

Prayers of the People- August 18, 2019

Please stand or sit as is your custom for the Prayers of the People. When you hear the words Loving God, answer with Hear Our Prayers.

Heavenly Father,

We give thanks for your Church and for your son Jesus Christ, who shows us how to live with tolerance and compassion in this world. We thank you for all the ministers and the congregations who listen when a troubled person loses their way, and helps them to find light and hope in dark places. We thank you for all the Christians who serve food to the hungry, provide housing and essentials when disaster strikes, and provide loving hands and arms for the bereaved. We pray for Richard Bott, our moderator, and for Logan, Our Bishop and hope that their work continues to make a difference in this world. We especially pray for Truth and Reconciliation so that the relationship between our Church and indigenous people might be healthy and helpful. Loving God, Hear Our Prayer.

Today we thank you for the harvest that so many of us are enjoying. In your wonderful world, zucchini come thick and plentiful, plums are falling off the tree, apples ripen, and tomatoes gleam brilliant red through the green leaves. We pray that all people everywhere can experience a harvest where there is sufficient rain, good earth, and seeds to plant. Please help our beleaguered earth to provide conditions that prevent crop failures. Loving God, Hear Our Prayer

The world continues to be a dangerous and difficult place for many. We pray for all those who are in Hong Kong fighting for justice and democracy, for the people in the United States who are working towards better gun control in the aftermath of the destruction of so many lives by the violence perpetuated by both serious mental health issues and the hate that pervades when tolerance and love for others is not made a priority by people in power. We pray for all those who suffer from a mental illness. We pray for acceptance and tolerance for them, and for the support they need from doctors, parents and the world at large. Loving God, Hear Our Prayer

We pray for our country as we face a new election, and pray for good leadership and guidance as we practice our democratic rights. We are thankful we are in a country where we can make choices about leadership, and recognize how lucky we are to live in Canada. We pray that all of us can join together to be the country that makes a positive difference in the world as we deal with our carbon footprint, our reliance on plastics, and the protection of our oceans and watersheds. L

Today we ask you that you bless all those who are suffering, or in pain, or who are waiting for test results. Please help us all to accept what we cannot change, but to have the courage to change our habits and attitudes when it is necessary for our health. Please say the names out loud or silently of those whose wellbeing you hold in your heart. Loving God, Hear Our Prayer. Bless all those who are grieving and those who are lonely. May your loving presence be a comfort to them.

And finally we thank you for your presence in our life. Your son's teachings lead us to believe that love, hope, charity and forgiveness will triumph. We take his teachings to heart, and try this day, and for the week coming to live into that promise. May we continue to work at being the beloved children of God, caring for ourselves and others. Loving God, Hear our prayer

Amen

