

Engaging Spirituality

Mercy Works

This prayer works best when read by two alternating voices.

(Sit in receptive posture: feet on the ground, palms upturned, resting in your lap.)

Catch your breath...

Still your mind...

Calm your body...

Quiet your soul...

(Pause)

Inhale deeply...

...the breath of life.

(Pause)

You are a living, breathing conduit of mercy...

As you receive a breath,

open yourself to the mercy of God

As you return a breath,

give that mercy to the world.

(Pause)

Breathing in...

...Breathing out...

Lord have mercy...

...Mercy!

Christ have mercy...

...Mercy!

Lord have mercy...

...Mercy!

(Pause)

The ONLY way we can tangibly express our loving gratitude to our Merciful Maker is through our merciful action on behalf of our neighbor:

(Slowly)

our neighbor – black AND white,

our neighbor – surly AND polite,

our neighbor – settled AND migrant,

our neighbor – wealthy AND homeless,

our neighbor – atheist AND evangelical,

our neighbor – teenager AND retiree,

our neighbor – gay AND straight,

our neighbor – saint AND sinner,

our neighbor – Muslim AND Jew,

our neighbor – pacifist AND militant,

our neighbor – conservative AND liberal,

our billion neighbors at the bottom AND our million neighbors at the top,

all our impoverished neighboring nations AND all those in between.

(Pause)

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It is the “AND” that defines the breadth of our soul!

(Invite those who can, to reach out and link hands.)

This is how mercy reaches the ground, through OUR forgiving touch,
Mercy... made visible by our feeding and clothing,
our sheltering and visiting, our freeing and tending to the living and the dead.
(Pause)

Mercy... made credible in our teaching and challenging,
our suffering and forgiving wrongs, our comforting and praying with the living and the dying.

Open your heart to the world! Bless this day with mercy,
in those places where it is sorely needed...

(Leader)	(Refrain)
Lamb of God, you take away the Sin of this world...	Have mercy on us...
Lamb of God, you take away the Sin of this world...	Have mercy on us...
Lamb of God, you take away the Sin of this world...	Grant us peace!

