



Congregational Prayer: For Immigrants, For Justice, For Love

(A prayer based on Psalm 13)

*How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me? (Psalm 13:1)*

Leader:

God, we turn to you in these heavy and uncertain times.

We see families torn apart, communities living in fear, and neighbors feeling unwelcome in places they call home.

We turn to you in hope, in grief, and in our longing for justice.

All:

God, hear our prayer about those who are detained, deported, or living in the shadows. Surround them with your comfort and shield them with your mercy.

Remind us of your heart for the sojourner, the stranger, and the outcast.

Leader:

God, thank you, and that we can turn to you in all circumstances—when we feel strong and when we feel overwhelmed.

Thank you that you listen, and that your love is never out of reach.

*How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?
How long will my enemy triumph over me? (Psalm 13:2)*

All:

God, we're tired, exhausted, and weary from watching pain repeat itself.

From broken systems, political divides, and the burden of injustice.

Leader:

God, our nation is divided in so many ways—around immigration, around identity, around belonging.

But your Word reminds us that we are all one in Christ Jesus.

All:

God, we mourn and have sorrow because families are being separated, because fear is replacing welcome, because some lives are valued less than others.

Leader:

God, we're at our end dealing with the weight of it all—the stories, the statistics, the silence, the struggle.

We need your strength, your guidance, and your peace.

Look on me and answer, Lord my God.

*Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall. (Psalm 13:3–4)*

All:

God, give strength to those in leadership for wisdom and courage.

Let justice and compassion be the foundations of their decisions.

Leader:

Give protection from attacks—both seen and unseen—to immigrant families, ministry



leaders, advocates, and all those working for justice and healing.

All:

God, help us move forward in love in our denomination,
To listen well, to speak truth, and to embody the radical welcome of Christ.

*But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.
I will sing the Lord's praise,
for he has been good to me. (Psalm 13:5-6)*

Leader:

God, help us to trust in you even though the road ahead seems long, and our efforts sometimes feel small.

All:

God, help us rejoice in your salvation in the difficulty of living in between what is and what should be.

Leader:

We sing praise to you in the midst of division, because you are still building your kingdom of peace, justice, and love.

All:

Thank you for your goodness even when hope is fragile, and the night feels long. You are our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Leader:

Lord, as we listen to the stories of immigrants in our midst—
and remember the stories of our own families and faith—
open our hearts.

All:

Let our empathy grow,
let our love deepen,
and let justice roll on like a river.

Amen.

