

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION – September 11, 2022**

Let us gather our prayers to God, who abounds in steadfast love. *A brief silence.*

Gracious God, your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill us with love, and give understanding to those who strengthen our relationships with people of all faith traditions and all people of goodwill. Let us repent to you and one another, that prejudice and hate may end.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of our pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, water, and air. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. Protect all who are responding to severe weather.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world is shattered and nations rage. Teach wisdom to our leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts, while making no peace with our own or others oppression. Guide us to pray for our enemies.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your promises give us refuge. Even as the horror of the tragedy 21 years ago today have subsided, we remember those who lost their lives, and we pray for their families. We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants who demonstrated the greatest love. We pray and live in hope, not in ourselves, but in you, and in you alone.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children of all ages wander for safe shelter and the hungry cry for food. Be with all who are lonely, anxious, and depressed. Bless those who are falsely accused and incarcerated. Be with those living with addiction and illness. Provide for those in any need, and we name them to you now . . . Grant wholeness and healing.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work of love and justice is done with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and wills. Build up this community of faith that we be in solidarity with our neighbors and welcome the stranger, just as they are. Lead us to cherish difference, and help us grow from our mistakes and seek your forgiveness. May we celebrate new starts, new relationships, and new possibilities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your blessed dead rest in your nearer presence. Thank you for those whom it is hard to love. Thank you for those who have been examples of faith and devotion. Thank you for the life of Elizabeth. Bless all who mourn. With Mary, the Mother of our Lord, receive all your beloved when we come to share the fullness of eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered in the power of the Holy Spirit, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns, now and forever. **Amen.**