

Pastoral Prayer  
February 4, 2024

Gracious God,

We pray for those subject to potential flooding along the Pacific coast of North America, and to wildfires in Chile. We pray for those afflicted by the violence of war in Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, and so many other places in the world. We pray for those lacking food and shelter, and for those unsuccessfully seeking employment that will provide the necessities. We pray for the sick and for the grieving. We pray for the mentally ill and for those who simply do not know which way to turn.

We pray for our own needs, which are as varied as we are. They include comfort for our sorrows, healing for our ills, reinforcement for our hopes, direction for our lives. May your grace within us be a constant reassurance all our days. May your Holy Spirit within us be a constant stimulus to share your love with our families, our friends, our neighbors, our community, and the world.

The rains fall, O God, and so the green things grow. The sun shines, O God, and so the flowers bloom. The wind carries the seeds to fall into the earth. The rains fall, and so the green things grow. Bless us in the celebration and the experience of the cycles of life, and feed us at your table of blessing today and always.

Amen.