

HT Intercessions
16th July 2017

**Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayers.**

We pray for unity of this broken and divided *church*. Inspire it with the spirit of truth, unity and concord. Grant that all who confess your holy name, may agree in the truth of your word, and learn to live in unity and godly love. Bless our church leaders, both lay and ordained, that they may rightly interpret to us, your Son's teachings, words and example, in a modern world. Particularly today we ask you to bless Ross, as he begins his ministry with us; the work of the Pastoral Team; and Ness, as she and her family prepare to join us.

Lord bless this church. Here, may your faithful ones be blessed; your doubting ones find faith; and your despairing ones, hope. May the doors of this place be wide enough to welcome all, but narrow enough to keep out all evil.

**Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for this broken *world*, and ask you to lead all nations in the ways of righteousness and peace. Turn the *hearts* of the *rulers and leaders* of nations, that under them their people may be godly and quietly governed.

Turn the *minds* of those who carry out daily atrocities in the name of religion. May *all* sides in conflicts, learn to negotiate peaceful outcomes, and to understand that violence only serves to deepen the divide.

Show us, good Lord, the peace we should seek, the peace we must give, the peace we can keep, the peace we must forgo, and the peace you have given us.

**Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we commend to your fatherly goodness, all those whose *lives* are broken, by illness, bereavement, or family break-down, the disabled, the displaced, the hungry, the persecuted, the abused, and the victims of wars and natural disasters. Comfort and relieve them all in their need. Particularly today, we pray for:

Rosemary, Natalie, Richard, Melanie, Phil, and Karen

Heavenly Father hold in your arms of love, all those whose lives are broken in any way. Give them the knowledge of your closeness and the conviction that nothing can separate them from your love.

**Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in this beautiful but broken *World*, which *we* have broken and divided, give strength and hope to those who dedicate their lives to the alleviation of suffering; charities, aid agencies, food banks, medical teams, social workers, search and rescue services, fire fighters, and the host of volunteers on permanent stand-by. Help us to *remember* them, and to *thank* them as appropriate, in our prayers, and by our generosity of money, time and talents.

Lord, grant wisdom and empathy to all who seek to alleviate others' burdens. Help them to see through the eyes of your son Jesus, who was, to the distressed and scattered, a shepherd to his wondering sheep.

**Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer**

Heavenly Father, we commend into your gracious keeping, all those departed this life in your faith and fear, asking you according to your promises, to grant them refreshment, light, and peace, in the unbroken life everlasting. (Today, we pray for the soul(s) of :

_____)

May they *all* rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Lord, we beseech you to comfort the families and friends, of the departed, as they try to come to terms with their loss.

**Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, grant to *all* your people, your heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation. Christians are called upon, to stand up for justice and truth, and to show compassion to all in need.

Love one another with mutual affection. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

(In a moment of quiet, let us bring before God, our own personal and individual prayers and petitions.)

Eternal God, in the quietness of this moment, and in the holiness of this place, be with us all. Enfold us in your love, and fill us with your peace.

**Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers,
For the sake of your Son,
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen**