

# Congregational Prayer – Are You Still Sleeping, the Time Is at Hand

*Year A, Palm Sunday*

## **Matthew 21:1-11**

Creator of the sun and moon,  
of the day and night.  
Wake us from our sleep  
for we know the time is at hand.

We have been sleeping too long  
and have closed our eyes to our own actions.  
We have betrayed your good creation;  
we have put our interests above all else.

Creation itself cries to you  
through the voice of the psalmist:

*Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
for I am in distress;  
my eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.  
For my life is spent with sorrow,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.*

Forgive us, O God  
for we have denied your goodness in the earth.  
Forgive us, O God  
for we have failed in our care for your creation.

Give us ears to hear today's prophets;  
to heed their call to action.

Now is the time  
to rise from our beds of comfort.

Now is the time  
to turn toward your goodness.

Creator of all that is good,  
forgive us and restore us.

We pray in the name of the one  
who calls us to get up and follow.

Amen.

Len Rempel (Canada), 2023. Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Climate Emergency Response Team (CERT)