

Pastoral Prayer

July 6, 2025

On this weekend of a nation's birth, we honor the best principles of the United States of America: freedom of religion and expression, one person/one vote, accountability, and consistent rule of law. We rejoice for the ways in which these have been successfully upheld. We grieve for the ways in which they have been subverted or withheld. We pledge to uphold these principles and to do what can and must be done to see that everyone lives in their blessings.

O God, we ask your quick aid to those overwhelmed by floods in Texas. Comfort those who have lost friends and loved ones. Give healing strength to those injured. Renew the spirit of sharing in those who have not lost so that they may aid those whose homes and businesses have been swept away by the raging waters. May we be among those who help.

Feed us, O God, with your Spirit of Hope in days when what we hope for seems to be drawing away. Strengthen us in our struggles. Guide us in our confusion. Lift us in our exhaustion. Renew us in our repetition of things that didn't work before and won't work now.

Most of all, O God, feed us at the table of Jesus, the one to which you have summoned us for nourishment of body, mind, and spirit.

In Jesus' name, Amen.