

Prayers – May 17

We come to you this morning thanking you for the blessings of our lives. We thank you for who you are as our Creator and Lord.

We lift up Allan Watts, a friend of the Glasses in Florida, who has suffered damage to his heart in a heart attack this week. We pray for healing and restoration for him. We lift up both him and his family that they would find the comfort that only you provide.

We lift up children and youth, particularly those in our community. We ask for your healing and comforting hand on them as they deal so young with the realities that life now surrounds them with. Imbue in them faith and grant them discernment. Keep them safe in their homes and pursuits.

We lift up those in our congregation and community who are in need of your healing hand.

We lift up our community, state and country as we continue to deal with the COVID pandemic. We pray for discernment as we seek to broaden our boundaries that we would remain safe. We pray for wisdom for those in authority as they navigate the difficult path to balance public health with the personal desires of all as we seek to rejoin community and enjoy these months of spring and summer. We pray for this, your particular church, as we consider the path toward reopening for onsite worship and ask for your hand and blessing as we devise plans.

We lift up those who continue to work in places where they are at risk. We continue to lift up medical workers, those in grocery stores and the entire food supply chain from farm to table. We pray for those who maintain the utilities that keep the lights on and roads open. We lift up businesses as they struggle with the decisions and realities about reopening without placing themselves and the public at greater risk.

We pray for those who are developing COVID treatments and vaccines and pray for timely development and deployment so that, as we have with smallpox, measles and so many other diseases, we can find a way to live with the reality of COVID.

We thank you for the blessings we have experienced in this community in this crisis. We thank you for Your provision for the Food Bank even as normal supply chains fail.

We pray for all whose jobs and families have been impacted by this pandemic. We pray for timely return to work and for continued benevolence as we all attempt to make ends meet.

We lift up these and our other prayers as we remember what your Son taught us 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, for ever. Amen.***