



Prayers June 7, 2026

Dear God,

Once again, we thank you for being with us here today.

We have come to know that the human body is a collection of complex and vulnerable parts and, in spite of the fact that our medical system continues to unveil the workings of our bodies, we're only a portion of the way to learning how our bodies work.. As each of us knows well, through experience, when one of those body parts goes wrong, we are ill and are in some sort of distress. We suffer. Collectively, looking around us in this congregation, we have experienced bodies gone wrong. We have had surgeries to repair body parts and broken bones, we have experienced cancer, arthritis, dementia, childhood polio and other viruses, nervous system debilities, hearing loss and numerous other ailments. And that's only the few of us in this congregation. We're not particularly vulnerable. It's just not easy being human, God.

In today's world, illness no longer equates with blame for having DONE wrong as it did in biblical times. We have learned in today's gospel how Jesus had to combat the stigma of blame in illness. In today's world the sick person is given the love and support of their friends and neighbours for a human body GONE wrong. But in today's world we must remember to continue, as in biblical times, to ask you, God, for your all-knowing support of us. We pray for your healing presence around us, for your peace, for trust in your wisdom and for your eternal love.

We ask you to send your healing presence to those among us who are currently ill in body or mind and we ask for your support of their caregivers. Also, please support the recently bereaved and give them the strength to continue along their path.

As the world around us continues to disintegrate into violence and illness we ask your support for the people of Ukraine, of Gaza and of Lebanon, people who are suffering massive attacks on civilians. We ask your support for those ill with ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo and now in Uganda. We also fervently ask your support for those who are unjustly incarcerated due to a variety of immigration issues in the United States. We pray for peace in the world and for the elimination of terror. We pray for the respect of every human being.

As we go out our front door, into the beginning of this new week, we thank you, God, for our country of peace. We thank you for the health we currently enjoy. And this week, let us particularly thank you for those in our towns and cities who have dedicated their lives to learning more about the human body and its workings so that we might benefit from their knowledge.

Amen

V. Lowenberger