

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
APRIL 15, 2018

We thank you O God, and Christ Almighty, for the many blessings You have brought us: comfortable homes, clean water, a beautiful environment, security, access to information, the ability to make choices, to have opinions, the right to protest and the rule of law. We pray for the many places and peoples in the our world where these do not yet exist. We pray for the people of Syria, 15 million of whom have been caught up in chemical, barrel bombs and other forms of warfare and have become refugees. We pray for the Rohingas, who have been displaced in their homeland in Burma.

We pray that all those in charge of making decisions about the Kinder Morgan pipeline will listen to all the parties involved and make rational choices for our country as a whole, and crucially for future generations of Canadians.

We give our blessings to those who lead us in our spiritual lives and strengthen us with Christ's message of love. In the Comox-Nanaimo Prayer Cycle, we pray for all the Comox-Nanaimo pastoral charges on this blessed day. In the Anglican Prayer Cycle, we pray for the Church of Ireland, and The Most Reverend Richard Lionel Clarke, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland.

We also pray for Reverend Karen, on this, her Covenanting Day. We give her our blessings and pray for her as she ministers to this, her new ministry at Christ Church Gabriola. We welcome her gifts and her leadership.

We pray for the well being of our friends, our family and the pets we cherish as part of our families. We give thanks for spring, crocuses, daffodils, newly blooming tulips and rain. We watch for fawns, fledglings and baby sheep in the fields as evidence of God's new life. We say patience as we await the ferry, even as it is clearly on overload. We say yes to coffee dates with friends at Mad Rona's and Robert's, knowing that they are one of our many lifelines to community. Thank you God, for all these gifts.

We treasure our connections to the Gabe Shop , PHC Community Lunches, even our trips to the Village Food Market, where we say hello to friends as we shlep up and down the aisles.

At this, our church, we pray for each and every one of our congregation. We have come together, Anglicans and Uniteds and Lutherans, with unique gifts and stories. We are thankful for the energy, commitment and optimism we possess in becoming One, rather than Two, communities. We pray for everyone's well being.

O God, we now take a moment to remember our special loved ones, out loud or in silence, those who we treasure in our lives. PAUSE  
We acknowledge those who have passed, those who are ill, those who are on our minds and those we cannot forget.

1...2....3...4...5...6...7...8...9...10

God and Christ, thank you for your light, your presence and your love. You are what anchors us, whatever the challenge. AMEN

WE WILL NOW SING THE LORD'S PRAYER, IN VOICES UNITED, #959