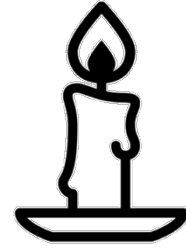


**A Service of Prayer and Lament
for the Loss of Lives at Robb Elementary, Uvalde, Texas
Saturday, May 28, 2022**

**with Pastor Nancy Raabe and the community
of Grace Lutheran Church, Hatfield, PA**



Welcome

Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, the shocking news of the loss of lives these past two weeks in Uvalde, Laguna Woods and Buffalo to gun violence has ripped our hearts and torn our souls.

We are walking through the valley of the shadow of death.

In the depths of pain and anger, we gather before you,

O God, our rock and our refuge.

You are our only comfort.

You are our only hope.

Merciful God, you know the depth of our suffering.

We have only begun to mourn those we have lost in Uvalde:

- Teachers
 - Eva Mireles, 44,
 - Irma Garcia, 46
- Eight-year-old:
 - Uziyah Garcia;
- Nine-year-old:
 - Eliahna Lugo-Garcia,
- 10-year-olds:
 - Amerie Jo Garza
 - Makenna Lee Elrod
 - Xavier James Lopez
 - Jose Flores
 - Navaeh Bravo
 - Alithia Ramirez
 - Alexandria Rubio
 - Eliahana Cruz Torres
 - Tess Marie Mata
 - Rojelio Torres

- Layla Salazar
- Maite Rodriguez
- Cousins Jailah Nicole Silguero and
- Jayce Carmelo Luevanos, and
- Cousins Jackie Jaylen Cazares
- and Annabelle Guadalupe Rodriguez;
- and 11-year-old:
 - Miranda Mathis.

Uphold all those who love them, we pray.

Faithful God, surround us with your everlasting arms.
 Hear our cries of despair,
 heed our calls for justice,
 and do not let us lose hope,
 in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, we pray.
Amen.

Hymn: There is a Balm in Gilead

ELW 614



There is a balm in Gil-e - ad to make the wound-ed whole;



there is a balm in Gil-e - ad to heal the sin-sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;



but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

WORD

How long, O Lord,
how long shall the wicked triumph?
**They bluster in their insolence;
all evildoers are full of boasting.**

They crush your people, O Lord,
and afflict your very own.
**They kill the widow and the stranger
and put the orphans to death.**

Yet you will not abandon your people,
nor will you forsake your very own.
**If the Lord had not been my help,
I should soon have dwelt in the land of silence.**

As often as I said, "My foot has slipped,"
your steadfast love, O LORD, upheld me.
**The LORD has become my stronghold,
my God is my rock of refuge.**

from Psalm 94

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth;
for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.
**And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God.**

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
"See, the home of God is among mortals.
**God will dwell with them,
and they will be God's people.**

God will be with them
and will wipe every tear from their eyes.
**Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away."**

And the one who was seated on the throne said,
“See, I am making all things new.
I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.
**To the thirsty I will give water
as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”**

from Revelation 21

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray for all those in need, saying:
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Holy God,
you watch over our going out and our coming in,
and your Spirit upholds us in every circumstance.
Your Son, Jesus Christ, is our Alpha and our Omega,
and our hope and trust is in him.
In our despair we turn to you.
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Lord, in our waiting, we pray for all the people of Uvalde, Texas as they grieve and work
through shattered lives to meet each new day.
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Lord, in our waiting, we pray for all parents, children, teachers, school staff especially
counselors and security guards as they empathize with those at Robb Elementary and
confront their own fears of this happening in their school.
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Lord, in our waiting, we pray for all those who have lived through other school shootings
over the past 20-plus years in this country.
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Lord, in our waiting, we pray for an end to this pandemic of gun violence in the United States. Move all lawmakers to work together to make real change so that the bodies of our children are not sacrificed on the altar of partisan politics.

We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Lord, in our waiting, we pray for all those who live in such dark places in their minds that they can fathom ending the life of another human being. Send out your Spirit of healing and empower us all to be beacons of your light and cast out the darkness.

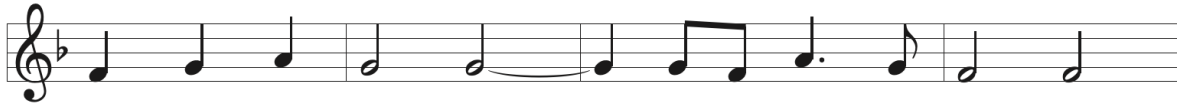
We wait for you, Lord,
and in your word we hope.

Our help comes from you, O Lord,
you who made heaven and earth.
In the midst of grief, you are our comfort.
In the face of uncertainty, you are our rock.
In the wake of tragedy, you are our hope.
So even as we weep, we praise you,
and place our trust in you.
We pray in the name of the one
who suffered and died and was raised for us,
our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

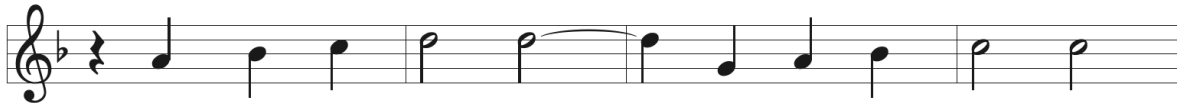
Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
And the power and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.



Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra él vi - vi - mos,
 1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 3 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find



y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra él mo - ri - mos.
 and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord. . . .
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind;



Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
 Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 and when we help them, or when we feed them,



so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

2 En la tristeza y en el dolor,
 en la belleza y en el amor,
 sea que suframos o que gocemos,
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

3 En este mundo por doquier habrá
 gente que lloray sin consolar.
 Sea que ayudemos o alimentemos,
 somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942
 st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946

Music: SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish traditional

Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

Charge and Blessing

Go out into the world in peace;
have courage;
hold on to what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak, and help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

*With gratitude to Pastor Beau Nelson of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
Florham Park, NJ for inspiration for this service.*