



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 06.28.26

Sovereign King – not the king who takes, but the King who gave his own Son – open our eyes to behold you. Tune our souls to sing your glory and compose in us a song of adoration flowing from grace beyond comprehension. Forgive us when we reject your kingship for a kingdom we can control, and lead us once more to the cross.

Just as you heard Israel crying out beneath the weight of kings who took and consumed, hear us this morning. Father of Mercies, harbor in your everlasting arms all those adrift in suffering: those recovering from illness and surgery, those exhausted by grief, those whose diagnoses remain uncertain, those fighting invisible battles, those carrying weight they have not yet named aloud. Hem them in with your steadfast love and quiet their fears and anxieties like a lullaby sung to a child in the night.

Faithful God, you know every name and see every need. We celebrate with you the progress in Caitlyn Littrell's and Mia Kackley's treatment. As the Carlsons journey to China, go before them and fill their days with overflowing joy. Grant courage and calm to Ariana Guy and Toby Engel as they prepare for surgeries – let them know they do not go under the surgeon's care alone, but also by the one in whose image they are made.

King of Kings who came not in a palace but in poverty, preserve the life and dignity of the vulnerable near and far. Prince of Peace, soften the hearts of those who hold power, and saturate them with gentleness toward those they call enemy. Turn the attention of nations toward reconciliation and the protection of the weak. Where justice and righteousness have run dry, let them roll like a river through the streets of every nation, including our own.

Friend of sinners, just as grace reached us in our chains and set us free, empower us now to stand and act – to carry hope to the hopeless, mercy to the suffering, and peace to the conflicted. Rid us of ourselves. Make us yours. Magnify yourself in the fury of every storm until that day when you make all things new.

Amen.