



Suggested Prayers - Sunday – 23rd of August 2020

1. A prayer of praise and confession

Almighty God, you are worthy to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things and by your will they were created and have their being.

We confess that we have often gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbor as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, deed, and in what we have failed to do. We deserve your condemnation. Please forgive us. Help us to love you and our neighbour, and to live for your honour and glory. For the sake of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

2. A prayer for the personal health and wellbeing of one another

Heavenly father, you have made us in your image and creation was all very good. But because of sin, our bodies now fail us, our minds are now corrupted, and our outer selves waste away (2 Corinthians 4:16). As we recognise this reality, please help us to trust you and look to you in our struggles and hardships.

As the challenges of this year continue with no clear end in sight, may we not lose perspective of the heavenly hope we have. Give us the mental fortitude to persevere and cling to your son Jesus Christ. We pray for our mental and physical health, as well as our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. May we be assured that you have given us your Spirit through faith in your son Jesus Christ. Please continue to renew us as we await the return of your son Jesus, when all will be made right again. In His name we pray. Amen.

3. A prayer for evangelism to our communities

Lord of the harvest, we need your help to continue with the work of proclaiming the Gospel. As we look around, we see the plentiful harvest before us. May we have compassion and see the great need of proclaiming the gospel. Help us to continue to have an eternal perspective towards our lives and our relationships. Give us confidence to speak the truth in love to those around us, and bear witness to them through our words and actions.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, may this urge us more than ever to proclaim the great need of salvation through faith in Christ. In this time of uncertainty, might we boldly speak about the certain hope we can have in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Please show mercy to those around us, softening their hearts so they may choose life. We ask these in Jesus' name. Amen.

4. A prayer for Anglicare

Gracious God, you are sovereign and are in control over all things. We pray for the poor and desperate in our society as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. We thank you that you gift us with all that we need, and more, so that we might be generous and partner with you in caring for the needs of others. We know you are good and continue to

provide for us and for the weak and needy. We thank you for the work of Anglicare and their vision to tend to the most vulnerable in the community. May those who Anglicare provide for have all their needs met, and may they recognise that their greatest need is salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Through Anglicare, would the gospel shine brightly, and you be glorified to all. Please help the workers involved with Anglicare be intentional in proclaiming the news about Jesus as they serve the needs of various people groups. We ask these for your glory, in Jesus' name. Amen.

5. A prayer for worldwide Anglican Leaders

Sovereign Lord, may the leadership of the worldwide Anglican church continue to look to you for all wisdom and guidance. Through history, you have established a rich tradition throughout the world that has seen many souls saved and churches raised. Please help the worldwide Anglican leaders work together and be unified around your word, the Bible. May each decision they make be guided prayerfully and biblically as they wholly submit their lives to you.

Please guard these leaders from sin, and enable them to be above reproach in their decisions and conduct. May the decisions of these leaders enable Your church to live lives different to the world around us and to testify to the work of your Son Jesus. May you help our leaders to stand firm in their faith and for you be glorified. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

6. A prayer for CMS missionaries Peter and Terry Blowes (Argentina)

Merciful Lord, we thank you for the resources you continue to provide for Peter and Terry to continue the work of the gospel in Argentina. As the number of COVID-19 cases worsens in Argentina, please help the Blowes to be vigilant in how they go about their lives, and minister to others. May you protect them and their well-being.

We give you praise for the fruit they have seen through their efforts to use technology as they minister to others. We thank you for the continued prayer and Bible reading groups they have established through Whatsapp. We pray for the "Emotions in Quarantine" event they continue to run. May these events ultimately lead to more people reading the Bible and growing in their love and knowledge of You. Please help the Blowes to be wise in where to invest their time and energy to bless and be blessed. May they trust you with all their plans and efforts, knowing that your ways are greater than ours. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Heavenly Father, we thank you for how you feed our souls richly through your powerful word. May you work in us this week, through your Holy Spirit, to grow in Christ-likeness. Help us to be thankful for the good work you have prepared for us in advance, and to glorify you through our efforts.

May we continue to seek out opportunities to give rather than to receive. Help us to be bold in presenting the greatest gift in your son Jesus to those around us. As we rejoice in knowing you are our eternal father, may we live lives that honour you and point to Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.