Every Life Matters! Pastor Cory Estby Zion, Grant Park

"Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save." (Isaiah 46:3-4)

My delivery route for Meals on Wheels was completed today with a one-hour roundtrip drive that included 5 daily 'hot/cold' lunch drop-offs and 2 weekly 'frozen box' distributions around Crete/Steger/Park Forest. It's only two or three times per month that I volunteer (thankful for the many other drivers that fill the calendar in southern Will County on a regular weekday basis!), but it's a beneficial way to show God's love for all people. Some days, I'm wearing my pastoral collar; other days, it's blue jeans and hoodie. Regardless, it is God's way of delivering 'daily bread'...and what joy it is to hear the many who receive that daily bread with thanksgiving.

God says their specific life matters. Whom did Jesus die for? For all! For me!

Every life is valued—including those whose increasing years bring weakness, anxiety, distress and loneliness. At times, the Bible emphasizes that Jesus is the world's Savior. "In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself..." (2 Corinthians 5:19). "The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). An objective truth that drives away doubts. Your Life Counts! Think of how personally God delivers His Gospel message. To the paralytic: "My son, your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5). To the tax collector: "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified" (Luke 18:14). What Jesus did for all, he did for me! A subjective truth that drives away all my doubts. I need to hear that!

As the March for Life Chicago (and many others throughout this nation) gathers to proclaim the dignity of life for the unborn and support for young mothers, we remember that even to our gray hairs, the Lord carries us. God grant a willing heart to accept help and increase in each of us faith and the assurance of His love. God made you and will save. Life matters!

Prayer:

Lord God, we thank You that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to hold fast Your Word in hearts that You have cleansed that thereby we may be made strong in faith and perfect in holiness and be comforted in life and death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.