

**basket
of
prayers + concerns + joys**

Sara Miles continues to recover from her recent trigger release surgery. During this time of healing, please pray for diminishing pain in her right hand and increasing strength and mobility in both hands.

Prayers for all the congregations in the Presbytery of Milwaukee who have many in their flock who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Though the names of all those who are in need of God's tender, loving care and healing, restorative grace are not named here, we trust in the One who does know. Let our prayers to God for those we name now within each of our hearts and minds - as well as our outreaching care and acts of kindness and compassion - bring the light of hope and the balm of comfort to all those suffering from illness, loss, grief, loneliness, scarcity, uncertainty, and to what may be the anguishing new normal in their lives.

We offer **prayers for all God's created human beings and all God's creation**. May courage spring forth from timidity or fear in the face of the injustices in the world - near in our communities and in far away places. God help us raise our voices, strengthen our resolve, and use our abilities to take part in helping the forgotten, the tormented, the famished, the victims of violence and abuse, the addicted, the innocent lives taken by the ravages of war, the "neighbor" who faces injustice and discrimination, the complacent taking steps out of comfort zones. God help us to be peacemakers and caregivers of all God's creation.

Words about All Saints' Day: The Faithful of every generation

All Saints' Day - observed on Sunday, November 5 - is "a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs" (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God's justice and peace in every nation. To rejoice with all the faithful of every generation expands our awareness of a great company of witnesses above and around us like a cloud (Hebrews 12:1). It lifts us out of a preoccupation with our own immediate situation and the discouragements of the present. In the knowledge that others have persevered, we are encouraged to endure against all odds (Hebrews 12:1-2). Reminded that God was with the faithful of the past, we are reassured that God is with us today, moving us and all creation toward God's end in time." - from Companion to the Book of Common Worship, (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151)