Prayers for October 6_9, 2024

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Just as natural as washing the dirt from our hands may we also scrub our hearts from envy and unkind thoughts towards others. Help us to forgive others and mend strained relationships.

Leader -Merciful God

Congregation-Receive our Prayer.

We pray for all those dealing with the aftermath of devasting flooding, hurricanes, bombings and starvation. Help us to create avenues of aid and care with efficiency and compassion. Bless the rescue workers and their abilities as they help all those in need.

Leader -Merciful God

Congregation -Receive our Prayer.

God our Savior, in our fears, your light shines brightest. As we look at the night sky the stars shine brightest when the night is darkest. When our lives are in turmoil due to sickness, broken relationships, death or hopelessness remind us You are ever present to calm our fears as you walk beside us. Today we especially pray for: Brayden, Caleb, Darla, Denise, James O., Jerry S., Kristy, Larry, Lee, Lori, Nancy, Nathan, Oliver, Pat, Rachel, Tracy, Scott, Will and all those we hold in our hearts.

Leader -Merciful God

Congregation-Receive our Prayer.

Dear Father, thank you for the workers of the world, who do their jobs so well, we often forget all that they do to make the world a better place.

Leader -Merciful God

Congregation-Receive our Prayer.

Dear Father, as we lead our children through life; help our steps to remain straight and steady in a direct line to You as we set an example of life as Your servants.

Leader: Merciful God

Congregation: Receive our Prayer.

God our Savior, this week help all of us to focus on all that we have, rather than complain about all the things we think we deserve. Gratitude will get us through the hard stuff. It leaves us looking at You and realizing we are truly blessed.

Leader -Merciful God

Congregation-Receive our Prayer.

With everlasting thanks and joy for Your love and forgiveness we ask You to be with us till we meet again. This week help us to take every opportunity to be thankful for the blessings of each day. Help us to pay attention to how best we can be a gift to others. May we approach each day with SOUL – serving others, uplifting lives! We ask all in the name of Your Dear Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN

October 6, 2024 Stop at the Gate

Then Peter said, "Silver and Gold I do not have, but what I do
have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up
and walk." Acts 3: 6-8

The thick, meaty hand of the fisherman reached for the frail, thin one of the beggar. The cripple swayed like a newborn calf finding its balance. And as he stood, he began to shout, and passersby began to stop.

The crowd thickened around the trio. Other beggars pressed toward the scene in their ragged coverings and tattered robes and cried out for their portion of a miracle.

So Peter complied. He escorted them to the clinic of the Great Physician and invited them to take a seat. "Faith in His name, has made this man strong... Repent therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come for the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3: 16-9).

An honest look led to a helping hand that led to a conversation about eternity. Works done in God's name long outlive our earthly lives.

Let's be the people who stop at the gate. Let's look at the hurting until we hurt with them. No hurrying past, turning away, or shifting of eyes. No pretending or glossing over. <u>Let's look at the face until we see the person.</u>

A reflection by: Max Lucado