

PP Oct 28

Gracious God of all generations, God of the multitudes, God of those who call out to you from the side of the road, we gather together because we know that we need you and we need each other. We need you to be in our hearts and minds and souls, so that we can see clearly and live each day with confidence, purpose, and strength.

At the same time, we acknowledge our flaws, our struggles, and those spiritual cataracts that have gradually blurred the values that were once sharp and focused. As we seek your forgiveness and grace, we trust that you will lead us to a humble acceptance of your will as you show us how to practice the ways of trust and faith, both with you and with each other.

We know that faith and trust was shattered this weekend at the synagogue in Pittsburgh, who gathered in faith and trust to worship, and were terrorized by hatred and murder. We grieve with them, our brothers and sisters, and in a moment of silence we pray for the families and loved ones of the eleven who were killed. We also remember our friends at Temple Shalom, especially Adam, Jennifer and Donna; that the light they bring to our community be not diminished, but remain strong.

And so, dear God, as life unfolds with both joy and tragedy, we lift to you, not only ourselves, but those precious ones that you have placed in our lives. From the youngest to the eldest, may they know the quiet assurance of your presence and the knowledge of your love.

We think about our neighbors and friends; our colleagues and companions; may they see your light and feel your hand in their lives. Today we remember our members who need your healing touch: And we lift those who need your comforting embrace in their time of loss:

Lord, we take these final moments of prayer to release to you all the worries and cares of our hearts, entrusting ourselves again to you as the shepherd of our souls. May we choose to live in your love each that that we are given, and may you grant us your grace and help in our time of need.

These prayers and the prayers of our hearts that are too deep for words, we offer in the name of the savior. Amen.