

Pastoral Prayer

June 14, 2026

Loving Creator,

We thank you for the gathering of UCC church people this weekend for the 204<sup>th</sup> 'Aha Pae'aina. We are grateful for your presence in worship, in learning, in relationship, and in discernment. We further thank you that all arrived, and all returned home, in peace.

We pray your loving care for the people and places around the world enduring suffering and pain. We ask your aid for those in the Philippines afflicted by this week's earthquake, and by those who have been beneath the falling bombs in Iran, Ukraine, and Russia. We pray your peace for those in too many other war zones, and for those who have experienced violence at the hands of uncaring strangers or unfaithful loved ones.

We pray for the sick and the injured, and ask that you add your healing grace to the skilled and compassionate care of medical professional, loved ones, and friends. We pray for those who work hard and cannot make ends meet. We pray for those who seek to provide goods and services to the public and cannot find enough workers. We pray for those who lead governments from the smallest communities to the largest nations: May they have the wisdom to discern cruelty from mercy, and please God, may they choose mercy.

We are grateful that you choose mercy in your dealings with us. Accept our thanks and praise, and let the glory of your love be known throughout the universe.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.