



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 08.30.26

Risen Lord, not a stranger who passes by, but the Savior who draws near, open our eyes to behold you. Tune our souls to recognize what our eyes are too slow to believe. Compose in us a song of wonder, joy, and grace that can only rise from an empty tomb. Surprise us with reminders of your nearness when our faces stay downcast, when we walk our roads rehearsing only what we have lost, forgetting that you walk beside us still.

Paraclete, walk alongside every heart that feels unaccompanied this morning. Be near those recovering in body, in spirit, and those unsure which kind of healing they need. Meet the anxious with your calm, the waiting with your patience, and the disappointed with a hope beyond words. Where grief has made a home, come and dwell there.

Comforting God, be near those walking the road toward hospice care this week, and hold steady the hope of families facing the hardest of days. Grant rest and relief to those carrying caregiving's weight. Steady those facing surgery, unresolved medical complications, and diagnoses that push us towards hopelessness. Give their loved ones strength for these long, weary nights of waiting. We trust you. Merciful God, be present in the wreckage of the flash floods in Nepal and Tibet. Comfort the searching, strengthen the rescuers, and hold close every family waiting for news that has not yet come. Son of Man, open the eyes of people near and far to see you through bread broken, neighbors with names, and strangers welcomed.

King who is perfectly patient, yet quick to forgive, preserve the life and dignity of the vulnerable near and far. Prince of Peace whose wounds became our healing, soften the hearts of those who hold power, and turn the nations toward reconciliation rather than ruin. Where darkness presses upon conflict, poverty, and fear, let peace prevail until all things are reconciled.

Author and perfecter of our faith, all we have is yours, take it, and give us in exchange a hope that does not depend on understanding everything you are doing. Because you live, we can face tomorrow, even the parts of it we cannot yet see ourselves.

Amen.