

Prayers of the People

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

We pray for the church. Sustain us as we share your word. Embrace us as we struggle to find our common ground. Lift up leaders with powerful and prophetic voices. Free us from stagnant faith.

We pray for the well-being of creation. Protect the air, water, and land from abuse and pollution. Free us from apathy in our care of creation and direct us toward sustainable living.

We pray for all the nations of the world, and this day recognize the United States and Canada, celebrating their nationhood—where nations do work that is good and just, uphold; where nations are in error, guide; where nations are in need, supply; where nations have abundance, share. Guide all leaders in developing just policies and guide difficult conversations. Free us from patriotism and nationalism that hinders relationship-building. Lead us to live an expansive love for our neighbors both far and near.

We pray for all in need. For all who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed especially this day we pray for Antonio Cedillo, son-in-law of Sandy and Barry Eliason; Daniel Schowalter brother-in-law of Sandy and Ken Gibson; Ruth Herz; Lloyd Mart; Tom Reddy and Juliet Hanson; Don, brother of Ruth Blomster; Bill, brother-in-law of Belinda Cline. Take their yoke upon you and ease their burdens. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound.

We pray for this congregation. Bless pastors, staff, congregational leaders, Befrienders, and volunteers. Energize children's ministry volunteers, church administrators, and those who maintain our building. Shine through us that we might notice the ways your love transforms our lives.

We give thanks for those who have died in faith especially Pat, sister of Marsha Tofte and sister-in-law of Bob; Arlene, sister-in-law of RoseAnn and Joel Bergstrom; Joan, sister of Gene Recibe and sister-in-law of Nancy. Welcome them into your eternal rest and comfort us in our grief until we are joined with them in new life.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.