooperate in the providential plan/vision for creation and leads us to contemplation of how the Spirit is leading us. We can imagine the Spirit moving over the earth in a loving presence we can call compassion. Religious persons have always been aware of the effectiveness of prayer for another. More recently, physics has demonstrated that an energy exchange between or among persons is a natural phenomenon. All beings emit energy. We can intentionally develop this energy into a “field of energy” by having a group of individuals form a like-minded community. This energy field can radiate out and affect others. An example of this would be the foundation of religious communities where the vitality of the founding group spreads to gather others into the initial charism.”

--Roberta Rorke, SP

Response: *God Calling* by Mary Montgomery, SP, from *The Art of Providence*

Come,
be outdoors,
breathe fresh air,
listen to sounds of nature around you.
See, really see, beauty;
experience delight and grace of
butterfly,
hummingbird,
goldfinch,
petunia,
clover and grass, and oh, the trees!
Be.
Reverence all creation,
and find me there,
and know that I AM with you, within you,
as I am with all creatures in garden Earth.
Come,
be outdoors!

Lenten Prayer Service



Week Five

Pause for silent reflection

Reflection questions

- How do these new understandings in cosmology impact the way you live your call to witness Providence?
- How or when have you experienced in community life this “field of energy” the author speaks of in this reading?
- What does this say to you about charisma?
- In this Lenten journey, how have you come closer to reverencing all of creation?

Closing Prayer: Providence Prayer by Denise Wilkinson, SP, adapted from *The Art of Providence*

Our lives, with all of the ups and downs,
we gently place into your hands,
Provident God.

Our loved ones, those here and
those living in the fullness of your life,
we gently place into your hands,
Provident God.

Our daily work and all who come
into our lives through it,
we gently place into your hands,
Provident God.

Our friends and families,
all of the people of God,
we gently place into your hands,
Provident God.

Our planet and our universe,
revelations of your love,
we gently place into your hands,
Provident God.

In your hands, may we learn to be
expressions of your Providence,
today and always. *Amen.*