

## PRAYERS – SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE

*Below are some prayer points you can use, whether you are alone, as a couple, or with your family. Feel free to add to them as you wish.*

*Or, of course, you can also come up with your own prayers. Perhaps use the prayer starters here if you wish.*

*Alternatively, you can use the full responsive prayer further below.*

- Praise God that by His Grace He has made us to be who we are; His children, shaped and formed by Him.
- Thank God that because of His love and the sacrifice of Jesus we can be assured of His forgiveness in our lives.
- Ask God to help us to live lives as His transformed people, putting aside our old, sinful, selves and living lives which are reflective of His love and His will for us.
- Pray for forgiveness for the times when we don't show that we belong to God in how we speak and act.
- Think about the many ways we are blessed in our lives, take the time to stop and picture them, especially the ones you may often overlook. Thank God for all of these things.
- Praise God that above all else we can know that He will never stop loving us. Ask Him to help us to keep this great promise as the foundation of our lives.

### **Prayer starters**

- Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank you for all that you have given us in our lives. We think especially of .....
- We ask you to be with us in all that we are going through at the moment. We especially pray for ....
- Please be with other parts of our world, we think of ...
- We pray for people we know who especially need your help right now, particularly ...
- We thank and praise you, Lord God, for all you are to us and in our lives. Thank you for your great love. Amen.

### **A Responsive Prayer**

*Christ invites us to come to him with all our burdens, so that he can give us rest. Trusting in his promise, let us pray with confidence to his Father and our Father.*

Heavenly Father, bless your church and the work you have called it to do. Make us a resting place for the weary and the heavy laden. Let us be a place where

troubled people can take their burdens and place them in your hands. Teach us to bring our burdens to you every day, and place them confidently in your hands knowing that in Christ alone we have been given a new start, and through Christ alone we can have the true peace and the true comfort of forgiveness.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We pray for all schools and other places of learning, especially schools in our area. Bless the work of teachers and other staff members and strengthen them in their special calling. Use them to prepare our young people to face the world with wisdom and confidence. We ask you to give both students and staff a time of relaxation and refreshment through the holidays and protect everyone who is travelling.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We ask you to bless all industries and places of work. When times are difficult, we place our trust in you and ask you to hear our prayers and answer our need. We thank you for rain and sunshine, and we pray that you would continue to send rain when and where it's needed. We ask that you would protect and watch over people who are struggling at this time, and especially those who are unable to put their trust in you. Help them to let go of their burdens and find the true rest only you can give them.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Protect all those who are starving, malnourished and in poverty, both overseas and in this country. Give us hearts to share compassionately from our abundance to help provide for our brothers and sisters in need. Be with those countries which are suffering badly from the effects of Corona virus. Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Bless our government and all in authority. Use our elected leaders to promote goodness, justice and truth. As you have appointed us to be stewards of the earth, help our nation to wisely manage the environment and prevent the degradation of land and water ways.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Be with all we know who have particular needs, especially .... We pray for those who are entering hospital or recovering from treatment – be with them and give them comfort at this time.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We trust in your mercy, Lord, and put all our concerns into your hands. We pray through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**