

Prayers

Sunday 10th May 2020

Heavenly Father,

Thank you that you sent Jesus to die in our place, to pay the price for our sins, so that we can be restored to a right relationship with you. And thank you that we can pray and know that you hear.

We bring before you the needs of the world, particularly at this time of pandemic. We ask for wisdom for world leaders, peaceful collaboration between nations, skill and knowledge for scientists, and wisdom for the logistics of coming out of lockdown without allowing a second wave of infection. Thank you that, at this time of uncertainty, people are realising their need of You and searching for the Truth. Thank you that far more people are accessing services online than ever usually attend a church service. We pray that you would turn this situation to GOOD. That you will bring REVIVAL, and that there will be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and of Grace.

Amongst our own church family we ask for comfort for those in grief, the warmth of your presence for those feeling lonely, and a deepening of our knowledge and trust that You are our PROVIDER.

During this time we pray for your special blessing, protection and provision for all our Mission Partners... Who knows but that You may have called them for 'such a time as this'.

We pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering persecution and destitution because of their faith in You. We think of India, where Christians are now considered to be the lowest of the low, and are at the bottom of the list for state aid, and we hear that there are many Indian Pastors who are destitute because their congregations have nothing to give for their support.

We also pray for those with leprosy in Nepal and elsewhere, who are not allowed to access the standpipes and wells that others use, and whose limited supplies mean that they cannot wash hands regularly during this pandemic and are especially vulnerable.

Please give wisdom and direction to all Christian relief agencies working to ease suffering.

In our own country, we bring before you the vote which will be taking place in Parliament this week regarding giving assent to a Bill liberalising abortion in Northern Ireland. This Bill removes many protections currently in place, and would open the door to further liberalisation in the rest of the UK. Lord intervene. Break through. May Your will be done.

Finally, Lord, we bring ourselves and our finances and resources before you. May we remember that we are stewards, not owners, of all that is in our hands. Move us by your Holy Spirit to use those resources where and when you want us to. May our hands be open.

We ask all these things in the Almighty name of Jesus, our King, Saviour, and Friend.

Amen.