

Prayers of the People
August 28 2022

In the prayers of the people this morning, I will end each prayer with the words, "Loving God." Please join me in saying "hear our prayer." **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God of us all, we start by thinking of Ted and Sandra and of all whom we have lost and all who mourn. *We thank you for the friendship they gave and for the strength and peace they brought. We thank you for the love they offered and received while they were with us on earth. We pray that nothing good in their lives will be lost, but will be of benefit to the world; that all that was important to them will be respected by those who follow; and that everything in which they were great will continue to mean much to us now that they are dead. We ask you that they may go on living in their children, their family and their friends; in their hearts and minds, in their courage and their consciences. We ask you that we who were close to them may now, because of their death, be even closer to each other, and that we may, in peace and friendship here on earth, always be deeply conscious of your promise to be faithful to us in death. We pray for ourselves, who are severely tested by their deaths, that we do not try to minimize the losses, or seek refuge from them in words alone, and that we do not brood over the losses so that they overwhelm us and isolate us from others. Please grant us courage and confidence in the new life of Christ.* BAS pp. 602-603 (adapted) **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

As we continue in our prayers this morning, we pray for things that we know were important to Ted and Sandra – the church, justice, freedom of thought and ideas and feeding the hungry.

God, may our leaders and all of us who are part of your worldwide church listen for your voice and be led by you. We pray for our own church here on Gabriola. May we have the energy and resources to do your will – to continue to go into our community to serve and to form connections and relationships. We pray that we will find ways to feed those on this island who are hungry in body, mind or spirit. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

God of Justice, we bring before you the many troubled areas of the world, particularly Ukraine but pausing to name other areas in this moment of silence. PAUSE. We pray also for those suffering from injustice here in Canada. God, we pray that leaders everywhere may lead wisely and for the common good. We pray for justice and mercy for all people. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

We thank you, God, for the freedom we have here in Canada to speak what is on our minds. May all people in all countries be able to express their opinions and to worship as they choose. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

Gracious and healing God, we ask that those who are sick or waiting for treatment, tests or test results may be aware of your presence with them. We pause now to name silently or aloud those known to us who need your healing. PAUSE. **Loving God, hear our prayer.**

We thank you God that you always hear us. We thank you that you know our needs before we ask and our ignorance in asking. Thank you for hearing our prayers this morning. Amen.

Please join in singing the Lord's prayer, found in your bulletin.