



Suggested Prayers - Sunday 28th of June 2020

1. Prayer in response to what we've heard from scripture

Father, thank you for the encouragements and challenges we've heard from your word today. We take some time now to list them:

Help us not to be those who merely listen to your word and so deceive ourselves. Instead, may we be those who are blessed because we put it into action.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

2. A prayer for our Government and leaders during COVID-19

Father, we continue to pray in response to the pandemic ravaging our world. We read in your word of times when you sent plagues and sickness upon your people, but then also of your great mercy in relieving those afflictions. Have pity on us and on your world, which is still experiencing such great sickness and mortality. Please withdraw from us this suffering and bring about a cure for the Coronavirus. We pray too that you would help our civil leaders to lead our nation well through this time. As they balance the danger to our health with the country's economic concerns, may our government be driven by a deep concern for the well-being of others. And even in the midst of these times, we pray that they might always incline to your will and follow your way – and that, through faith in Jesus, they might all attain the sure hope of everlasting life.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

3. A prayer for World Mission, CMS and the Turners

Father, we thank you that we do not stand alone as Christians, but form the body of the church with our brothers and sisters, with Christ as our head. We praise you for continuing to provide faithful local churches to support CMS missionaries with generous giving and persistent prayer, and ask that even more churches would be inspired by the vision of a world that knows Jesus to partner with CMS in seeing the gospel go out to all nations. Grant us radical generosity in the name of your Son, especially during these final days of CMS's Lasting Hope Appeal. Please also help Glen and Dom and their family to continue adjusting to their abrupt transition to life in Australia. Help them to serve you faithfully in these circumstances, and to be encouraging Christians here and back in Musoma. We pray that young Tanzanians would put their trust in Christ and would have opportunities for work that will provide for them and build up their nation.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

4. A prayer for Phil, the Staff Team, and our Parish Council and Wardens

Father, thank you for the godly leaders you have placed over us at SNAC. Thank you for their careful leadership and Christian example, and that they maintain the proclamation of the gospel through the teaching of your word as the priority at our church. Please help Phil and the staff team to continue handling your word rightly, bringing it to bear on us with great insight. Please help the parish council and wardens to be wise and thoughtful in the management of our church's affairs. And please keep all of our leaders in good health, keep them godly and above reproach both in public and in their own homes, and help us to support and submit to them as we should.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

5. A prayer for the sick and suffering

Father, we think of those amongst us and in the community who are struggling with pain and poor health. We are assured in your word that you are the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, and so you are able to comfort all those who are afflicted with suffering. And how could it be any other way? For you hold all things in your hands. So Father, please bring comfort to those who need it. Help them to persevere in the face of their circumstances, and also encourage those who care for them and love them. We ask that you would bring an end to their suffering, and in the meantime that you would use it for their good and godliness. And we pray that they would find authentic rest in you.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

6. A prayer for our continued reflection on Scripture

Father, you have caused all of Scripture to be written for our instruction. And by your Spirit, as we read and hear it, you speak to us. Teach us to love your Word as we should, and to delight in hearing you speak. Help us to guard those times when we read your word ourselves, as families, and with other believers. Grant that we may so hear, read, heed, learn, and inwardly digest the Scriptures, that we may embrace and always hold fast the wonderful hope of everlasting life which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

7. A prayer for us as we follow Jesus this week

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thank you for all your goodness and kindness to us and to all people. You have created and preserved us and given us so many blessings. Above all, we thank you for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. Please, we pray, help us to better recognise and understand all your mercies, that our hearts might be properly thankful. And help us to rightly respond with praise – from our lips, and in our lives by giving ourselves up to your service and walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory. Amen.