

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2019

Let us be with our Creator in prayer.

What do we pray for this day? We pray for our church community, in many ways, according to our needs, insight and caring, about how to carve out our future path together. We need to converse about whether to colour inside or outside the lines of expectation and how to manage these changes.

When we converse with you O Creator, either silently or out loud, we know that we are not alone. We trust that we are loved and cared about. We know that we can say or ask for anything. We know that in prayer, there is hope.

God in your mercy...hear our prayers.

We pray for the many congregations and clergy around the world, who work hard to learn, to grow and to provide the comfort of community to their people. We pray for those who live in the far north, and bishops who are still struggling with the issue of providing the sacraments of marriage to same sex couples. We commend Bishop Logan for his positive example of caring for the human rights of all.

This week we offer love and prayers to two congregations from each of our Anglican and United weekly prayer cycles:

Sandra Housell-Drover & Paul Schumacher at the Church of the Advent in Colwood, whose ministry is global as well as local; the Territory of the People, led by Bishop Barbara Andrews; and -

Campbell River United Church led by Wayne Hughes plus Canoe United Church of Salmon Arm, led by Debbie Miyashita.

God in your mercy, ...hear our prayers.

Creator, on this earth, beyond this island, there is much to be concerned about and to pray for. The Green Party advises us that "due to unprecedented high temperatures, forest fires have engulfed more than 1.6 million acres of boreal forest, burning at a rate not seen in 10,000 years." In the U.S., the research work of scientists in Alaska is being

misrepresented, distorted and deleted. Prime areas of parkland there is about to be auctioned off for gas and oil leases. We pray for leadership and grassroots action, so that our children and grandchildren do not suffer from the neglect of our responsibilities as stewards of the land, sea and air You gave us.

God in your mercy...hear our prayers.

Creator, we are seeing the consequences of those who make racist comments in public, which spreads and infects others via our media outlets. We must resist this hatred with every fibre of our beings, in our heads and in our actions. Christ's message taught us to love others equally with all our hearts.

Help us to follow this path.

We are also daily finding out about the mistreatment of migrants on the southern borders, including at least one person with proper documentation.

We believed this could never happen again, as it has in the past, with the Japanese and Jewish internment camps, and yet, here we are again.

God in your mercy...hear our prayers.

Creator, you have under your care those who are ill, in pain, recovering or grieving. This week in the Sounder, and yesterday, in our church, our former congregant Evelyn Steele, was celebrated. Bless her spirit, O Lord.

Let us continue to think of Mollie, Heather, Gar, and Sandy. Let us now say out loud, or in our hearts, the names of those you are thinking of for God's blessing who need comfort, love and better days ahead.....

May all of those named, and us, be forever under God's wings of grace.

God in your mercy...hear our prayers.

We thank you for this life. Amen.

Paddy Waymark

Please turn to VU # 959, to sing the Lord's Prayer

