**March 18, 2018**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**"Give me justice, O God, from the deceitful and cunning, rescue me,**

**for you, O God, are my strength."**

*My God is my safety, my glory, my strength; my refugee when life takes its toll. I trust in my God, as I pour out my heart, all is well, all is well with my soul.*

We have during this season been holding a Lenten-long vigil for the victims of the shooting in Florida. Until now, we have been praying *for* them and their families and friends as they leave this life as they knew it. This Sunday, we will pray *to* them as they enter into the fullness of life waiting for us all. We will proceed to the picture posted at each of the 14 Stations of the Cross, and pray a prayer to life. Let us pray:

Station I. Aron Feis, you looked with love upon God and deep within your eyes imprinted grace. This mercy has set you free, holds you in love’s embrace, and lifts your eyes to his adoring face.

**"***The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The Lord protects*

*me from all danger; I will never be afraid.* Ps. 27

Station II. Cora Loughron, you now see that the eyes through which you see God are the eyes through which God sees you.

**"***Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you*

*are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me."* Ps. 23

Station 3. Nicholas Dworet, you no longer consider the events of the past, you are seeing something new! See how it springs forth, and how you perceive it?

**"***I will sing about your strength; every morning I will sing aloud of your*

*constant love. ps. 59*

Station 4. Martin Anguliano, the prayers you said in your life shaped you intoa kinship of love such that God would recognize it.

"*I will praise you, my defender. My refuge is God, the God who* loves me."

Ps. 59

Station 5. Alyssa Alhadeff, you see about you that hope is a thing with feathers that perches in the soul, sings the song without the words, and never stops at all.

**"***I look to the mountains; where will my help come from? My help will come*

*from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let you fall; your*

*protector is always awake.* Ps. 121

Station 6. Carmen Schentrup, you are beholding the face of God and are content in her presence. You are the apple of God's eye.

**"***You answered me when I called to you; with your strength you*

*strengthened me*." Ps. 138

Station 7. Luke Hoyer, you are no longer the bird pausing in flight on boughs too slight, They no longer give away beneath you,

**"***My soul finds rest in you my God; my hope comes from him. Truly you are*

*my rock and my salvation; you are my fortress, I will not be shaken."* Ps. 62

Station 8. Alaina Petty, you can see these hills, this beautiful sky and amazing white clouds. You are breathing in clean air knowing that God is doing this, and everything is OK.

**"***Our eyes are on you, Lord, as we hope in your unfailing love. You are our*

*help and our shield.  In you we trust.  May your unfailing love be with us,*

*Lord, as we put our hope in you."*  Ps. 33

Station 9. Meadow Pollack, for you, old woundedness has turned into health, old deformity into beauty, and old embarrassment into laughter.

"*You have been a refuge for me, a shelter in my time of trouble. I will praise*

*you, my defender. My refuge is God, the God who loves me."* Ps. 59

Station 10. Joaquin Oliver, nothing can ever again disturb you, nothing dismay you. The old has passed. You lack nothing and are discovering God alone suffices.

**"***Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.  Those who go out*

*weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying*

*sheaves with them."* Ps. 126

Station 11. Peter Wang, for you the vision has found its time. It has reached fulfillment and has not disappointed. You no longer have to wait for it.

**"***God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never*

*perish."*  Ps. 9

Station 12. Helena Ramsey, you have placed your fingertips gently on the pulse of God, and found your heart to be one with the heart of the One who delights in your being.

**"***We put our hope in you, Lord, for with you is unfailing love and with you*

*our full redemption."*  Ps. 130

Station 13. Jamie Guttenberg, you are finding yourself singing the songs without the

words and never stopping at all.

**"***The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The Lord*

*protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid."*  Ps. 27

Station 14. Alex Schachter, you are fully in love with life and staying in love. Your

vision has come to term, has reached fulfillment, and has not disappointed.

"*Lord, our hope is in you."*  Ps. 39

"*Whoever goes to the Lord for safety, whoever remains under the protection*

*of the Almighty, can say to him, “You are my defender and protector. You*

*are my God; in you I trust*." Ps. 91

**All is Well with my Soul**

When peace like a river attendeth my way; when sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say, "*It is well, it is well with my soul*." It is well (it is well), with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

My soul is at rest in the Lord God alone; from God comes salvation and hope. With God as my rock, I shall not be disturbed: "*All is well, all is well with my soul*." All is well (all is well), with my soul (with my soul); all is well, all is well with my soul.

My God is my safety, my glory, my strength; my refuge when life takes it's toll. I trust in my God, as I pour out my heart: "*All is well, all is well with my sou*l!" All is well (all is well), with my soul (with my soul); all is well, all is well, with my soul.

Oh God, I will bless you as long as I live; for your grace alone makes me whole. With gladness and joy I will sing of your name: "*All is well, all is well with my soul*!" All is well (all is well), with my soul (with my soul); all is well, all is well with my soul.

Horatio Spafford