

## Groups of the Spirit (GOTS) | Gathering Prayer | A Prayer for Lent

*Intentions for the prayer below:*

- Weave God into the mix, given GOTS are church-sponsored gatherings ☺
- Honor our Mission Covenant Goals of supporting faith formation across all ages and stages, deepening our welcome (of our diverse journeys of faith), building authentic relationships across similarities and differences, and to create a shared experience across the various GOTS.

*Instructions for the prayer below:*

1. If you don't have copies for everyone, find it online at <http://saintjudes.org/groups-spirit-gots>
  2. Choose a prayer leader to lead this prayer, near the beginning of your time together.
  3. All are invited to share during in the "circle payer" section, and of course, each may "pass for now" or "pass" all together!
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*Prayer Leader:*

Let us pray: Self-giving God, throughout the biblical stories, you invite us to love others in healthy ways – including our neighbors, strangers, enemies, “aliens in the land,” and even ourselves. Help us to keep maturing in a kind of love that mirrors your radical love for us! We especially pray for your help in loving those who are difficult to love right now, including those we name silently or aloud:

*Circle prayer:*

- *Go around the circle and share in one word or phrase a person(s) in your personal life for whom you need God's help to love in a healthy way – yourself, a neighbor, a stranger, etc.*
- *You may “pass for now” and we will return to you before continuing, or you may “pass” altogether.*
- *After all have had an opportunity to share, then close together saying...*

*All:* **By your merciful and healing grace at work in us and through us, we pray, Amen.**