

Prayers of the People for Sunday February 24, 2019

When you hear the words, God of compassion-----please answer: hear our prayers

Loving God, God of mystery and God of surprises. We come before you this morning with grateful hearts and with hearts filled with requests.

Give me courage to bring the petitions of the people of Christ Church before you out loud and quiet the minds and hearts of all of us here so that we may feel your presence within us.

God of compassion—hear our prayers

We are grateful for the possibility to come together in peaceful circumstances. We thank you for our safekeeping. We are in awe of the beauty around us and ask that we will be good caretakers of your creation. Help us to remember that You bless us so that we may bless others.

We thank you for the gift of Karen. Guide her to share your message that will bring us closer to you and the work you want us to do in your name.

We thank you for the musical gifts of Marilyn. She has enriched our worship services and brought joy in praising you. Be with her as she leaves us and continue to bless her with her gifts. Be with both Marilyn and Larry as they embark on a difficult part of their life's journey. May their faith in you and their joy in serving you help them to stay close to you.

God of compassion----hear our prayers

Change the hearts of those who want to do evil. Change the hearts of the greedy and the unjust. Guide the minds of those who are in authority over others. We were reminded of your promises in the reading of the psalms this morning to trust that you will deal with those who do evil deeds.

Be with those who suffer in countries of great unrest and protest because of great injustices as we know is happening in Venezuela, Haiti, Sudan and Nigeria.

In our own country a great many people have suddenly lost their jobs. Be with them and bring them hope and solutions for other jobs. We are reminded that You use us to be your hands, your feet, your voice and your generosity.

God of compassion ---hear our prayers

We bring before you parents from every corner of the world. It has become a challenge for parents as well as children to feel safe and happy in our world today. May parents come to you for help and guidance. Be with all the children and youth as they navigate daily in a world that has too many choices and too many temptations and too many dangers. Surround them with your light of protection and knock on their hearts and minds to ask for your help and guidance. May we as your helpers feel compelled to

make connections with our youth. Prepare our hearts to listen to what that may be.
May they see the joy in our lives.

God of compassion----hear our prayers

We especially bring before you the suffering of the women and girls in this world who are treated as slaves, raped, burned, killed and live a prison like life because they were born as a female. Protect those who are seeking a just world for them. Show us the way to recognize and honour the Deity of a Father and Mother God.

God of compassion-----hear our prayers

We pray for ourselves. Some of us mourn the loss of a loved one. Some of us are concerned about our physical and mental health or of those close to us. We name them out loud or in silence.-----

Bring healing, comfort and peace.

God of compassion----hear our prayer

We will continue our prayer by singing the Lord's Prayer found on page 959