

## 03-23-2025 Words of Worship and Prayers

**Welcome** to worship here at Alexanderwohl! May God be praised and our spirits be encouraged as we gather. It's good to welcome familiar folks as well as guests and visitors this morning. It's particularly good to have Dale and Margo back with us again – this time to hear Dale's message. Thank you for being here!

What do you have to **share** with one another this morning – opportunities to serve? Prayers of gratitude or concern?

- Mary, MCC Sale, New Hope Shelter, etc.
- Good to have Steve and Sandy back!?
- I want to let you know that:
  - Marilyn Unruh Flaming had surgery this past Thursday to remove her left kidney.
  - A large mass was discovered rather suddenly in the kidney and needed to be removed on short notice.
  - Our prayers are surely appreciated; the ICU is limiting visitors at this time.

Our **Call to Worship** is a familiar passage from Psalm 119, extolling the glories of God's law – a law of love and steadfastness. We'll read it from the Common English Bible this morning, which might give it a new twist for us...

**Let's pray**... O God, even as we ask you to not leave us or forsake us, we know and we trust that you won't. Because you are true to your promises – and you have promised never to leave us. We welcome your Holy Spirit among us this morning and we pray for open hearts and minds to receive the gifts you have for us in this time of worship. Amen.

### **Morning Prayer** –

Loving God, we thank you for this time to gather, to worship you, to hear the message of challenge and good news, to fellowship together and strengthen one another.

We thank you for the love and care you've shown us and your people through all generations. Part of the way you've shown your love is by giving your Law to your people. Knowing your commandments helps us to follow in your ways and to know where the boundaries are. And, we confess that we're not good at honoring boundaries or following commandments; we'd much rather do whatever we want to do. We pray for willing hearts, God, open to your Spirit's guidance.

We're grateful for Steve and Sandy's safe return and we ask you to continue to be present with them in the days and weeks to come as Steve continues the treatment medication. We pray for patience and tolerance of the drug and that his body and spirit can maintain.

We pray for Marilyn as she recovers in the hospital, that she would regain her strength quickly. Be with DJ and Grant on this healing journey as well.

O God, we pray for all who are grieving losses – of loved ones, of jobs, of possibilities and hopes. We pray for Dennis and Norma, Donley and Carol and their other siblings as they celebrate the life of their sister Zenora this afternoon. Thank you for her good and long life and for her peaceful departure.

There are countless anxieties and concerns in our world, Lord. You know them all – from wars that are raging to illnesses that are ravaging, from greed that is monstrous to fear that can be overpowering, we bring our angst and our questions and doubts to you. We ask for your comfort and for your encouragement that we would follow the examples of Jesus in our lives, in spite of our fears and doubts. We ask for courage and guidance as we seek your wisdom each day. Fill us with your hope as we share your love and shine your light in the various ways you've gifted each of us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Offering Prayer** – VT 1019

**Benediction** – VT 1050