

Alongsiders' Prayers for September 2021

September 05, 2021

15th Sunday of Pentecost

"Season of Creation"

Jesus preached the gospel of the Kingdom and healed every infirmity among the people. *Matthew 4: 23*

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 35: 4-7a

Psalm 146

James 2: 1-10, (10-13,) 14-17

The word of Jesus brings healing to those who have faith and believe. There is much joy in heavenly wisdom. Let us praise the Lord and put our faith and hope in Him each and every day. Jesus comes fulfilling the hope of healing to wholeness. He shows that mercy has triumphed over judgement.

Collect: Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that richly bearing the fruit of good works, we may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Lord, we thank you for the richness and diversity of each unique identity. We pray for the separate members of this Body of Christ and our corporate nature, that we may be filled at every level of the living breath of God.

Father of mercy: let your Kingdom come.

We thank you for the beauty and variety of our landscapes and creatures all over the world, for starscapes and the wideness of space. Teach us to cherish and respect this universe we inhabit, and all those who look or sound different than ourselves.

Father of mercy: let your Kingdom come.

We thank you for the hope each newborn child brings, for the gentle gifts of laughter and friendship, thoughtfulness and sympathy. We pray that our eyes may see all others with God's affection.

Father of mercy: let your Kingdom come.

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We thank you for the patient endurance of so many who suffer so much, for all of them we pray for wholeness and refreshment, your upholding and healing.

Father of mercy: let your Kingdom come.

We thank you for the promise of mercy triumphing over judgement, and commend to your love for ever our own loved ones who have died.

Father of mercy: let your Kingdom come.

We thank you for all our blessings and pray that we may take none of them for granted, but commit ourselves to live out our thanks each day. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Alongsiders' Prayers for September 2021

September 12, 2021

16th Sunday of Pentecost

I do not glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6: 14

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Psalms 116: 1-8

James 3: 1-12

Mark 8: 27-38

The Lord has given us wisdom to know and love His words. They give us life abundantly. His word is on our tongue and we need to be wise with them to others. They need to be loving, encouraging and respectful. We need to follow Jesus' example and do always what is pleasing in His sight. Loving obedience to God is shown by Jesus to be a quality rich in courage and wisdom, a quality to be highly respected.

Collect: Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

As sons and daughters of our heavenly Father, responding to His call, let us bring to Him our needs and concerns:-

That we may all learn to think God's way and desire to do His will above everything else; that we may be ready to suffer if necessary, and put ourselves out to do that cheerfully, considering it a privilege.

In the spirit of obedience: we ask your guidance.

That the craving to be most powerful may be transformed into a yearning for mutual respect and harmony; that wealth may not shout louder than right, and the whisper of truth may be heard above the clamour of expediency.

In the spirit of obedience: we ask your guidance.

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That within our homes and places of work we may practice self-discipline in all that we say, and in the way it is said, using our mouths to speak wisely and positively with love in both heart and voice.

In the spirit of obedience: we ask your guidance.

That those whose bodies or spirits are heavy with suffering, may be given courage and hope, ease from pain, and healing to wholeness. Help us know how best to help them.

In the spirit of obedience: we ask your guidance.

That those who have died in faith may rise to eternal life, and that we may so live on earth in a way to be prepared for meeting you face to face in heaven.

In the spirit of obedience: we ask your guidance.

That, as we rejoice in the perfect love and obedience of Jesus, may we find His life transforming ours.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

A Prayer for the Care of Creation

O God, the only source of life and energy and wealth,
Defend our planet earth.
Teach us to conserve and not to squander the riches of nature,
To use aright the heritage of former generations,
And to plan for the welfare of our children's children.\renew our
wonder, awaken our concern,
And make us better stewards and more careful tenants
Of the world you lend us as our home.
Hear us, O God, our creator and redeemer.
In the name of Christ

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Alongsiders' Prayers for September 2021

September 19, 2021 17th Sunday of Pentecost

God has called us through the gospel, so that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. *2 Thessalonians 2: 14*

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 11: 18-20

Psalm 54

James 3: 13 - 4: 3, 7-8a

We must trust in God when obstacles come our way, keep the faith and pray to God for strength. God is our hope and so we must be wise to the wisdom of His words. We must not become bitter, continue to ask God for guidance, and submit to His will. He will come to you and carry you through whatever comes your way. Loving obedience to God is shown by Jesus to be a quality rich in courage and wisdom, a quality to be highly respected.

