

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Holy and Gracious God,
you call us by name,
Beloved One,
and beckon us to follow you.
May we do so through your grace.



In your Name we pray,

Good shepherd we pray for ourselves as your sheep. We pray for the Red Clay, for our local church(es) here in Delaware, and for your church around the world. May your people be given wise shepherding by their ministers and leaders. May the leaders be given wise shepherding by the people, and may all of us look for our leading and guidance to you; asking that you lead us, not in the easy way, but in the way that is right and good.

Good shepherd of the sheep, we pray for the world we inhabit—the world which we have inherited and which we will pass on to successive generations. Teach us to look after it carefully and wisely, to share its gifts more fairly and to work together to ease its sufferings. May we be faithful in prayer and in living so that all peoples may know an equal share of your bountiful giving. We pray too for those in this world who are excited by evil things and driven by personal and corporate greed. Turn such hearts, O God, and encourage the timid to speak out for what is wholesome and good.

Good shepherd who cares for the sheep and surrounds them with love, we pray for our places of work, our colleagues, our friends and our neighbors. We remember before you the members of our families. In all the places and with all the people that fill our lives, give us the grace to do your will and be your witnesses to what it means to live lovingly. We do not ask for popularity at all costs, but the grace to show that following our shepherd is our first priority.

Good shepherd, who tends the vulnerable and weak, we pray for those who must live depending on others for every need. We remember the people in our local nursing home (name), and for children and adults born with handicaps or injured to the point of immobility and those who care for them. We pray too for those who are outwardly whole but are bullied, or constantly despised, so that within themselves they are broken. We pray for those known to us who are ill, remembering before you especially those battling the coronavirus. Give us a greater reverence for one another, a greater willingness to uphold and encourage one another; we pray for healing and wholeness.

Good shepherd who leads us in, we know that ultimately you will lead us all to rest in your peace, so while we grieve and remember, we give thanks for the lives of Denver Garrison and Martha Julian. Let them know your peace, and the still waters you prepare for them.

Good shepherd of the sheep, we give you thanks that you came to set us free, to make us safe, to give us abundance of life. We praise you that in you we are able to live through good and ill with confidence. And so, we ask that you hear our prayers, those spoken, those unspoken in our hearts, and those that feel too numerous to name; we ask them in the name of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who taught us to pray together saying...

Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.