

Intercessions at our online worship on Sunday 23 May by Chris Seward

Loving God, Heavenly Father, we pray this morning filled with renewed energy and faith by your Holy Spirit.

As your Spirit is in our hearts today, may it sustain us with your love and inspire us to new beginnings. May we, like the disciples and apostles before us, experience your Holy Spirit in a way that empowers and sustains us in our faith.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

On this morning of Pentecost, let us pray for our own church here at St Andrew's-for Alan, Bill, Wendy, Geoff, Melanie and Forbes and for all those who are part of our fellowship. We remember that we exist as much for those outside our church community as for those of us inside and, in doing so, we ask that your spirit fuels us to extend welcome and understanding to those who seek companionship and faith.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We marvel at how the power of the wind brought the Holy Spirit to your followers on that first Pentecost. Lord, as you speak to us through the majesty of your natural creation, help us to appreciate your presence in our world. We thank you for its beauty and wonder and pray that we should strive to be faithful stewards, recognising your creation as a common home for all your people, entrusted by you to us.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Let us pray now for peace in the world, recognising that true peace depends on individual courage, forgiveness and truth. We pray this morning particularly for peace in Israel/Palestine, praying that the peaceful words of faith leaders will be heard and that people of goodwill recognise the need for a fresh, long

lasting settlement. We pray also for other areas of the world where the lives, livelihoods and learning of so many are disrupted. May anger be controlled, may understanding be nurtured and may the blessed work of the peacemakers bear fruit.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those struggling with Coronavirus both in our own country and in the wider world, especially in the poorest parts. We give thanks for the progress made through science and pray that due consideration is given by world leaders for how aid and vital, life-saving support can become universal. This is a global pandemic.

More widely, we remember those known to us and those supported by our church who work in your name to bring aid and practical support to others. Especially, we pray for Julie Noble and those working for Latin Link in South America.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Now let us pray for those in need and those who are unwell who are known to us. We offer a moment of silent prayer for them and for those who care for them.....

In particular this morning we pray for:

Mercy, Bernard, Yvonne, Douglas, Paul, Pat, Laurel, Susan, Imogen, Dean, Tom, Phil, Barbara, Alma, Julie, Claire, Forbes (Snr), Paul and Suzanne, Kay, Andree, Tim, Susan, Joe, Lilla

Help us to find ways to offer care and support and may all those in need be touched by your Holy Spirit, your loving presence and your healing hand.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

And we pray for those who have passed from this world and are now at rest.those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Audrey Cobb, Francis Edward Carpenter, Arthur Risby, Alec Bentley, Sylvia Mear, Elsie Petitt, Alan Wilbourne

May your Holy Spirit, that promises eternal life, sustain us and all who mourn their passing.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God, we know your presence in our daily lives. May our understanding be strengthened through prayer and may our lives be renewed and refreshed through your Holy Spirit.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.