

Pastoral Prayers- June 21, 2020, Third Sunday after Pentecost

Compassionate God, when we feel abandoned and in danger, when we lift up our voices and weep - you hear us. Help us to acknowledge and overcome our fear, to see your hand in our salvation - indeed our very survival. In our lives we might be the child celebrated with a feast, or the child sent into the wilderness, or more often, over the course of our lives, we are both. In every circumstance, help us to remember that we are all children of Abraham, inheritors of your promise, and members of a family that transcends time and place.

We live in a time of great fear - fear of disease, fear of violence, fear of isolation, fear of the unknown.

We also live in a time when it is easy to forget that our commitment through Christ is not to our individual homes and families, but to the Household of God.

As disciples who aim to be like Jesus we try to follow his teaching:

Don't be afraid! Tell in the light that God is with us in every circumstance. Our voices are heard, we are not alone.

Don't be afraid! Proclaim from the housetops that our humanity, our kinship is not a secret but the deepest truth about us from the creation of all that is.

Don't be afraid! Our bodies and souls are precious to God, the hairs of our head are counted, we are each and all profoundly known.

Compassionate God, when we feel abandoned and in danger, when we lift up our voices and weep - you hear us. As disciples who are trying to be like our teacher Jesus, attune our ears to hear the cries of our brothers and sisters weeping in the wilderness. Help us to live into the truth that we are all members of the one Household of God.
AMEN

Father's Day Prayer

Creator God, our Father in Heaven, we thank you for all of our earthly fathers.

We ask our blessing on those fathers who have loved us and for those who have fallen short of loving us fully;

For all who hope to be fathers someday and for those who have lost children;

For all those who have been fathers to the vulnerable in any way, for grandfathers, uncles, foster fathers, teachers, coaches, and all those who nurture and encourage children to grow and become their best selves.

We ask this in Christ's Name.

AMEN