07-05-20 Morning Prayer

Dear God, we thank you this morning for your steadfast love and goodness. We are grateful for your bounty as the wheat harvest comes to an end for another year, another season. We thank you for the ways we can work the earth, till the soil, care for the land and watch as your creation and we work together to produce grain and to provide food.

We offer our thanks for another kind of successful ending and rich harvest – that is John Fast’s retirement. Thank you, God, for the many ways John has used the gifts you gave him for these many years to nurture the growth of children, of teachers, of families in the Goessel schools. Thank you for John and his faithful service – we ask for your continued blessings on him as he brings this season to a close and prepares for a new season of life.

We pray for the Goessel schools and all schools as school administrators everywhere are working hard to imagine what shape our educational system can take to best serve students and teachers this fall. Give guidance and wisdom as they try to plan and keep everyone safe and well.

God, we offer our prayers for one student and his family in particular today. We pray for young Braxton Church and his family as they travel to Boston today and Braxton will be heading into surgery this week. Give them, and especially Braxton, your deep peace, God, that he may know your presence and love with him. Be with the doctors and everyone who will be attentive to his needs.

We pray for the broader church, God, especially for the WDC congregations in Texas as they gather, virtually, for an online worship service this coming Saturday. May your Spirit of unity and encouragement be felt strongly throughout those churches as they meet together. We pray, particularly for our sister congregation, Luz de Evangelio as they faithfully seek to follow you in these difficult times.

O God, Sovereign of the universe, without you nothing is true, nothing is just. In your word you reveal the way of love. By your Spirit you make it possible. From greed and selfishness, from a society in which the rich get richer and poor get poorer, compassionate God, deliver us.

From racial prejudice and religious intolerance, from a society which makes its weakest and most recent members into scapegoats, compassionate God, deliver us.

From indifference to the needs of other countries, from the delusion that you love any other nation less than you love us, compassionate God, deliver us.

From self-indulgence and apathy, from a society in which fidelity and responsibility have little place, compassionate God, deliver us.

Author of life, give us hearts set on the coming of your reign; give us wise, just and humble leaders; give all who live in this land a will to live in peace with justice, through Jesus Christ, the One who is above all powers and dominions. Amen.