

30 Days of Prayer

Day 20

Psalm 72:8-9

⁸My mouth is filled with your praise,
and with your glory all day long.

⁹Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
do not forsake me when my strength is spent.

God of young and old,

I am often so wrapped up in my own busy life that I forget that there are others who long for something to do. I complain over tiny aches and pains, and yet others long for bodies that can walk or talk. I crave a moment to sit down, and others mourn for the time they could stand. I fret and plan and worry about my future, and others spend their hours looking backward, living primarily in their own memories of days gone by.

But you, Lord, are a timeless God. You don't measure our worth by our days. Help me to see the treasure in these delicate vessels. You don't consider our value by how capable our bodies are to perform daily tasks. Help me to find value in being, rather than doing. You delight in faith, love, kindness, peace, and patience. You take pleasure in reminiscing with those who are no longer creating lasting memories, but are looking forward to living fully in your presence. Help me to stop looking forward or backward, and begin living in the now. We celebrate the lives of those who are bound to their homes, but who are fully members of this faith community... *(take all the time you need to name Shepherd's homebound members and thank God for the blessing that each of them has been in your life).*

Laverne Olson, whose kindness warms the hearts of all who know her...

Vee Strohmeier, for her beautiful big eyes...

Andy Anderson, for his laugh...

Dottie Reierson, for her gentle spirit...

Marna Erdahl, for her tenderness...

Richard Swanson, for his love of family...

Helen Murray, for her commitment to Shepherd of the Hills...

The wisest among us are often those who have lived long lives in the Lord. They are models of faith, love, peace, and kindness.

Today we pray for our members who are homebound, who receive regular visits and are invited to participate in Holy Communion in their homes. Please remember these spiritual giants as they transition into the time in life when the fulfillment of God's promise of eternal life nears. Each of them has been a blessing in a unique way to those who have had the privilege of visiting them. God never forgets these blessed people, and neither shall we.

Thelma Ross, for her faithfulness...

Vera Haberle, for her candidness...

Pearl Kohls, for her commitment to family...

Richard Veve, for his softness...

Delores Alexander, for her smile...

Peggy Johnson, for her wit...

Donna Steele, for her compassion and heart for caring for others...

Cleo Murray, for her perseverance...

Irene Egertson, for her unwavering faith...

Ellie Johnson, for her love of the game...

Virginia Taylor, for her dedication to family...

Tom Langehough, for his faith...

Walk with these gentle souls, Lord, and in your time show them the way home. In the name of Christ,

Amen.