

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession
Sunday, November 1, 2020

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with the Psalmist we praise you: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. You are faithful in your words, and gracious in your deeds. Our mouths will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless your holy name forever and ever.

Lord, we trust in your reign in this election season in the United States. We ask for wisdom as we vote, we ask for hopeful and civil engagement with our fellow citizens, and we ask for trust in the ways that you are at work in the world. We pray for the person who will serve as president for the next four years, that you would grant to that person wisdom and compassion and a heart for justice. We pray for those who will serve as senators and representatives for our nation and for our state.

As the days get shorter, Lord, and the nights colder, we ask for your tender care for those who are homeless. Give them shelter. Provide services and caring people to step in and assist. For those of us who do have homes to live in, we thank you for that shelter and for that security. And for those who have a roof over their head but who feel uneasy in their family, amid conflict, or abuse, or just exhaustion or discouragement, we pray for your healing presence, O Lord.

God of mercy, comfort those who mourn. We pray today for the families of Elaine Harper, Loren Rupke, and Chris Dekker. Care for them in their grief. We thank you for the lives of these saints and for the gift it was for us to know them as fellow church members and friends. We thank you for the hope you give us in the resurrection of Jesus. We pray for all those who have lost loved ones in recent months or years. Be their companion, Lord, and surround them with a community that extends your love.

For your goodness and generosity in giving us all we need, help us to praise you O God. In every circumstance of life, in good times and bad, help us to trust you. In love and faithfulness, with all that we have and all that we are, help us to serve you, O God. As we speak or write or listen to those nearby or far away, help us to share your love. In our plans and work for ourselves and for others, help us to glorify you, O God. In every thought and word and deed, by the power of your Holy Spirit, this week, may we live for you. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior we pray, uniting our voices in the prayer he taught his disciples: Our Father...