

May 13.18 Prayers of the People

Call: Mothering Holy One
Response: Nourish us with love

On this day, this new week, we begin again. May our journey of living in wakefulness and openness to all that is Holy transform us continually. We give thanks for all the ordinary miracles that have come into our past week and stay open to how this new week will have its own ordinary miracles.

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Today is Mother's Day here in North America. Thank you for all those mothers who carried us for 9 months and brought us into the world. Thank you for all those who have loved, nurtured and mothered children they have adopted, fostered and given sanctuary too. Support them in their task. May the tenderness of the Almighty lovingly surround the mothers who have lost children, ones they carry forever in their heart, never forgotten. So many mothers carry grief within them and we hold them in loving compassion. Thank you for the mothering heart of our Sunday School team. Thank you for the men with mothering hearts. May love and tenderness surround those who will soon give birth to their little one. May a special tenderness surround those women who struggle with infertility. We pray for women who strive to protect the most vulnerable in our communities globally, those who are on the margins of life and their voices go unheard. Today may there be a mothering spirit for all our homeless community, many of whom are disconnected from family. Thank you for all the Grandmothers who have stepped in when a mother is absent. Today we give thanks for the maternal presence of the Spirit that pervades all of life continually inviting new life and gentleness, in the places of light and in places of darkness. Let each of us find ways to bring the spiritual practice of nurturing to ourselves and then to those around us.

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There are so many people who come together, in every moment of every day, to be part of our moving forward. Thank you for those who set up the chairs here, connected the sound system and those who lovingly prepared the altar for worship today, creating this space of beauty for us. Thank you for those who come to clean our sacred space - bless them. For the hands that printed and folded our bulletins that help us speak our liturgy together may there be strength. We are grateful for the person next to us - may their week be blessed with unfolding miracles of life and beauty. Let us become more attuned to the reality that everything is holy and it invites us to stay present to each moment, to every breath, to every tear, every sound of delightful laughter. As we bear witness to each others lives, open our ears and hearts to the stories that need to be told. As the work continues on this restoration of this faith home space, let there be

safety for each one working here.

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With hearts of nurturing, caring and compassion we name those on our prayer list on the back page of our bulletin.

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In this mystery of life,
may the creating of life, the nourishing of life,
continue to transform us.
In this mystery of life,
may the spaces of longing within us,
be tended by the Creator of life, the Nourisher of Spirit.
In this mystery of love,
continue to transform us.

Amen.