

the distance that lets us look back and re-evaluate, for new ground where broken stems can take root, grow and blossom. We bless you for the friendship of strangers, the richness of other cultures and the painful gift of freedom.

All: Blessed are you, God beyond borders.

Oficiante: Dios más allá de las fronteras, te bendecimos por lugares extraños y diferentes sueños, por los retos y la diversidad de un mundo más amplio, por la distancia que nos permite mirar el pasado y reevaluar, por nuevos terrenos donde los tallos rotos pueden echar raíces, crecer y florecer. Te bendecimos por la amistad de desconocidos, la riqueza de otras culturas y el doloroso regalo de la libertad.

All: Bendito eres, Dios más allá de las fronteras.

Officiant: But if we have overlooked the exiles in our midst, heightened their exclusion by our indifference, given our permission for a climate of fear, and tolerated a culture of violence.

All: Soften our hearts and have mercy on us, God who sides with justice.

Officiant: Go in peace and grace. And may God lift up new possibilities before us, let the face of Christ be seen in our neighbors, and send the Holy Spirit to lead us into the celebration of a new community. **Amen.**

At-Home Prayer for Migrants and Refugees

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

To subscribe to updates from Immigration Ministries, please visit
<https://tinyurl.com/y5mdmgzg>



Weekly Migrant Cycle of Prayer

Thursday, September 10, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Rev. Paul Frey, Christ Church Episcopal, Laredo

We gather in silence

Officiant: Jesus said: “Come, you that are blessed by God, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...”
(Matthew 25:34-35).

All: We hold up in prayer the sixty million forcibly displaced persons in the world today.

Officiant: Our own salvation story is the narrative of a refugee family who was refused shelter, a babe born to a family without a home and forced to flee to another country.

All: With God’s help may we welcome the stranger, that all people may know the comfort of a home, the dignity of a job, safety, security, and the love of community.

Today’s Scripture

9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God. 33 When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. 34 The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.
(Leviticus 19:9-10, 33-34)

Reflection and Silence

Cycle of Prayer

All: Oh God, you have always been with the traveler, the migrant, and the refugee. Today, we pray for the detainees, guards, and staff, at:

- **Big Bend Sub-Station**
- **Sanderson Station**
- **Alpine Station**
- **Houston Contract Detention Facility**
- **Joe Corley Detention Facility**

in the state of Texas

Give those incarcerated courage and hope; give those who work in these places compassion and honor, and help us all to build a better world. Amen.

All: Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Silence

All: We pray for Alayson, Anderson, Arely, Arcenio, Carlos, Celeste, Dominick, Emanuel, Fabiola, Génesis, Luis, Luisito, Macias, Nicol, Perla, Xóchitl, and the Pedro Family.

Final Blessing

Officiant: God beyond borders, we bless you for strange places and different dreams, for the demands and diversity of a wider world, for