

Church Intercessions 17.5.20 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter

Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18

To God who welcomes all in love, let us pray for the good of the church and the concerns of those in need. We pray, not out of duty or habit but in the certainty that you listen and hear us. Help us clear our minds of all the clutter from the past week, help us to focus on you. Father God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus. Lord, breathe the life and energy of the Holy Spirit into our lives that we may expand our vision and come to know you better, Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples. Open wide the window of our spirit, Lord, and fill us full of light. Open wide the door of our hearts that we may let you in.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Saviour. Bring healing to all wounds, make whole all that is broken, speak truth to all illusion, and shed light in every darkness, that all creation will see your glory.

During this time of upheaval to our work, health and everyday life, we thank you for your guidance and sense of hope. We pray and are grateful for the people who have authority in our national life, framing our laws and shaping our common life; for those who work to keep the peace and foster mutual understanding and respect; for those who teach, heal and care, and all who give freely of themselves in the service of others.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus we listen to your words today which call for us to live in a different way. We pray that the way in which we live would reflect our Christian calling. Please work with our family and friends, and guide all of the different parts of our lives. May our fellowship with one another, though remote at this time, be an occasion in which we are encouraged and equipped to make a difference in our world. Give us courage to be bold in our witness to the Good News of the Gospel just as was encouraged by Peter in the early days of the church. We pray too, for those who lead us here at St Cuthbert's, both our minister and our parish council.

We pray for the church, both at home and around the world, strengthened by the power of your Spirit: may all who profess your name learn to work and witness together, surrounded by the great company of the Holy Spirit which you sent as our advocate.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those troubled or in need. We trust in your promises that you know the deepest parts of our souls and understand our every need, therefore, we offer to you everything which causes us to worry, knowing that you are with us no matter what situations we may face.

We think today of those who are facing or undergoing medical treatment, those who are fearful of test results, those who are sick and long to be well. Be their constant companions, guard and protect them, set your angels charge over them and may they come to feel your healing touch.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord God we are mindful that you have promised to us that, beyond the trials of this world, you have prepared good things which no eye can see so set our hearts beyond the temporary things of this world, that we might live in an awareness of your heavenly country to which we all belong.

We remember those who have died and we pray that we, with them, might be united in that place beyond the time and tears of this world and know the joy of living in your presence. Help us all to show to the bereaved, our love and compassion and to share with them the certain knowledge that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

**A final prayer for ourselves: -**

Lord Jesus we thank you that you are our true friend as well as our Saviour. Help us to show that friendship in the lives we lead and in the way we treat those we meet day by day.

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

