

Pastoral Prayer
September 6, 2020

We have been grateful for some time, O God, to have suffered so little from this global pandemic. But now we must raise our prayers in our sorrow and in our vulnerability. Come to us, God, and keep us in safety and health.

We pray for the residents and staff of the Yukio Okutsu Veterans Home. Sharpen their attention to the details of caution and of care. Lend strength to those who are suffering from infection and protect those who attend to them. Comfort the grieving as you welcome their loved ones into a new life.

May we, O God, be attentive to our own actions, guided by your grace. May your power supplement our efforts to shield ourselves and others from the transmission of this virus. By our efforts and by yours, may this wave pass and recede with no more suffering and death than we have already experienced.

As we pray for ourselves, O God, we pray also for the world, where far more people suffer and far more people grieve. God, once more I must pray that you make your people wise, since so often we choose of ourselves the paths of folly.

On this Labor Day weekend, Holy One, we ask your blessing upon the work of your people and the workers of your people. May they labor in justice. May they receive fair compensation for their work. May they be honored for their faithfulness.

To you, O God, we offer our thanks and praise. To you, O God, we open our hearts and spirits. To you, O God, we look for help, for comfort, and for grace.

Amen.