Collect: Almighty God, you have created the heavens and earth, and us in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

Let us pray to the God of Glory in whom we live and move and have our being.

We pray that the Church may hold true to the teachings of Jesus without being persuaded that worldly values of status and ambition are suitable or acceptable in Christ's followers. We pray for a spirit of humility to deflate all pomposity and arrogance.

Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom: yours the power and the glory.

We pray that all in the positions of power, authority and influence in our world may recognize their calling to servanthood, and never lose their identity with the needs and longings of those who serve.

Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom: yours the power and the glory.

Alongsiders' Prayers for September 2021

We pray that all communities may look after one another, supporting the vulnerable, encouraging the timid, providing practical help for all who need it, and nurturing the young in a climate of trust.

Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom: yours the power and the glory.

We pray that none may be considered expendable or beyond our cherishing. We pray for all who have lost heart through pain, suffering or sin, that God's redeeming power may work its wonders in the very dark situations.

Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom: yours the power and the glory.

We pray that all who have wearily struggled to death may know the joy of burdens laid down, and new, lasting life transforming them through the eternal love of God.

Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom: yours the power and the glory.

We pray that we may find new joy in giving and serving freely without thanks, rejoicing in the privilege of following Jesus.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

During the "Season of Creation," let us not forget:-

*This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas –
His hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.*

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*This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget
That through the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.*

*This is my Father's world: The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heaven be one.*

Maltbie D. Babcock

Alongsiders' Prayers for September 2021

September 26, 2021 18th Sunday of Pentecost

Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth.

John 17:17

Scripture Readings:

Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19: 7-14

James 5: 13-20

Mark 9: 38-50

Be content with what God has given you and share what you can. Pray in faith for your needs and receive God's answer. Obey His word and live peacefully with everyone, always following the truth. The truly great in God's eyes are those who are prepared to be last of all and servant to all.

Collect: Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Conscious of our need for God's power in our lives, our Church and our world, let us pray to Him now.

Father, as you have called us to be salt, give us the courage to reject sin and evil in our own lives and in the corporate life of the Church. May our churches be powerhouses of your Spirit, training and upholding us as we live your life in the world.

Your law, O Lord, is perfect: it revives the soul.

Father, we pray for a greater awareness of what damages souls and encourages evil, and for widespread commitment to addressing the dangers. We pray for all who earn their living through selling what destroys lives.

Your law, O Lord, is perfect: it revives the soul.

Father, we pray for the young, and the vulnerable in every community, for all in positions of trust, for child-minders, playgroups and schools, for children's clubs and uniformed organizations, for loving nurture and protection from all evil.

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Your law, O Lord, is perfect: it revives the soul.

Father, we pray for all long-term carers and those they look after, for all who are having to learn dependence gracefully, and those who are imprisoned by their guilt. Work your healing love in them all, reassuring them of your presence.

Your law, O Lord, is perfect: it revives the soul.

Father, we pray that no one may be lost eternally, that all may turn from their sin and trust your mercy; that physical death may be but the gate to heaven.

Your law, O Lord, is perfect: it revives the soul.

Father, we offer you our thanks and praise for sins forgiven, and the joy of walking through life in your company.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

For the Season of Creation:

Touch the Earth Lightly

*Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
Nourish the life of the world in our care:
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear.*

*We who endanger, who create hunger,
Agents of death for all creatures that live,
We who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!*

*Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
Water that blesses and air that is sweet,
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children,*

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Regeneration that peace will complete.

*God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
Using us gently and making us one*

Shirley Erena Murray 1991