Public Witness Weekly Prayers

EPISCOPAL PUBLIC POLICY NETWORK

November 20, 2026

Join us each week as we share new prayers for the vulnerable among us facing challenges, fears, and threats. We will name many of the harms unfolding and acknowledge what is being erased, lost, and threatened. These prayers are not a replacement for action; they are meant to offer space for grounding and discernment as we seek to bear one another's burdens in the love and way of Christ.

FOR PROTECTION FROM PREVENTABLE DISEASE

God of compassion, whose son Jesus Christ came to heal the afflicted, we lift up the people of the United States as our nation loses its measles elimination status. We pray for all who suffer from outbreaks of this contagious disease, and we ask for your grace to sustain the medical professionals working to halt its spread. Keep us mindful that scientific evidence helps us understand your creation and alleviate suffering and pain. Remind us that the proper and responsible use of vaccines is a faithful duty to our communities. Protect those who are most susceptible to infection, and help the medical professionals to work to regain trust and rebuild connection with those who have not been well-served. Give us the resolve to act with shared responsibility, that we might safeguard public health and honor the dignity of every life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE LIVES BEHIND ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Gracious God, you have made us dependent on one another. We rely each day on water infrastructure, transportation systems, banking systems, electricity, healthcare facilities, and many forms of infrastructure that allow daily life in our communities to continue. As these systems become more connected, a failure in one place can put lives at risk. Remind us that behind every power line, water pipe, and computer network are people who depend upon them, especially those least able to endure their disruption. Guide those in authority to invest in the stability of our essential infrastructure, strengthen safeguards against those who seek to do harm, and ensure that communities are prepared when systems fail. Help us take seriously our duty to protect one another, so that the gifts of human knowledge may serve the good of all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR AN END TO RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE

God of peace, we pray for an end to Russia's war in Ukraine. As another winter approaches, families face the cold without reliable heat or electricity, soldiers fight a war they did not choose, and civilians on both sides continue to suffer from attacks. Comfort those who mourn, protect those who remain in danger, and bring home those held captive or separated from their families. Give strength to those caring for the wounded and sheltering the displaced. Turn the hearts of those who wage war toward peace. Guide those in power toward diplomacy; help them walk together toward a just and lasting settlement respecting Ukraine's sovereignty and the dignity of all people. May children in both nations sleep without fear. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.