



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 03.15.26

Creator. Your indescribable beauty appears at any moment, even in indescribable loss.  
Savior. You have not left us alone. Breath of God. You are always present and always on the way. Your ancient wisdom flows into us like the well-traveled air of this world.

So many in our congregation face the relentlessness of illness or need. Be with those who feel alone. Be near to those who feel they cannot trust their own minds. Carry those who tremble at unexpected cliffs in their paths. As we care for family, strengthen us and provide your grace to cover the time, energy, and knowledge required. Guide the navigation of complicated medical systems. And as dear ones face the slow loss of their memory, "though all else be hid from [them], all memory, all knowledge, all understanding, do not hide your presence" (McKelvey, 2019). For each one, relieve fears over what the next corner will bring, how long the pain might endure. Let your presence soothe anxieties.

Provide discernment for the Littrells as they seek a path forward to protect Caitlin's body from the possibility of lingering cancer cells. Guide medical teams and the Littrells when they consider suggested options. Let Caitlin's body heal strong; cause their faith to grow as they encounter this path again. For those who are unable to be here this morning, let them sense your presence in a sweet time of worship.

God, thank you for the lasting impact of the Shepherd's House in our community. As the ministry seeks needed funding, cause provision to pour in. Provide just the right staff for the needs. Let your power do its work in those they serve. Go with the team leaving this week to learn about the Black Freedom Struggle. May the time be filled with impactful learning that grows their faith. Build relationships, and guide the logistics of leading 50 youth and adults through both travel and sobering content. May each one be altered for good, seeing joy and vision found in any setting, including the one in which they are placed.

We beg for your will to be done in areas of conflict. May your kingdom come in Ukraine, Gaza, the Middle East, Sudan, in hearts of leaders and peoples across the world. As we try and fail to bear the weight of global need, remind us that you are not unable. Your Spirit goes about in every sacred, desecrated space (Berry, 2006).

And for the sake of your glory, send our prayers with the immense power you have granted us through your Spirit.

Amen.