



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 05.03.26

Almighty and Loving God, may our prayer like incense rise before you, the lifting of our hands a sacrifice. Oh Lord, Jesus, turn Your eyes upon us. Under stoic church steeples, in solemn board rooms, around tense kitchen tables, in fearful trembling in war zones, and among clenching desperation in hospital rooms, your children are there. Our sicknesses, grievances, doubts, and rivalries leave us feeling isolated and vulnerable. In our depths of want and time of searching, Lord, speak your peace to us. Help us, strengthen us, and be with us.

Father of compassion and God of all comfort, you have created us to love and praise you. You have drawn us to yourself and our hearts are troubled until they rest in you. Teach us, Lord, to heed your reassuring voice, and to seek a more steadfast abiding in you.

Jesus, Great Physician, as Caitlyn Littrell begins her chemotherapy treatment this week, give her your power and contentedness through the months. Be her refuge and strength, a present help in very real trouble. Hold her family close and comfort them. Give the doctors and her prescribed treatments the effectiveness we hope for.

God of our strength, others here are shouldering the weight of physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Heal the wounds of your people. Mend broken relationships, foster forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Jesus, King of Kings, we struggle to understand the thread of injustice that unspools before us. Economic upheavals that leave our neighbors homeless, court decisions that curtail voting rights for vulnerable populations, acts of violence inflicted on truth and fellow man, and wars that are fought by those who profane your name. Turn them from evil, to seek peace and pursue it. God, you change times and seasons, you depose kings and raise up others. Prince of Peace, you are exalted to the highest place, bow every knee in heaven and on earth and under the earth to your name and let every tongue acknowledge that You are Lord.

Spirit of wisdom, still our anxious urge toward rebellion. Remind us to be poor in spirit, to be meek, to mourn, to hunger and thirst for righteousness, to be merciful, and pure-hearted, and to be peacemakers. Give us the resolve to serve the poor, powerless, lost, lonely, and unworthy.

Gracious God, as we approach summer, endow our Dig Deep and Planted campaigns with generosity. Move through faithful contributions so our campus and congregation may better serve the communities of midtown and Central Oregon. Give us thankfulness, peace, and joy as we think of all the things you've done for us. Make us like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind as we plan for the changes and transitions in the coming months.

Amen.