

Pastoral Prayer

July 19, 2026

Holy One,

As we pray for peace, some people continue to choose war. Let your will be done, O Prince of Peace. Let your mercy as well as your justice prevail. May your compassion bring an end to the sorrow, suffering, and death of the wars that rage in so many places around the world.

We pray for those struggling to contain wildfires, and we pray for those struggling to breathe downwind of them. Your grace has aid for both of them, O God. Where we human beings have the ability to assist, we pray you guide us and move us.

Our lives, you know, can be bright with joy and shadowed with sorrow. Bring us comfort and healing for our hurts and suffering. Bring us wisdom for our confusion and courage for our fear. Bring us forgiveness for our sins. Bring us rest for our exhaustion. Bring us resurrection when we reach the end of our earthly journey and give our souls to you.

Holy One, even as we ask for the things we lack and the healing we need, we offer you our thanksgiving. You have accompanied us throughout our lives from our time in the cradle. You will be with us throughout our lives to our time in the grave and beyond. We thank you deeply for your abundant and abiding love. We welcome the embrace of your arms and the whisper of your voice. We rejoice in your created Universe. As you hear our cries for help, O God, hear also our cries of thanks, offered in Jesus' name.

Amen.