

Alongsiders' Prayers for July 2020

July 05, 2020

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalms 45: 11-18

Romans 7: 15-25A

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

These scriptures provide for us a love beyond measure, a strength to carry us along, an answer to our prayers. God is the road map on this journey, and He will supply what we need through the Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour, who is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

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.

Our loving God is here, attentive to His children. Let us pray to Him now.

Father, we pray that all your people, your church, may always be open to receive your love. Keep us swept clear of pomp, complacency or self-righteousness. Let us come humbly and simply into your presence and wait on you, knowing our dependence on you and rejoicing in it.

As you have called us: Lord, we come to you.

Father, we pray for all world leaders and their governments, for the strength of authority comes not through force and domination, but through co-operation and mutual respect. We pray for greater consideration of the needs of one another and of our planet, and a desire to right past wrongs and injustices.

As you have called us: Lord, we come to you.

Father, we pray for a growing maturity in our thinking and our loving that enables us to be childlike. We pray for healing from all the damage that prevents us from growing up. We pray that our children may be helped to grown strong and we thank you for all we learn from them.

As you have called us: Lord, we come to you.

Father, we pray for all who cry out for rest and relief; all who are carrying terrible burdens that weigh them down; all those whose poverty denies them the chance of healing; all those whose wealth denies them the chance of knowing their need of you.

As you have called us: Lord, we come to you.

Father, we pray for those who die unprepared to meet you, and for all who have died recently, both those well known to us and those dying unknown and unnoticed all over the world.

As you have called us: Lord, we come to you.

Father, we thank you for your gentleness and humility which puts our pride and vanity to shame. Teach us to trust more and more in your truth, discarding what the world considers essential, and rejoicing in your freedom. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

July 12, 2020

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 25: 19-34

Psalms 119: 1-5-112

Romans 8: 1-11

Matthew 13: 1-9

These scriptures teach us that the word of the Lord is instruction for us to lead a happy and peaceful life; to do what is good and righteous in God's sight; to guide us all the days of our lives, and to be assured of our place with him into eternity. God loves us so much. See His outstretched arms!

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.

Seed of God's word, sown in good soil, watered by His rain and warmed by His sunlight produces a good crop of spiritual fruit. Gathered together as people of God and attentive to His will, let us pray.

Heavenly Father, may your words of truth take root in our hearts and grow to rich maturity. May we hear your will for us and act upon it. May we take seriously our responsibility to encourage and nurture one another in faith at every age and every stage.

Eternal truth living God: your word is life and strength.

Heavenly Father, make our homes places of love and growth, welcoming to all who visit them, and accepting and forgiving to all who are nurtured there. Help us through the quarrels and heartaches, and remind us to honour one another as your cherished ones.

Eternal truth living God: your word is life and strength.

Heavenly Father, may all whose bodies, souls or minds are aching, know the comforting and strengthening power of your companionship, and the healing work of your love. May we be more ready to support and befriend one another through the difficult times, in the name and love of God we worship.

Eternal truth living God: your word is life and strength.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all who are making the journey through physical death, as they put down earthly things and wake to your presence. Bring us all to share with them your life in all its fullness.

Eternal truth living God: your word is life and strength.

Heavenly Father, the rain and sunshine, the growing and harvesting, sing to us of your faithful love, and we offer our thankful praise for all your gifts to us. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

July 19, 2020

7th Sunday after Pentecost

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "surely the Lord is in this place and I was not aware of it." Genesis 28: 16

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 28: 10-19a

Psalms 139: 1-11, 22-23

Romans 8: 12-25

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

These scriptures tell me that sometimes in life we get so busy we don't see God in certain situations until we were past them. Just like Jacob's dream, we lose sight, but God is always with us, and He knows everything about us. After all, He is our creator. There are many things in this world that will tempt us to stray away from God, but if we keep His word and follow His plan for our lives, He will provide and guide us to where we should be on this journey. He will prepare us for the kingdom of heaven to be with Him for ever.

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 in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God has drawn us down many routes to this shared worship today. Let us still our bodies and alert our minds and hearts in His presence.

Heavenly Father, we are only the Body of Christ because your spirit binds us together with your life. Give us real love and concern for one another, supportive and encouraging, without malice or bickering, so we can be sent out strong in our weakness and littleness.

Give us your grace: to hear your word with joy.

Heavenly Father, all the kingdoms and states are answerable to your authority, and much evil is allowed to flourish through the silence of good people. Give us all the courage to speak out your truth, whether it is popular or not.

Give us your grace: to hear your word with joy.

Heavenly Father, be in all our listening at home, on the phone, at school, and at work. May we give our full attention to you and to one another, happy to grow wiser through each conversation.

Give us your grace: to hear your word with joy.

Heavenly Father, we pray for those whose pain screams silently and incessantly; for those who have no one to confide in, no one to listen. We pray for your love to enfold them, and your healing to transform them.

Give us your grace: to hear your word with joy.

Heavenly Father, prepare us all during this life for the life to come. We commend to your keeping all those who have recently made their journey through death.

Give us your grace: to hear your word with joy.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for making your ways known to us, guiding us into your truth. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

July 26, 2020

8th Sunday after Pentecost

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 29: 15-28

Psalms 105: 1-11

Romans 8: 26-39

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

These scriptures foretell the message of love, patience, thanksgiving and fulfillment of the kingdom of God. It is all connected to the glorification of Jesus to the eternal kingdom that awaits us all if we but persevere under trials and tribulations of life. God's love is worth the patience, praise and thanksgiving.

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, 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.

Jesus, the teacher, enables the ordinary, unlearned people to understand God's wisdom, the eternal laws of the Father's Kingdom. May the spirit pray through us as we try to put in words the longings of our hearts for the church and for the world.

Father, we thank you for all who have helped us to pray and to grasp something of your great love and power. We ask your blessing and empowering for all who teach and minister in your name. We ask for our Sunday worship to be an overflowing of our daily walk with you, an expression of our deepening love.

Lord of all creation: teach us your ways.

Father, we thank you for the beauty and diversity of the created world we inhabit. We ask for the wisdom to tend it carefully, respecting the natural laws, and sharing the resources, listening to the weak as well as the strident, the poor as well as the affluent and powerful.

Lord of all creation: teach us your ways.

Father, we thank you for the candor and innocence of the very young, and the joy of friendship; for all with whom we share our daily life, and those we love but seldom meet. We ask for hearts that are skilled in listening, so that we discern and respond to the real agendas, and remember that a conversation is a two way street.

Lord of all creation: teach us your ways.

Father, we thank you for the advances in medical knowledge, and the hope of new treatments for many diseases. We pray for all medical research, and all whose lives are crippled for disadvantaged by illness, frailty or damage. Give comfort and reassurance, healing, wholeness and peace.

Lord of all creation: teach us your ways.

Father, we call to mind all those we have known and loved who lived among us and now have died. We pray for all who made that journey unnoticed and alone. We ask that they may all know your mercy and the everlasting peace and joy of heaven.

Lord of all creation: teach us your ways.

Father, we thank you for your wisdom and truth, your understanding and generosity. We acknowledge our total dependence on you, and praise you for providing us with all that we need. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace.

