

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

July 04, 2021

6th Sunday after Pentecost

The Lord has appointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.

Luke 4: 18

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10

Psalms 48

2 Corinthians 12: 2-10

Mark 6: 1-13

In the scriptures we read of King David who was blessed by God and became powerful. He accepted God's grace. The Lord also blessed Paul telling him His grace is sufficient as it is for all of us. It is when we are weak that God is strong, and we become strong as well with His power to go out and show His great love to everyone.

Collect: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for Him. Give us the will to serve others as He was the servant of all, who gave up His life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As God has called us by name out into full abundant life, let us lay before Him now our concerns for the Church and for the world.

Father, chip away from your Church all the built up layers of complacency or despondency of over-comfortable familiarity or under active expectation until we see again with the freshness and wonder of deepened faith.

Lord, we believe: Help our unbelief.

Father, we call to mind societies and systems of our world. Question our assumptions and challenge our destructive choices; break away the unnoticed scales of prejudice which bind us, so that our world may become increasingly under your reign of justice, righteousness and love.

Lord, we believe: Help our unbelief.

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Father, replace our pride with humility until we learn from young children the lessons of wonder and trust. Keep the childlike as a living flame in all of us, whatever our age, and enable us to rediscover your glory all around us.

Lord, we believe: Help our unbelief.

Father, as the sick were brought to Jesus by their loved ones, so we bring to you now all those whom we long to be healed. May they hear your voice and sense your touch.

Lord, we believe: Help our unbelief.

Father, earthbound we grieve at the loss of loved ones through death, yet we also rejoice in you calling them out in the fullness of everlasting life.

Lord, we believe: Help our unbelief.

Lord, we thank you for the amazing truth that you always reach out to us in compassion, and always have time for us. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet, walk with you to the end of your road;

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands, teach you to serve each other;

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart, help you to love each other;

When you go out, may you see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet, and may everyone you meet see the face of Jesus in you.

Amen.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

July 11, 2021

7th Sunday after Pentecost

The word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

Deuteronomy 30: 14

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1: 3-14

Mark 6: 14-29

Paul writes in the Epistle of Ephesians that we are all saved by God's grace, and to continue to be encouraged by our Christian calling. We are children of God and heirs to His eternal Kingdom, chosen and blessed.

Collect: Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. May we find peace in your service, and in the world to come, see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God's wisdom may appear foolishness without the God given grace to understand. As we gather, conscious of our need of wisdom, let us pray to our wise and loving God.

Father, in all the decision-making problems and challenges of our Church, we ask your counsel and encouragement; in all our worship and outreach, we invite you to lead us.

Wise and loving God: Quieten us to hear your voice.

Father, in all the clashes of needs and wants, the half-forgotten hurts that drive aggression, and half-remembered grievances barbed with revenge, in all the world's raging and protesting, sink your spirit of peace and reconciliation.

Wise and loving God: Quieten us to hear your voice.

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Father, in the daily dealings of misunderstandings, conflicting loyalties, negotiations and compromises, walk among us in our homes and places of work, whispering sanity and mutual respect.

Wise and loving God: Quieten us to hear your voice.

Father, in those engulfed by pain or enslaved by addiction, bring hope and healing. Bless all those whose minds think simply and rely on others for basic care.

Wise and loving God: Quieten us to hear your voice.

Father, gather into your keeping for ever all who have left this life in your friendship. We pray, too, for those approaching death, that they may know your love surrounding them across time and eternity.

Wise and loving God: Quieten us to hear your voice.

Father, in all our wondering and wandering, we thank you for your patience with us and your understanding of our journey. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

May the grace of Christ our Saviour,
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holly Spirit's favour,
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess in sweet communion
Joys which earth can not afford.

Rev. John Newton, 1779

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

July 18, 2021

8th Sunday after Pentecost

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me.

John 10: 27

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 7: 1-14a

Psalm 89: 20-37

Ephesians 2: 11-22

Mark 6: 30-34

All who are in God are promised His anointing and healing. With God's help we can, like the apostles, spread God's love to all to carry out His plan of salvation.

Collect: Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

We have chosen to serve the Lord. Let us pray to Him now.

We pray for those whose faith is being challenged or undermined by inner doubts or outside influences. We pray for those who build up our faith, and all who strive to proclaim the gospel in language that people understand.

Holy God, we believe: Help our unbelief.

We pray for our torn and fragmented world, wrestling to equate the deep yearning for peace with the instinctive urge for gratification and power. We pray that many may have the courage to walk God's way.

Holy God, we believe: Help our unbelief.

We pray for our loved ones; for those who left our hearts and those who turn our hair grey. We pray for those we instinctively warm to and those with whom there are frequent misunderstandings. We thank God for our opportunities of forgiveness.

Holy God, we believe: Help our unbelief.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

We pray for all who are marginalized, scorned or rejected; for those isolated through illness or imprisonment; for those who feel that no one understands. Surround them all with such love that they may know they are precious to you.

Holy God, we believe: Help our unbelief.

We pray for those approaching death, that through our prayers they may know themselves accompanied with love on that journey. We pray for those who have died that they may come to know the full joy of heaven.

Holy God, we believe: Help our unbelief.

We thank you, Holy God, for making yourself known to us both in daily living and sacramentally in the breaking of bread. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife,
we hear your words of life again.

In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds, dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.

The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to view
the sweet compassion of your face.

O Saviour, from the mountain side,
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
oh tread the city's streets again;

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

Till human hearts shall learn your love,
And follow where your feet have trod,
Till glorious from your heaven above
Shall come the city of our God.

Rev. F. M. North, 1903

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

July 25, 2021

9th Sunday after Pentecost

A great prophet has arisen among us! God has visited His people! Luke 7: 16

Scripture Readings:

2 Samuel 11: 1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3: 14-21

John 6: 1-21

If we sin, we turn to God, who will forgive us. As Christians, we often fall, but God will never forsake us. Though times may be dark and we are afraid, we will find comfort and forgiveness knowing to look to Jesus, for He is already there to help us along on our life's journey.

Collect: O God, the protector of all who trust in you without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

We need to be careful never to replace the timeless commands of God with manmade traditions. Our God is the source of all holiness. With the needs of the Church and the world close to our hearts, let us pray to the only one who can renew and redeem.

Father, we are all too aware of our temptation to place our trust in rules and traditions, and we long for you to release in the Church such a desire to serve the living God that nothing is allowed to get in the way of that.

Into your hands, O Lord: We commit the future.

Father, we recognize in ourselves the universal dangerous wants and cravings which are cultivated because they make money. Give us universally, such a loathing of evil that there is international co-operation and individual responsibility in fighting it and building one another up in love.

Into your hands, O Lord: We commit the future.

ALONGSIDERS' PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

Father, may our homes, schools and churches reflect and engender the Godly values of mutual care, respect and responsibility of integrity and forgiveness.

Into your hands, O Lord: We commit the future.

Father, we stand alongside all who are hurting in body, mind, and spirit; all who need courage support or practical help. Make us willing to become part of your answer to our prayers for them.

Into your hands, O Lord: We commit the future.

Father, as Lord of both time and eternity, we commit to your keeping those who have died to this life, that free from all pain, and forgiven, they may live in the peace and joy of heaven.

Into your hands, O Lord: We commit the future.

Father, write your law of love on our hearts, and send us glowing with thankfulness through the week ahead. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,
And some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be
pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

Calvin Weiss Laufer, 1927