



# Lenten Prayer Service for Week Six

**Leader:** Spirit of our Loving, Provident God, bless us as we gather to pray at the close of our Lenten journey.

**All:** Give us hearts that carry hope and believe in peace as we prepare to enter into the time of paschal mystery—life, death, resurrection.

**Song:** (Your selection)

**Reading:** adapted from *Providence and Compassion*

“When I listen deeply to another’s journey or inner struggles, it evokes in me a deep compassion and a desire to be fully present in a caring, healing way. The gift of such compassionate presence is a life-long journey of learning first to be present, kind, and compassionate oneself and one’s own inner processes and then to be fully present to others on the way. One of the best gifts we can give and receive is the gift of listening. Listening with compassionate presence is both healing and nourishing. Such presence is sacramental; it is one of the most beautiful manifestations of the mystery of God’s providential caring.” --Ruth McGoldrick, SP

**Response:** adapted from *Listen to your Heart*, a reflection by Melinda Garcia, CDP Associate, from *The Art of Providence*

Do not worry about what others do or say;  
lead by example, for you are following God’s way!  
Take time for reflection, family and some fun, too,  
because Provident God will see you through!

Always seek to help those in need;  
seek to serve and relish every opportunity.  
Don’t judge appearances at first glance;  
underneath it all, it’s about serving others—give them a chance!

Listen to your heart  
Reach out to others  
Listen intently to their stories  
Make a difference  
Smile and spread joy.

Practice simplicity, charism, and poverty.  
For to serve, it is my destiny.  
Abandon yourselves to Provident God,  
for the glory is His. For this is how I am a leader and choose to live.  
Listen to your heart!

# Lenten Prayer Service



Week Six

## Pause for silent reflection

### Reflection questions

- How have I been a good listener along this Lenten journey?
- When was a time when you experienced someone listening intently to you?
- As you prepare to enter Holy Week, what is one thing you take with you from the Lenten prayers provided from the WPC office?

**Closing Prayer:** by Myra Rodgers, CDP, adapted from *The Art of Providence*

God of Providence, in whose loving hands lie the days and seasons of our lives, you are calling us to a new day, a new season as your Providence people. Draw us to listen carefully to the echo of your Voice in each person we meet.

Once again, invite us to be your Face, your Hands, and your Heart in this new era of a world that cries out for your loving care. Remind us of the history which is ours in the lives of the strong women who are our foremothers. Strengthen the hesitant among us and grace us with the courage and strength of purpose that characterized the great women who preceded us.

Lead us to forgive past hurts and divisions, that we may continue our journey into the future with one heart and one mind, hand in hand, no longer “we and they” but Sisters and Associates who continue to be lured by You, the God of Providence. In the Spirit of Jesus, we pray. *Amen.*

*Happy Holy Week and a  
Blessed Easter to all!*

