

PRAYER BASKET

Good and Gracious God, we praise You for Your glorious creation of our planet Earth and the unfathomable heavenly realms. We are grateful for Your healing mercies, and Your ever-lasting love. And we are thankful for Your gift of prayer. We lift up the following prayers this week - for those near and far - trusting in Your goodness and confident in Your hearing and answering. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We pray for all the families who have left a violent, dangerous homeland, and who have traveled to seek asylum and a new, safer life for their families.

We pray for the thousands of children who have been forcibly separated/torn away from their parents at the nation's southern border - many of who are now 'housed' in a fenced-in cage-like holding pen. This family separation practice has caused grave concerns, for severance from a parent can have lifelong ill effects. May there be a timely, compassionate and humane reuniting of these families.

We pray for all the places in the world where there is unrest, hatred and violence that breeds despair, death and destruction - and the loss of hope for so many people.

We pray for solid walls of distrust to become open windows of understanding that allows the light of hope and the gentle breeze of kindness to change seemingly hopeless situations into possibilities of lasting peace.

We pray for the places where gun violence continues to shake security, snuff out lives, and spread fear and anger.

We pray that people will come together in community, with a softening to political and cultural polarization.

We pray that those who feel lonely, alienated, or misunderstood will find comfort and a sense of well-being. Bring the gift of kindness and attention through our faithful, loving and outreaching actions of mercy and grace.

We pray that our witness as being caring disciples will help soothe the pain of those who struggle with battles of body, mind, or spirit. May our ministry bring a healing presence with comforting grace, to encourage others in their time of need.

We pray for all those returning from the GA in Saint Louis this week. Safe travels to all as they return home, and we look forward to hearing about their experiences and how we go forward as a Church.

We pray for all those who today will be facing severe weather conditions in the US, including more eruptions from Hawaii's volcano with faster moving lava moving towards the sea. We pray that all will be kept out of harms way.

Lord, in Your mercy. May it be so.

“The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid.”

Psalm 27:1