

Prayers of the People for January 7, 2018

At the end of each petition, I will say **Creator of light**. Please join me in saying **Hear our prayer**.

Creator of light ... Hear our prayer.

Thanksgiving

Loving God, as we begin a new year, *we thank you for your many gifts to us, for the love which brings us together, for the earth which provides for our needs, for the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ, ... (BAS p. 691)* and for the gift of your Holy Spirit to renew us, to fill us and to make our dry bones live.

Creator of light ... Hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church

Loving God, we pray for your church. We ask that your Holy Spirit may work powerfully through our Bishop Logan and our Moderator Jordan Cantwell. In our cycles of prayer, today we ask that your wind will sweep over the face of the waters to the churches of St Mary Magdalene on Mayne Island and St Margaret of Scotland on Galiano Island and to the Comox Nanaimo Conference Minister Gail Miller.

Help us to know who we are, Lord, as Jesus knew who he was – your Beloved Son. Help us to know that we are also beloved. Thank you for Karen and bless her richly as she begins her work among us. But please, God, don't let us expect her to do all the work. Send your Spirit among us, on us, in us. May we each learn how to use our gifts to work together for your glory. Guide us with your light so that we know where you want us to go and how you want us to get there.

Please bless the children among us and help us to protect and teach them and to learn from them. May they know how much you love them.

Creator of light ... Hear our prayer.

We pray for the World

God we pray for your Creation. May we respect and care for all you have made.

Loving God, we pray for all the areas of the world where people are suffering, naming them now, silently or aloud.

PAUSE

Eternal God, who by a star led wise ones to the worship of your Son, Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory ... (BAS p. 280 and p. 688)

Creator of light... Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are travelling

Loving God, we think particularly of Hilary and Rob and of Diane Parks and Don and of Glenda as we ask you to protect all who are travelling and all who are far from home. May they return refreshed.

Creator of light... Hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick

Loving God, we pray for all who are scheduled for surgery and medical tests.

Shine your healing light on all who are sick including Rose J., Diane P., Sue L. and Margaret H. We name others known to us, silently or aloud.

PAUSE

Loving God, heal and uphold these people whom we pray for by the grace and power of your Holy Spirit.

Creator of light... Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who mourn

Loving God, as we mourn the deaths of Nancy J., Niki H. and Paddy's father, Harry; *"We pray that nothing good in these people's lives will be lost and that all that was important to them will be respected by those who follow..." (p. 602 BAS)*. We name others known to us who are mourning the loss of loved ones.

PAUSE

We pray for comfort for all who mourn.

Creator of light ... Hear our prayer.

"Gracious God, ... you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us." (BAS p. 127). This we ask in the name of your Beloved Son Jesus Christ.

Please join me in singing the Lord's Prayer on page 959.