

Philip Yancey “We are not put on earth merely to satisfy our desires, to pursue life, liberty and happiness. We are here to be changed, to be made more like God in order to prepare us for a lifetime with him.”

O Loving, Living, Creator God, thank you for the gift of this day. Thank you for the peace that we feel when we come and be still before you. When we at least try to set aside the worries and concerns and to-do lists of the day, and remember that we are in the presence of a God who loves us, who calls us by name, who forgives us and who wants the best for us. And Lord, we acknowledge that when we are in your presence, we must face ourselves, and see ourselves as you see us. And while there are many times when we have tried to be our best and do our best to be like Christ, there are other times when we do not. When we look out for our own desires and interests first, and neglect to respect someone else’s feelings or way of life. When our motivations for our actions are based on what we want, what is convenient, what is best for us. As Yancey reminds us, life is more than just self-seeking pleasure. Our purpose here is to be made more and more like you, into the image in which we were created, so that we, like Christ, can bring your kingdom here on earth, and prepare ourselves to live in your heavenly kingdom forever. And so we ask that today you help us honestly look at our lives, realign our priorities, adjust our attitudes, and seek to live in a manner that is worthy to bear the name of Jesus Christ, Christians in our homes, our church, our workplaces, our community.

And Lord, we give you thanks for the events this weekend, in which we were able to reach out and serve and help others, with the money we raised, and the labor we offered. As Jesus said, we should seek to serve and not be served, and so we lift up all who supported the golf tourney and big fix. We ask your help this weekend, as we seek to raise money for the ministries of our church. We pray for the weather, for the volunteers, for those who will come through these doors, that your spirit of joy and love and fellowship would be felt and known by all. And we pray for those who are hurting, and needing healing, comfort, strength, guidance, support.

Prayers of Concern

Lord’s Prayer