

Prayers of the People
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 5, 2023
Intercessor: Pam Ayres

Creating God, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral land of the Anishinaabe, Attawandron and Haudenosaunee people, the Dish With One Spoon Covenant and Huron Tract Treaty. We are companions on a spiritual journey with our Indigenous sisters and brothers. As we travel together across Turtle Island may we come to respect and care for this land as those who came before us did.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, we pray for Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan; Linda our Primate; Chris Harper, National Indigenous Archbishop and Marinez Bishop of Amazonia and Primate of Brazil, all Bishops, Priests, Deacons and all who minister in your church. We pray that in teaching your commandments we may be the light of the world.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, we pray for the nations living in conflict and struggling with identity. We pray for peace and stability for the people of the Occupied Territories, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Yemen, Libya, Pakistan, Syria, Peru, Brazil and all corners of the world where people are living in chaos and in fear.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God we pray for this city of Stratford and all communities represented here today. We pray for the families that we represent, asking for a spirit of generous love, understanding and mutual respect. We pray for the Alt'eh family as they settle into life in Canada. We rejoice that they have already celebrated a family birthday in their new home, are enjoying snow ball 'fights' and reuniting with their cousins. We offer our thanks for the Connection Centre at St. Paul's, St. James Food Bank and St. Stephen's 'Our House' initiative, may the people they serve be comforted by knowing that they are members of a wider family.

Creator Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, we pray for a fulsome and holy healing wherever there is pain and suffering, whether physical, emotional, mental or spiritual. We ask for the courage and strength to make ourselves available and ready to help. Knowing that you know their needs we pray for those who have asked us to pray for them: *Marilyn, Angela, Niki, Rob, Judy, Richard, Mary, Robert, Bob, Heather, David, Stephen, Doug, Maribel, Nancy, Anne, Mary Lou, Ann, Paul, Susan, Frank, Norah, Laurie, Bill S., Bruce, Jean, Joanny (Joanie) and Bob, Mary & Harold, Phil and Mary Ann.*

Creator Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray for those in our St. James family who are celebrating birthdays this week: *Lynn Ransom, Krista Sebben* and those celebrating anniversaries: *Janet and Eugene Francis*. As we celebrate our milestones with family and friends let us never forget that there are many who feel that they have nothing to celebrate and no one to celebrate with.

Creator Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God we pray for those who have come to the end of their earthly journey, and for those who have died unprepared. We pray for each of them that in their dying they may find the greatest healing of all. The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Parents and Six Siblings All Departed. Lovingly Remembered by Walt Bathe. We pray for those who mourn that they may be comforted.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

“Light of the world shine in our darkness. We offer our thanks and praise for the way you see us when we are still far off and welcome us home.”*

Amen

*Prayers of Intercession, Susan Sayres