The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

— Isaiah 61:1-4 (ESV)

THE PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You are the Anointed One. We are thankful our Heavenly Father has given us the Holy Spirit. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, enable us to boldly proclaim the Good News to a world ravaged by anxiety, fear, panic, and loss. We ask You to pour out Your Holy Spirit on our broken world so that 2020 will become “the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Oh God, we ask You to heal our broken world.

Only You can replace panic with peace, fear with faith, and grief with grace. Lord, for many of our world’s most vulnerable people groups, this worldwide quarantine has been a time of darkness, fear, and anger. Many are struggling mentally, emotionally, and financially. Lord, lift them out of despair. Deliver them by Your great salvation. May they truly discover the eternal freedom only found in You.

We thank You for mitigating the effects of COVID-19 and expanding Your footprint in the nations of the world. Millions of people are asking You for refuge and protection. We know You hear them and are freshly touching our world.

With one voice, we boldly come before Your throne of grace in prayer: Heavenly Father, in the name of Your Son, Jesus, eradicate COVID-19 and pour out Your Spirit on the earth.

AMEN.