

Prayers of the People
March 19, 2023
Christ Church Gabriola

Good Morning ! It is looking like Spring has Sprung, if the crocuses, snow drops and daffodils out there are any indication. The extra sunshine we are getting is helping to boost our gardening plans isn't it? There is much to pray about today, so please release any tension in your shoulders, relax your hands and open yourself to Prayers. Please respond to "Loving Saviour" with the words "Hear Our Prayers".

Loving Saviour...Hear Our Prayers.

Saviour, we are becoming more and more aware of the rapid passage of time and the combustible Elements at play in the larger world. We are grateful for the peace we have experienced in our lifetimes, for a democratic way of life which has allowed us to lead our lives under the umbrella of the rule of law, and a social system which responds to changes according to individual conscience. We can have opinions, but cannot use force to implement them. We adhere to the road of love, compassion, acceptance , tolerance and kindness as you have led us to do. We pray that those ways of being stand strong under the pressures of world events.

Loving Saviour...Hear Our Prayers (Pause)

Saviour, bless all those who refuse to bend under the pressures of those who think that by force or manipulation they can take what they want. Climate activists march and protest and argue for our benefit, that clean water, clean air and resources belong to all of us, not just those who have money and power. Hundreds of thousands of people in the streets of Israel object to a group changing the rule of law to benefit a particular sector of their society. Bless also the international rule of law which has been cited to initiate an arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin for child kidnapping in his war of aggression against the Ukraine. The rule of law is again in play as former president trump faces an upcoming indictment in New York. Finally, multiple groups of women in many states are using majority opinion, individual cases and state laws to return the health care they have lost.

Loving Saviour...Hear Our Prayers (Pause)

Spirit, we pray too that in our country the rule of law and the privilege of

individual beliefs holds firm. We place our votes and/or trust in our MP's, our provincial members of Parliament, our Federal government and the Senate, along with the judiciary. Here on our island, we have trustees, and many voluntary organizations to support our islanders. In turn, we support them as they work on our behalf. In our church, we have our Council, Committees and congregants, who we pray for now as we follow You in caring and projects which help others. Our Minister leads us in truth and love, for which we are grateful. Our musicians and choir - bless you for your beautiful music. Loving Saviour...Hear Our Prayers (Pause)

let us now add Heartfelt prayers for the medical profession, upon whom we depend, along with pharmacists, ambulance personnel, fire and rescue personnel, lab workers, dentists, chiropractors and the much maligned, sometimes justifiably, pharmaceutical companies! Jesus, we live in denser, complicated times, but your basic truths hold firm for us all.

Bless the sick, the injured, and the troubled, both inside and outside our church. Bless all churches whose people lead and support their communities. May those of us we know and love and care about flourish in your sight. In our hearts we now say the names of those we worry about..... . Amen

We will now say the Prayer of Jesus (as adapted by Parker Palmer) as printed in your bulletin.

Paddy Waymark