

Intercessions for Holy Week

(Set to the words of the powerful spiritual meaning 'Come by here.')

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.

Lord Jesus,

However difficult we find the current path that we are on, may we be aware of your presence and united in our love for you.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Someone's crying, Lord,

Kum ba yah

Let us evoke the imagery of the journey to the foot of the cross. Your mother Mary wept at your side and we join in her tears. You have known suffering beyond all human endurance or understanding.

A prayer by Isabelle, aged 9:

Lord Jesus, who gave your life for us,

You felt the world's suffering and pain,

You felt the world's sorrowing and sadness,

You felt this world's dying.

Loving Lord Jesus, who came alive again,

Let us follow your way of healing,

Let us follow your way of glory through rejoicing in your name,

Let us follow your way of living through praying to your Father in heaven.

Amen

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Someone's singing, Lord,

Kum ba yah

Humble Lord,

As we deeply miss the loved ones that we are not able to meet with or reach out and touch.

We pray for the international efforts that are currently underway to contain the spread of Covid-19.

We pray for our own country at this time in the midst of this crisis.

We pray for:

Those who have lost their lives both young and old all precious in your sight and for their loved ones at this time.

Those tending to the ill and those who support their efforts. We think especially of the medical professionals on the front line, doctors, nurses, the emergency services, care workers, and key workers who also play vital roles.

Those in government and authority who face grave and difficult decisions.

Those who are worried for their families, livelihood, jobs and stability in the face of illness and redundancy.

Those who's homes are not safe places.

Those who are the poorest in our world and do not have the medical facilities, infrastructure, and advances to combat this disease.

Those who are supporting others around them to help with practical concerns such as collecting food or medicines or alleviating loneliness.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Someone's praying, Lord,

Kum ba yah

Gentle Jesus, We think of Mary Magdalene at the tomb on Easter morning lost in her emotions and crying out for you.

A prayer by Emily, aged 7:

In the Easter garden

the lovely flowers bloom.

Mary waits for Jesus by the empty tomb.

In the bright, morning sun

A gardener came past

And said "Mary",

And she knew it was Jesus at last.

Thank you, Jesus for being by our sides at this special Easter time. Amen.

You taught us how to pray to your Father. Let us not forget the power of prayer. As we miss our familiar patterns of worship this Easter time, let us lift our prayers to you.

As we approach Easter Day, rejoicing in your sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, wherever we are on our spiritual journeys, may we use this time prayerfully to awaken and refresh our love and dedication to you.

O Lord, kum ba yah.

Amen.