

Pastoral Prayer

Let Us Pray:

We approach you, Lord, not simply to proclaim your good news, but to claim your grace for this community and for the world.

We pray for the people of this community, O Lord. Grant that your Spirit will travel through our streets. Protect the children from hunger, abuse, and neglect. Prod us to make sure they will learn well the things that build, and not the things that destroy. Teach us, who are their models and teachers, to care for the generations that you have entrusted to us.

We pray for the people elsewhere in the world who awaken this morning to another day without peace. Grant that they will turn away from weapons that wound to instruments that heal. Nourish their bodies with strength, their minds with insight, and their souls with hope. Let the nations of the earth know that you have made us one people, no matter where we draw boundaries between us.

We pray for all who are worshiping here today. We pray for all who are facing transitions and troubles; all who are coping with illness, recovering from loss, and encountering loneliness. Bless them, O Lord, with your promises and with our presence so that we can be unafraid to stand with one another in selfless service to each other, even as we bow before you. In the name of our Creator, Our God, we pray. Amen.