

Pastoral Prayer
August 16, 2026

Gracious God,

We are, most of us, breathing sighs of relief this morning. The storm has come, and the storm was intense, and we don't know yet all of its impact. We pray for our neighbors in Puna and Ka'u, where we hear that the storm hit hardest. Help us in the days to come to bring them aid appropriate to their need, and live as good neighbors.

We pray also for those affected by other natural disasters in different places around the world, including wildfires in North America, flooding in Japan and India, earthquakes in Indonesia and the Philippines. May the global community find its identity as neighbor, and guided by your grace, comfort those who need help.

We pray that you give healing to the sick and injured of our community and every community. We pray that you bring wisdom to warring nations to set weapons aside, and take up the ways of peace. We pray for leaders of the nations that they may be guided by concern for their people and not for their power. We pray that we find the means to house the homeless, feed the hungry, and embrace the lonely.

Thank you for your gracious presence, O God, for your salvation and promise of life, and for your glorious mercy in Jesus Christ.

Amen.