Pastoral Prayer
November 1, 2026

Gracious and Holy One,

We confess to being deliberately ignorant from time to time, to ignoring the realities that affect us, or the realities that affect others. Sometimes we do it because we're afraid. Sometimes we do it because we do it because reality threatens our comfort. Sometimes we do it because we honestly don't know any better. Sometimes we do know better and we do it anyway.

Jesus called us to stay alert, O God, so we pray for your aid in doing so. We ask your help to discern truth from all the information that washes over us, some true, some false, some fantasy, some fraud. We pray that those we trust are trustworthy. We pray that those who trust us likewise find they have placed their faith well.

Most of all, help us to hold firm our faith in you, in your grace, in your justice, and in your love. Keep us from the arrogance that says that we, not you, know it all, or hold the world in our hands. Strengthen our hope that when hard times come, as they have and as they will, you remain present, loving, and strong for us. Feed us with hope, truth, and love today at Christ's table, and always in our spirits.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.