

Pastoral Prayer
November 9, 2025

O Holy One,

We pray for wisdom and compassion in the souls of our leaders. We pray that they may see their way clearly not just to reopen a government, but also to renew their kuleana to the people of the nation. We pray that they may regard the needs of those who do their work without pay, that they may regard the value of those who serve the public in ways we notice and ways we don't. We pray that they may regard the condition of the poor, the sick, the vulnerable, the oppressed.

We pray that they might be inspired by the example of Jesus the crucified one rather than Rome the crucifiers.

We pray for those struggling to contain the fire on Mauna Kea, and for those affected by the smoke which fills the air. We pray for those who need to get somewhere and the flight has been cancelled. We pray for those wondering whether they'll have enough to feed their families next week. We pray for those hoping that a fragile cease-fire may hold. We pray for those who still wait for a cease-fire to end the fighting around their homes. We pray for those affected by Typhoon Fung-wong in the Philippines and by Hurricane Melissa in the Caribbean, as well as others pummeled by natural disasters large and small.

We pray that you help us discern ways in which to help our neighbors near and far. May we be peacemakers and bridge-builders. May we be part of that chain of compassion that feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, shelters the homeless. May we, when we are the sufferers, find that we have inspired others and now they bring our compassion back to us. May we, when we have reached the limits of our powers, come to you still and say, "Help our neighbors, God. Help our neighbors with your love, your power, and your grace."

In Jesus' name,

Amen.