



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 08.02.26

Almighty God, you masterfully bring about your redemptive plan through all that seems beyond your reach. Just as you emboldened David, seemingly small and weak in the shadow of the giant's towering frame, fortify your children with faith to face the adversity that bears down on them and the sin that assails them. Bring to mind, for each person imperiled in body, in mind, and in circumstance, your faithfulness in their own story. Give your children a song of praise for the love you poured out in Jesus, and keep them singing until you have carried them through once again.

You who hold each one in your everlasting arms, hold the land too. Creator and sustainer of all life, the winds are your messengers and the flames your servants. Contain and extinguish the wildfires in the communities around us, from Warm Springs to far across the world in France. Set a firm and unshakable boundary around people and animals, homes and habitats, livelihoods and sacred places. Tame the winds and firestorms, guide first responders, strengthen shelter organizers and volunteers to comfort the displaced, and provide for every need from the abundance of your house. Merciful God who visits the earth and waters it, extend peace to your creation like a river, and heal all that the flames have touched.

Spirit of everlasting joy, as the Carlson family returns home from China, ground them in the kindness of your provision for this hard-won celebration, and keep the memories, new and old, present as praise for your mercy in Benjamin's life and your sustaining power for their family. Guard what has already been won in Benjamin, and establish your complete healing in Caitlyn Littrell and Mia Kackley. Steady them, and all in this congregation who carry struggling bodies and troubled minds. Make your presence known through every waiting season, and with your perfect love, quiet the fears that come with new scans and tests.

True and righteous king, direct our minds toward truth and fix our hope in you alone. Show us that nothing falls outside your sovereignty, and nowhere is safer than your promises.

Amen.