

Liturgical Elements

Scripture readings regarding rescue:

- [Psalm 10:17-18](#)
- [Psalm 12:5](#)
- [Psalm 34:18](#)
- [Psalm 82:3-4](#)
- [Psalm 116:16](#)
- [Proverbs 12:6](#)
- [Proverbs 31:8-9](#)
- [Jeremiah 22:3](#)
- [Colossians 1:13](#)
- [Hebrews 13:3](#)

Prayers of justice:

Prayer 1:

God of mercy and justice, be with us. We lift our hearts to You, not because we have to, not because we are supposed to, but because it's how we respond to Your unconditional love.

Christ, you showed us what a life of mercy and justice looked like: in mercy, You gave food to the hungry, and in justice, You broke social custom and shared tables with the powerful and the lowly at once. In mercy, You cared for the sick, and in justice, You broke religious custom to heal on the Sabbath. In mercy, You had compassion for the poor, and in justice, You spoke out against what held them in poverty. In mercy, You washed Your disciples' feet, and in justice, You died without protest to rescue the captive.

Thank You, God, that Your mercy and justice burst forth when Jesus died. Thank You that through the resurrection, You gave hope to all those who hunger for mercy and thirst for justice. God, we know that You always equip those who seek to share mercy and justice. Thank You that even death could not stop Your incredible grace. Amen.

Prayer 2:

O Lord, open our eyes that we may see the needs of others, open our ears that we may hear their cries, and open our hearts so that no one be without help in time of need.

Let us not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong, nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.

Show us where love, hope and faith are needed. Use us to bring light to dark places. Open our eyes and ears that we may join You in bringing peace to the world. Amen.