



October 30, 2023

One of the most profound expressions of faith is prayer. After conducting our Reformation Sunday service two years ago I was surprised by the number of people who asked for a copy of my Pastoral Prayer. I share it again with you today.

To the God who is love:

O Love Divine, We ask that you fill our hearts this day, casting out all the fears that hold us back from loving others. May we know that your love is always with us, surrounding us and strengthening our ability to be and become what we are capable of. The future is always a frightening thing to think about, but our trust in your love can make every challenge an opportunity to do good and love others.

If we must face disappointment, may Love help us to learn patience.

If we must face sorrow, Love, help us to learn sympathy.

If we must face pain, help us to know strength.

If we must face danger, may Love help us to know courage.

If we must face failure, may your loving power help us to know resilience.

If we achieve success, Love, help us to know gratitude.

If your love comes to us in joy, may we know sharing.

If we are blessed with health, may Love help us to learn caring.

As we gather on this eve of All Saints Day, may we remember those who have loved us, those we love so much, and now live in your light. And

may your loving spirit guide us and our loved ones, all our days.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who showed us what real love is. Amen.

~Written by Rev. Ned Edwards

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