

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Sunday May 14, 2017

(Our prayer this morning is based on a well-known hymn, OPEN MY EYES THAT I MAY SEE, IN VOICES UNITED, by Clara Scott (p. 371).)

O Creator

“Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me”

Let us see clearly the suffering and personal pain of others; our native peoples, North Koreans, the Syrian people, refugees and the dying populations in Yemen; and all those who seem so far away from us on Gabriola but are part of the human family. As Christ did, let us see the homeless, the disenfranchised and the disastrous effects of selfishness, greed and aggression. All of these challenge us as we live on this one Earth.

“Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!”

O Creator

“Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear”

Let us hear the voices of truth and reconciliation telling us what we need to learn. Let us also hear the words of history from long ago, telling us the consequences of human actions that we may not repeat them. Let us hear the voices of our scientists on climate change issues and the voices of children, asking us hard questions.

Our church teachers and leaders need our hearing ears to carry out the messages of Christ, Pope Francis, the Dalai Lama. More locally, we bless our United Church Moderator, Jordan Cantrell and Bishop Logan, and ministers to the faithful, Rev. Elaine Julian of Cumberland United Church and Rev. Richard Stetson of Salt Spring Island.

Let us listen hard to each other and find clarity and hope in our shared ministry mission and purpose.

We pray that our recent election produces leaders who will truly serve the needs of all of B.C.

“Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine!”

O Creator

“Open my heart and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere”

Let us be open to feel your support so that we can help others who feel the loss of loved ones: spouses, family members, friends and pets. Let us pray for Joyce Shaver Hall, Joyce and Cec Ashley and Robin Kelley, who are suffering from loss or health issues. Let us now in the silence of our hearts or out loud, say the names of those individuals who are in pain: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 They are not alone, your love and ours is everywhere. We bless the Pastoral Care Team, Mission & Service and the World Primate’s Relief Fund in their efforts to care for others.

“Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

*Silently now, we wait for thee
Ready my God, thy will to see*

*Paddy Waymark
Congregant
Gabriola Anglican/United Shared Ministry*