

Prayers of the People for March 8, 2020
Second Sunday of Lent

(Genesis 12: 1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17)

In the prayers of the people today, I will end each prayer with the words, "Loving God." Please join me in saying, "Hear our prayer." In the times of silence, please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.

Loving God, hear our prayer.

Creator, we thank you for the beauty of this world and the signs of spring all around us. We thank you for opportunities to learn and grow, such as the Theological Banquet, the Friday Bible studies and the study of the Wisdom Jesus. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, wind, we ask that you blow into and through your church throughout the world. We ask that you give strength and wisdom to all who serve you in positions of leadership, including Bishop Logan, Moderator Richard Bott, the Executive of the Pacific Mountain Region Council and our own Karen. May we, your people here and your people in Christ Church, Alert Bay with priest William Hubbard trust you and obey you as Abram trusted and obeyed. In our visioning process at Christ Church Gabriola, we ask that we may be moved by the Spirit and that we may hear your voice clearly as you speak through and among your people here. In silence or aloud, we add our own prayers for the worldwide church and our church here.

PAUSE. Loving God, hear our prayer.

Lord, we are troubled by the climate change we see happening in your world. We ask that we will learn to care for your creation. We ask for the strength to act where we can locally and globally. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

Lord, remind us to look to you for guidance as we live in these new circumstances of the outbreak of the corona virus, **COVID-19**. May we continue to love our neighbours even when circumstances are difficult. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

Lord God, we bring before you the suffering people of northwest Syria, all those caught at the Greek-Turkish border and all others who are fleeing for their lives. We think of the many other troubled areas of the world, naming them silently or aloud. **PAUSE**

Sovereign Lord, may we all look to you for help. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God, we ask your help for all women and children fleeing domestic violence who have no place to go; may there be more space available in shelters and more long-term solutions. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God our help, please care for all who need your healing, including Richard B., Nancy K., Ted B., Heather G. and Robert G. We ask that you strengthen John P. and MJ as they travel for a medical procedure. We mention to you, Lord, silently or aloud, others known to us who are in need of your healing. **PAUSE. Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God, we ask for your comfort for all who mourn the death of Carleen Gordon and for all others who mourn. **PAUSE. Loving God, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who travel. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God, we thank you for your constant protection as expressed in today's psalm: you guard our going out and our coming in ... forever more. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**