



Suggested Prayers - Sunday – 13th of September 2020

1. A prayer of praise and worship

Mighty God, we praise you for all the works of your hands. For your beautiful creation, for the pleasures of work and rest, and for one another. We thank you most of all for our Lord Jesus. Thank you that he willingly took on the nature of a servant and went to death on the cross to take the just punishment for our sins. Thank you that he rose from the dead, has been given a name that is above every name, and now reigns at your right hand. Thank you for the grace and mercy you have displayed in Christ, and the salvation that you have given each of us by his blood, through faith, for your eternal glory. AMEN

2. A prayer in light of COVID-19

God of all Nations, we pray for the worldwide Coronavirus pandemic. Please slow the spread of this virus, protect the vulnerable, and keep all people safe. Give the many scientists working on a vaccine wisdom and insight that they may be successful in their work and help stop this pandemic. Give our front-line health workers energy, perseverance, and protection as they strive to keep people safe from infection and treat those who have contracted the virus. Give our world leaders compassion and care and deep wisdom as they make so many difficult decisions to protect people in both the short and long term. And give all people patience and understanding, they we may all persevere through this difficult period, obeying the authorities you have placed over us, and loving our neighbours as ourselves. AMEN

3. Prayer for our church: Glorifying God by Proclaiming Jesus

Heavenly Father, we thank you so much for the blessing of being your co-workers in the world as we proclaim the gospel of Jesus. Please encourage us by your Spirit and through one another, to continue to proclaim the gospel boldly, even in these strange times. Give us opportunities to talk to neighbours, co-workers, and family members who don't yet know you, so that we may speak the truth of the gospel into their lives.

We pray particularly for all those who came to our recent LIFE course. Please help us to enfold them into community where they can continue to consider the claims of Christ. We pray that their time spent looking at the Bible and asking their questions may have been valuable in moving them closer and closer to saving faith in our Lord Jesus.

Above all, we pray that through all our efforts you will be working powerfully by your Spirit, to transform hearts and lives, convict people of their sin and the gospel, and transfer many of our family and friends from the dominion of darkness into the kingdom of your Son. AMEN

4. World Mission and particularly the Turners

Lord of the harvest, we know that the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few, and so we pray that you would send many harvest workers out into the world to proclaim the gospel to people of all tribes, nations and tongues. Embolden your people worldwide to proclaim Christ boldly, whatever their circumstances. Protect your people in countries where Christianity is strongly opposed, give them courage to persevere, and opportunities to share the gospel wisely. Work in the hearts of leaders worldwide that they may be open to gospel proclamation, so that all our brothers and sisters may lead tranquil and quiet lives in all godliness and dignity.

We pray particularly for the Turners. Thank you so much for the work that you have been doing through them for so many years in Tanzania. Thank you for their faithfulness, their gospel hearts, and their courage to leave the comforts of Sydney in order to serve the kingdom. We pray as they resettle back in Australia that you will help their transition be smooth and help them find opportunities to continue gospel work where they are now.

We pray as we come to hear from them this week that we will be mutually encouraged, as we hear of all you have been doing through them and express our deep gospel partnership with them. May their stories inspire us to consider where we may be able to take the gospel for your glory. AMEN

5. A prayer for the vulnerable and downtrodden

God of all compassion, we bring before you the vulnerable and downtrodden in our community and country. We know that you are a God with deep love for those who are sick, suffering, or lonely. So we pray that you would comfort such people. Uplift their hearts with joy as they consider your kindness to them. Raise up many from among your people to care for them, supply their needs, listen and love. Particularly, as current circumstances force many of us into isolation, we pray that you would be fostering connections between people that may be sources of great joy, support and encouragement. For those suffering from physical or mental illness, please alleviate their symptoms, ease their pains, and give them solace and refuge in Christ.

We pray that even in the darkest of days, the truth of the gospel will shine brightly, and that the Lordship of Christ will bring warmth to the hearts of those who need it most. May we be people who are known for our love as we reflect the love you have shown so richly in Christ. AMEN

We pray all these things knowing that you are a God who listens, delights in our prayers, and gives good gifts to all your children. Answer these prayers for your eternal glory.

In Jesus name, AMEN.