

FOR OUR FAITH COMMUNITY:

- For our churches and ministries to stand up and speak out against abuse in all its forms, and to address abuse in appropriate and trauma-informed ways
- For our community to embrace and set up vibrant and robust safeguarding policies and empower every person in our community to carry them out.
- For our community to be a place where the needs of victims and survivors are prioritized; where those who disclose abuse are believed and cared for
- For our church leadership to listen and learn from the experts, and find ways to collaborate with others who work to prevent abuse and care for survivors of abuse
- For spiritual leaders to work for justice for the abused, to hold offenders accountable, to prioritize care for victims and survivors over ministry goals and reputations

Response: Loving Savior, hear our words!



BLUE SUNDAY PRAYER

PRAYING FOR ABUSE SURVIVORS & THOSE WHO WORK WITH THEM



FOR THE CHILDREN AND ADULTS WHO HAVE BEEN ABUSED OR ASSAULTED:

- For any children or adults trapped in abusive situations to find safety and freedom from the source of harm
- For well-trained and trauma-informed professionals to be part of their care team and assist in their recovery
- For the presence of caring, stable adults in their lives who will nurture and care for them
- For new relationships and relational patterns characterized by safety, joy, and love
- For real safety and empowerment to be able to disclose the abuse and begin working through the trauma
- For continual strengthening and encouragement
- For good and joyful things to fill their lives

Response: Good Lord, hear our cry!

FOR CHILD ABUSE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATORS (SUCH AS CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATORS):

- For discernment, wisdom, courage, and decisiveness
- For empathy and the ability to connect compassionately with the victim
- For discernment and compassion as they partner with parents and caregivers who are struggling but want to do the best they can for those in their care
- For resilience and professional support to recognize vicarious and secondary trauma, and take appropriate steps to care for themselves
- For regular spiritual, emotional, and physical restoration and refreshment

Response: Just God, hear our plea!

FOR DECISION-MAKERS AND THOSE PROVIDING FOLLOW-UP CARE (SUCH AS SOCIAL WORKERS, FOSTER CARE WORKERS, JUDGES, COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES, GUARDIANS AD LITEM, THERAPISTS, COUNSELORS, AND FOSTER PARENTS):

- For wisdom, empathy and patience with the child who has been abused, as well as their family of origin
- For attentiveness and discernment in understanding the abuse event, how the abuse has been experienced, and the ongoing effects of the abuse
- For a creative and trauma-informed approach in finding solutions for the child or family
- For strong collaboration among each of these individuals and the survivor to provide appropriate care
- For resilience and professional support to recognize vicarious and secondary trauma, and make appropriate steps to care for themselves
- For humility in understanding and addressing historical, cultural, and gender factors

Response: Gracious Jesus, hear our prayer!