

# Disability Awareness Sunday

## Accessibility Litany

Leader: God moves mountains so there are no barriers to grace. He gave us Christ.

**People: We love having an accessible God.**

Leader: The Spirit shows us where there are barriers so we can offer accommodations and make worship accessible for all people.

**People: May God use us for the building of an accessible kin-dom.**

**All: May our worship reflect that which is in heaven. Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 1-7

King David welcomed Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth, who had physical disabilities to his royal household, setting an example for our faith communities to also be welcoming people with disabilities to our worship and to the Lord's Table.

## Pastoral Prayer

God of mercy and grace, we come to you this day, praising your holy name, our blessed Trinity. Once again, you have reminded us that we will continue to work towards all kinds of justice which includes disability justice. Where we have created barriers due to our own selfishness or ignorance, forgive us and guide us to remove them. Help us to create a faith community where people with neurodivergency and autism have sensory-friendly worship, that your Word is for all of us whether we are temporarily-abled or disabled so we can come to know Christ in our own intimate ways. Teach us to have a welcoming mindset so people with disabilities have barrier-free experiences when worshiping with us. Your mercy, O God, has once again been extended to us and we gladly share it with others who seek your loving kindness. The grace you extend to us through relationships is where we come to know you, enable us to extend and share this grace with others, in particular those who feel distanced due to ableism and audism by families and communities. Build upon our church's hospitality so we may extend the love of Christ to everyone. When we have instituted barriers to physical access, attitude, programmatic, and communication access, we pray to do better. We pray all of this in the One who was disabled on the cross yet was resurrected with the hope that He is the promise of us all, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

## Benediction

Go forth in peace - the peace that shares the welcoming presence of Christ - so all of your encounters with others including with people with disabilities will know the love and grace that Christ shared with you this day. Show sensitivity towards others, the way you hope God will show you, and support the removal of barriers where you can. Befriend the stranger, your neighbor, and those with disabilities, they all need your grace. Amen.