

“May This Plague Pass Over:” A Prayer for Our Commonwealth

Beginning on 4/15/20, the [Massachusetts Council of Churches](#) along with many interfaith and civic partners invites all people to a daily, intentional, universal common prayer over your town and the Commonwealth at 4:15pm each afternoon. Set an alarm each day to pray. This prayer was written for Christians with broad interfaith participation, and may be adapted for other settings and states, with attribution.

The response to each petition is:

“Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.”

Let us pray.

Holy One, Your people know You by many names, we call to You in many languages, hear our common cry:

We praise You that we have breath left to pray and praise. We give thanks that there is reasonable portion of health in our mind and body this day. You wake us up and put us to sleep, and for this day, we give thanks. We pray especially for all who are sick. We pray for all who have no one to pray for them. We pray for those whose names are known to You alone. Heal us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*

We pray for our (city/town), and every city and town in this Commonwealth and every place in-between. Cover us, O God. *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*

We pray for our leaders: for _____ our Mayor, Charlie our Governor, the President, our elected and appointed leaders, for all positions of enormous responsibility. Equip and sustain them, Holy One, for the healing of this nation. Guide us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*

We pray for all on the front lines, wherever those lines are: in grocery stores, emergency rooms, on our roads and behind our screens. We pray for all who are weary and worried and weep this day. Guard Us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*

We pray for ourselves and our people, each community and neighborhood and home, and those without safe place to lay their head. Cover us, with a blessing and protection beyond our comprehension. Hear Us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*

Make us One with You and one another, for there is no other way. Make us one city, one Commonwealth, one people. Make us so mindful of the most vulnerable among us that there is no need that we do not bear together. Repair us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and you long for us to be one.*

Grant us courage for the living of these days. Give us patience to endure what cannot be avoided. Make us resilient and make us one. Oh God, we long for resurrection. Redeem us, O God: *Let this plague pass over, for Your will is health and wholeness, and You long for us to be one.*



We know you by many names.

I pray in the name of the Great Physician,
Jesus the Christ. Alleluia, Amen.