

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Monday 8th June 2020

by Margaret Howard



Almighty God and Loving Father, as we come before you at the beginning of another week, help us to quieten our hearts and minds in your presence. We need to be reminded that this world, which we find so confusing at present, is your world. We thank you for all the beauty of creation we have had more time to appreciate. We have had to be isolated from so many family and friends but we thank you that you have not isolated yourself from us.

When we are sad for the sick and bereaved we need to remember that you suffer with us, and will strengthen us to be your comforters.

When we are longing for more freedom, remind us that your Holy Spirit sets us free to serve you in whatever situation we may be.

When we are fearful of the way ahead help us to know that you go before us to guide us in the right paths.

Lord of the church, we ask for your guidance as we try to plan the right way forward when it will be possible to meet together to worship. Save us from not being mindful of the feelings of those who cannot share in the early days of congregational worship. We thank you for the skills of those who have helped with our audio services and we ask for the guidance of your spirit as we try to determine the way ahead.

Loving God, we also pray for those in the community to whom we have been able to reach out. Be with those who have come to Lunchbreak, Tea at Three, Women's Own, Sycamore Club and Fun at One. We are thankful that you have enabled us to share your love as we have offered friendship, companionship and even fun; we are concerned that many of them are missing the opportunities we were able to provide. We ask for your wisdom and enabling as we move forward into renewing activities and possibly new opportunities in the future.

Great God, as we look to the future, we pray for those who have far bigger problems than ours to resolve. We are sickened when we see violence and hatred, pride and power-seeking and mis-use of power, greed and selfishness. We give thanks for those who are so selflessly serving the needs of others. Help us to overcome the evil and support the good.

In this season following Pentecost we long to see the power of your Holy Spirit at work; may we be receptive to the challenges that same Spirit gives to us as we continue to be your church in whatever way you lead us.

We ask our prayers in Jesus' name. Amen