

## Alongsider's Prayers for August 2003

August 6, 2023

Transfiguration of the Lord

*This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.*

*Matthew 17: 5*

### **Scripture Readings:**

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

Psalm 99

2 Peter 1: 16-19

Luke 9: 28-36

God shines His light, power and glory through Jesus. Jesus took Peter, James and John with Him to the mountain to pray. As He was praying His face changed and His robe became white. Moses and Elijah appeared and talked together. God spoke saying "this is my beloved Son, listen to Him." When we pray faithfully God intercedes on behalf of us and situations are changed as well for the better. This ministry continues with each one of us to pray for others as we go into His presence prayerfully.

**Collect:** Almighty God, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world and change us into His likeness from glory to glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

We have gathered here to meet with our God in worship. Let us pray to Him now.

Lord, awaken in us our need of you, both as individuals and as the church of God. Let no other issues sidetrack us from seeking you and increase our love and compassion so that we long to serve out your love to the world around us.

Bread of heaven: on you we feed.

Lord, allow our world to see the true value of things so that the worthless and dangerous is unmasked and real needs acknowledged. Guide our leaders in wisdom and integrity and enable us all to co-operate in proper care and stewardship of the world's resources.

Bread of heaven: on you we feed.

Lord, as we eat our food this week, remind us of your spiritual feeding. May the meals we prepare and eat together be opportunities for drawing closer to one another and to you.

Bread of heaven: on you we feed.

Lord, we pray for all who need medical treatment or who are waiting in pain for surgery. We pray for those who have become addicted and long to be set free. We pray for all those whose wrong choices have ended in heartache, disillusion and despair.

Bread of heaven: on you we feed.

Lord, welcome into your eternity all who have spent their lives coming to you and now come to be with you for ever. Have mercy on all those approaching death who do not know you but reject what they imagine you to be. May they respond to the true and living God and know your love forever.

Bread of heaven: on you we feed.

Lord, thank you for feeding us with spiritual food that satisfied our souls. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**

August 13, 2023

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

*I wait for the Lord; in His word is my hope.*

*Psalm 130: 4*

**Scripture Readings:**

Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22

Romans 10: 5-15

Matthew 14: 22-33

Just as Joseph trusted and held on to faith in God through His trials, we give thanks that the word of God is always before us to comfort, guide, enlighten us and show us the way to strengthen us on our faith journey. Peter looked to Jesus and showed us as humans we can easily fail if we take our eyes off the Lord. He is the only one who can save us from our sins. Let us pray to be always mindful of our God who will never leave us or forsake us.

**Collect:** Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love, joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Trusting in our faithful God, let us pray.

Faithful God, we pray for the gift of a deeper faith in you, so we trust you in a way that alters our dependance on everything

else and allows clearer vision as to the direction and role of the church. Remind us that it is your church and not ours; your work, your power and your kingdom.

Lord our God: let only your will be done.

Faithful God, as we call to mind the stormy areas of our world, the raging and the insecurity, the confusion and bewilderment, the restlessness and fear, let your calming and reassuring presence be sensed and recognized, bring peace and goodness, righteousness and hope.

Lord our God: let only your will be done.

Faithful God, we place into your loving keeping all those who have died, knowing their dependence on you and your limitless mercy. We thank you for them and their gifts to the world, and ask that we may, in our turn, come to you across the waters of death and live in your company for ever.

Lord our God: let only your will be done.

Faithful God, whose promises stand sure for ever, we thank you for your patience with us and your refusal to give up on us. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **The Grace**

**August 20, 2023**

**12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

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

**Scripture Readings:**

Genesis 45: 1-15

Psalms 133

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: 10-20, 21-28

Through a terrible family situation God took care of Joseph. He became a prosperous advisor to Pharaoh and, in turn, helped his family as famine came upon them. God Blessed Joseph with great wisdom and blessed his people with a promise never to forsake them. God says it is not what goes into a mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out, as it comes from the heart. Be careful with our words and use them with love and kindness. Sometimes lessons must be learned in hard circumstances, but God is always there in the midst of it.

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent into our hearts the Spirit of your Son. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The good news of salvation is available to all. In faith let us pray to God, who is Lord of all the earth.

Holy God, may the worship of your church throughout the world be attentive and expectant, ready to be set on fire again and again with the outrageous foolishness of loving without exceptions and without limits and without praise.

Servant God: let us honour you with our lives.

Holy God, may all that encourages people in goodness, honesty and compassion be blessed and grow; may all that encourages self-seeking and cruelty, prejudice and deceit wither and be exposed as the unsatisfying rubbish it is. May we learn from one another's cultures and respect one another's differences.

Servant God: let us honour you with our lives.

Holy God, we thank you for the joy of human love and for all those among whom we live and work. We pray particularly for loved ones who worry us with their health or circumstances, or life direction. We pray for those among our friends and families who do not know you, or whose faith has been shaken.

Servant God: let us honour you with our lives.

Holy God, we pray for all whose backgrounds make belief in a loving God laughable or terrifying. We pray for all who suffer mental or emotional anguish and those who despair. We pray for those facing another day of pain, another day of hunger, another day of fear.

Servant God: let us honour you with our lives.

Holy God, gather into your eternal kingdom all who have come to the end of this earthly life and rejoice to see you as you really are. We remember all whom we love but can no longer see and thank you for your over-arching love and undergirding faithfulness to us.

Servant God: let us honour you with our lives.

Holy God, we remember with gratitude all who gave up so much to bring the good news to our country and pray that with us it may continue to be spread until the whole world knows of your truth and love.

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## **The Grace**

August 27, 2023

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. *Matthew 16: 16*

## **Scripture Readings:**

Exodus 1: 8 - 2: 10

Psalm 124

Romans 12: 1-8

Matthew 16: 13-20

Our hope is in God who provides and guides us on our way. We must do our best and not conform to the worry and stress around us. Let us be used by God to show love and kindness and carry out God's will in our hearts. Simon Peter recognized Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Let us along with Peter do the work that assigned to us by God to carry out His love to all His children in all circumstances in life.

**Collect:** Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Gathered as the church of God, members of the Body of Christ, let us pray together.

Fill your church, O Lord, with life and energy, spiritual health and vitality. As we feed on you may we grow more like you; may we exercise your loving, minister with your tenderness, serve you with humility and co-operate with your vision.

In you, O Lord: is all meaning and truth.

Fill your world, O Lord, with wonder at creation, recognition of our mutual human responsibility, desire for reforming what is at fault, and hope in the possibilities of living at peace with God and with one another.

In you, O Lord: is all meaning and truth.

Fill our homes and neighbourhoods, O Lord, with generosity and trust that allows space but is always ready to encourage and support. May we cherish our bodies, minds and spirits as temples containing your spirit, and honour one another as people of your making.

In you, O Lord: is all meaning and truth.

We pray for all who are ill at home or in hospital, for all in emergency surgery, or in casualty, for those who have just discovered they have injuries or illnesses that will change their lives. We pray for the work of all who heal and comfort, all who visit the sick and counsel the distressed.

In You, O Lord: is all meaning and truth.

We pray for the dying and those who love them. We pray for those who have completed this life and have made the journey through death. We pray for those who comfort the bereaved.

In you, O Lord: is all meaning and truth.

Fill our hearts, O Lord, with thankfulness and praise as we recall your faithfulness and live in your love. Merciful Father, accept

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Grace**