

Called to Love

Litany for Sunday, October 10th:

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Litany is written by Pastor Shari Ayers, Columbus, Ohio.

God of love, you have made us in your image. You have named us collectively as the body of Christ and individually members of it.

God of love, call us to love.

We pray for individuals and their loved ones living with mental illness. We pray for healing and wholeness, for patience and hope. God of love,

Call us to love.

We pray for places of respite, support, and peace, especially for organizations such as Oesterlen and *[insert the names of local agencies and ministries]*. We pray for all those who help hold space for healing, growth, and rest. God of love,

Call us to love.

We pray for advocates and philanthropists, and for all those who use their voices and their resources on behalf of others. God of love,

Call us to love.

We pray for our faith communities that we might live into our calling to suffer with those who suffer, rejoice with those who rejoice, and walk together in boldness and hope. God of love,

Call us to love.

We pray in a spirit of thanksgiving for the gift of creation, for the natural world in all of its wonders. We give you thanks for the gift of scientific discovery and for new and promising treatments. We pray for physicians and nurses, for psychologists and social workers, for all those who seek to alleviate pain and suffering. God of love,

Call us to love.

O Lord ... we are the clay, and you are our potter (Isaiah 64:8)

Readings, Prayers, and Links for Learning for National Mental Illness Week (October 3–9)

All materials are written by Pastor Shari Ayers, Columbus, Ohio.

Sunday, October 3, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-11

Prayer: God of wholeness, as Mental Illness Awareness Week begins, open our hearts and minds that we might learn and love in equal measure. Send water to parched souls. Accomplish something new in us. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Mental-Illness-Awareness-Week>

Monday, October 4, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-9

Prayer: God of comfort, many celebrate the life of Saint Francis of Assisi on this day. As he loved and cared for animals, be with all therapy and service animals this day. Grant all creatures peace, companionship, and renewal. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Blogs/NAMI-Blog/November-2016/The-Power-of-Pet-Therapy>

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 25:6-9

Prayer: God of compassion, on this National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding, we pray for ecumenical and interfaith partnerships that provide resources for those living with mental illness

and addiction. Grant us a spirit of hospitality and welcome so that our shared service will give glory to you. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/NAMI-FaithNet/Inspirational-and-Healing-Prayers/National-Day-of-Prayer-for-Mental-Illness-Recovery>

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Prayer: God of grace, we pray especially for children, adolescents, and young adults living with mental illness. Remove from their shoulders every burden and yoke. Let them experience freedom and peace as they grow and thrive. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults>

or

<https://oesterlen.org/programs/community-counseling-center/>

Thursday, October 7, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11

Prayer: God of mercy, on this National Depression Screening Day, we pray for those whose hearts are heavy and who cry out to you for comfort. Make a way in the wilderness for all those who struggle. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/About-Mental-Illness/Mental-Health-Conditions/Depression>

Friday, October 8, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4

Prayer: God of hope, we pray especially for veterans and front line professionals as they carry their particular burdens, sorrows, and stress. Bind up their broken hearts and help them to heal in the broken places. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Veterans-Active-Duty>

Saturday, October 9, 2021

Scripture: Isaiah 40:25-31

Prayer: God of strength, on this NAMI Walks United Day of Hope, we pray for all those living with mental illness and all who journey with them. Give strength and renewal to those who are weary. Amen.

<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Find-a-NAMIWalk>