

A BLESSING FOR LABOR DAY

Blessed are those whose labors bring us comfort – the farm workers, the factory workers, the grocery workers, the delivery drivers and bus drivers, the sanitation crews and restaurant workers.

Blessed are those who work in healthcare. Blessed are those whose labors keep us well: the nurses and firefighters, the hospital custodians and therapists, the pharmacy techs and EMTs.

Blessed are those whose labors are unseen: the laundry guys at the hospital and the night shift street sweepers.

Blessed are those for whom one job is not enough to live.

Blessed are those who care for children, elders, and people with disabilities – whether paid or unpaid.

Blessed are the social workers, the overworked teachers, and the pro bono case takers.

Blessed are those who do their work with diligence and compassion. Blessed are those who do their work just to get by.

Blessed are the unemployed - those who seek work but have not found it, or whose work now is not yet what it may be.

May we draw our attention to the labors around us. May we open our hearts to the workers around us. May we open our minds to the power we hold: to join together, to do right by those in our employ, to speak up. May we be reminded that we are inextricably connected and accountable to one another.

(Adapted from a prayer by Emma Brewer- Wallin)

