

pbb.WHERE YOU ARE (VIRTUAL)

April 2nd, 2020 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm



Photo by Maria Liu Wong

GATHER

Find an appropriate place that enables you to spend some time in prayer and reflection--you may stay in one location or walk around the community you are in, open to prayer and observation of your surroundings. Invite others to take a lunch break and join us **virtually on Zoom**.

UNDERSTAND

In light of all that is happening related to COVID-19, climate change, conflict and refugee migration, and uncertainty in the global economy, **let us respond with hope and trust in the One who has all things under His control**. For this second virtual pbb, we will continue to pray in solidarity wherever we are. Let us pray for all those who are in our midst and afar - families, schools, hospitals, communities, cities, and indeed the world. Consider in particular those in your neighborhood, and how faithful prayer can be a sign of peace and comfort to others.

READ

Psalms 138 (New Living Translation)

¹I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart; I will sing your praises before the gods.

²I bow before your holy Temple as I worship. I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness; for your promises are backed by all the honor of your name.

³As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength.

⁴Every king in all the earth will thank you, Lord, for all of them will hear your words.

⁵Yes, they will sing about the Lord's ways, for the glory of the Lord is very great.

⁶Though the Lord is great, he cares for the humble, but he keeps his distance from the proud.

⁷Though I am surrounded by troubles, you will protect me from the anger of my enemies. You reach out your hand, and the power of your right hand saves me.

⁸The Lord will work out his plans for my life- for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever. Don't abandon me, for you made me.

CITY SEMINARY OF NEW YORK

RESPOND

As you consider current events and your community, what resonates with you from this Scripture passage?

PRAY

1. Families

We praise God for our families and we pray for those in our communities impacted by COVID-19. Pray especially as they may face additional challenges because of poverty, under- or unemployment, rising costs of living, lack of health insurance, single-parent households, abusive environments, and housing instability. Please pray for collaboration between households, non-profit organizations, and the government to develop measures to address and care for families facing such concerns.

2. Workplaces

We give thanks for the places where we work. May they be contexts where our gifts, talents, and experiences are used for the greater good and the benefit of others. Pray for those who are able to work remotely during this time of uncertainty, and for those whose jobs don't allow them this freedom. Pray especially for those on the frontlines, working in healthcare as they support those who are sick and other essential workers.

3. Schools

We pray for students, families, teachers, and staff to receive appropriate resources and adequate support, especially in the case of school closings and transitions to remote teaching and learning. We pray for the situation in NYC, where public schools also serve to support social services through provision of free meals and in other areas. We pray especially for students in homeless shelters who may lack adequate access to the Internet and technology to support remote learning.

4. Government

We remember with thanksgiving and pray for those who work in all areas and branches of government. Pray for wisdom, understanding and love for the people they serve as they govern the city, state, and nation. Pray especially for wise and discerning leadership in this moment, for timely communication and effective mobilization of necessary resources.

5. Communities

We pray that families, churches, community boards, businesses, and city agencies will collaborate to bring about lasting and wholesome changes within the city. Pray that our communities will be places of God's shalom, and compassion and care for our neighbors will characterize our response to this pandemic.

6. The Church

We are thankful for the body of Christ in New York City. May our churches be places of peace, hope, and comfort to our neighbors and communities. Pray for our leaders and ministers as they respond to concerns and point people to the Hope we have in Christ. Pray for the ways that the Church can support the vulnerable and marginalized who are particularly impacted.

SHARE

As you pray, connect with us over Zoom or on our [Facebook](#) page — share a photo of where you're praying from, or share a prayer item! Remember to include #CSNYpbb or #pbbwhereyouare.