



Prayer Vigil

July 17, 2022

WELCOME

Song #742 vs 1 & 2 *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
 all our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry
 ev'rything to God in prayer!
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
 oh, what needless pain we bear--
 all because we do not carry
 ev'rything to God in prayer!

- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged--
 take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful
 who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
 take it to the Lord in prayer.

A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Leader: We pray for the children...

**All: who sneak popsicles before supper;
who erase holes in math workbooks;
who can never find their shoes.**

Leader: And we pray for those...

**All: who stare at photographers from behind barbed
wire;
who can't bound down the street in a new pair of
sneakers;
who are born in places where we wouldn't be
caught dead.**

Leader: We pray for the children...

**All: who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of
dandelions;
who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch
money.**

Leader: And we pray for those...

**All: who never get dessert;
who have no safe blanket to drag behind them;
who can't find bread to steal;
who don't have rooms to clean up;
whose monsters are real.**

Leader: We pray for the children...

**All: who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick
at their food;
who like ghost stories;
who shove dirty clothes under the bed;**

**who get visits from the tooth fairy;
who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool;
who squirm in church and scream in the phone;
whose smiles can make us cry.**

Leader: And we pray for those...

**All: whose nightmares come in the daytime;
who will eat anything;
who have never seen dentist;
who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep.**

Leader: We pray for the children...

**All: who want to be carried and for those who must;
for those we smother;
for those who will grab the hand of anybody kind
enough to offer it.
May we welcome the children and see in them the
face of God. Amen.**

Song #752 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

PRAYER FOR IMMIGRANTS

Leader: God of New Life, Lord of all Hope, we pray...

**All: For immigrant adults and children who have been
forced to leave behind all they have ever known.**

Heal them from the trauma of fear, deprivation, loss, and abuse.

For all the families and friends of those who suffered and died in the back of truck: comfort them in the storm of unspeakable tragedy. Prepare us to be welcoming friends, vessels of hope.

PRAYER FOR REFUGEES

Leader: Accompany your people, O God. Be especially with the millions of men, women, and children displaced by the war in Ukraine and the crisis in Afghanistan. Lead us into active ways of love for our neighbors who have no place to call home or to lay their heads this night. Clothe us in the armor of light to serve and tend the needs of refugees and all who flee violence.

Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our prayer.

REFLECTION MUSIC AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY ACTS OF VIOLENCE

Leader: Let us prayer together:

All: Loving God, you are the author and sustainer of our lives. You know the anguish of the sorrowful, you are attentive to the prayers of the brokenhearted. Hear your people who cry out to you in their need; strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.

We pray today for those who have died because of violence, of terrorism. Draw them to yourself; let your face shine upon them. May they be greeted with choirs of angels and experience your eternal peace and joy.

Be near to all those who have been touched by violence: those who have been hurt, lost their loved ones or lost their sense of security. Be for them a steady comfort and safe resting place.

Soften the hearts and steady of the minds of those who would do violence to others. May hate be replaced with love, violence with peace and darkness with your light. Amen

Leader: Gracious God, inspire us with the gift of Shalom, the gift of wholeness and the promise of your presence. Give us wisdom to seek nonviolence as an answer to the violence of our lives and world. Give us courage to seek wholeness in a fractured and divided world, to find reconciliation rather than revenge, to abandon the instruments of violence and death and entrust our lives, our homes, our ministries and our families to you. May your presence fill us and others with the thirst for unity, wholeness, and the desire to see all people valued as created in your image and likeness. May we, and others, receive your Shalom that we be faithful instruments of your love and peace in our world today.

All: Amen.

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE:

Leader: Let us remember all who have been harmed by violence....
In Uvalde, TX
In Highland Park, IL
In Buffalo, NY
In Ukraine
In South Africa
In cities, towns and home throughout our country.

We acknowledge the strength to those who survived and of those still struggling to heal. For their sake and for ours, we commit ourselves to building each other up and to healing – together.

All: **Let us remember the families and loved ones of those who have died from gun violence. We acknowledge their pain and their deep grief. They are part of our community and need our love and help towards healing.**

Leader: Let us remember the perpetrators and the families of those who commit violence. We acknowledge that their lives are devastated and their hopes dashed. For their sake and for ours, we remember that pain goes in many directions from each act of violence.

All: **We will stand up to violence. We stand together expressing our unity, our connection to each other and to the divine; our hope for healing and for transformation. Let the Spirit of our**

Creator move through us. Help us to transform and heal our communities. And let us begin by transforming ourselves.

SCRIPTURE READING...ISAIAH 2:1-5 ESV

The word which Isaiah, son of Amos, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountains of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills, and all the nations, shall flow to it and many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob that he may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths." For from Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nations shall not rise up against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Song 3X

Peace, Be Still

Peace, be still. Peace, be still.

The storm rages. Peace be still.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Leader: O Holy God,

All: make us a receiving people. Let us walk with your feet. Let us touch with your hands. Let your voice speak in and through

us. May your wisdom be transformed into right action within us. Let us carry forth your Spirit into the world. Let us be at one with You, O God, and know that we are one with each other, until all creation is unified in the light of love. May we go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

CLOSING SONG #742 v 3 *What A Friend We Have in Jesus*

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Please feel free to stay and pray on this holy ground in this holy space.

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastors	Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner
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