

Prayers of the People #2
Sunday, September 25, 2016

Dear God,

Thank you for this day on our beautiful island, surrounded by the living waters of the Salish Sea, Pylades Channel, Dodds Narrows and Gabriola Pass. We pray that the life within our waters continues to flourish and to nourish us in our daily lives.

Thank you for the beauty of our Inland Passage, which wends its way northward along the west coast through Desolation Sound and for tiny outposts such as Shoal Bay, with its spectacular views of descending mountains and thick forests. We thank those who settle in such places, welcoming boaters, fishers, and others, making it possible for us to visit, and to respect and preserve what you have made for us. We pray that such brave and hardy people continue to come, to make a decent living and in turn, keep us mindful of the environmental treasures you have bestowed on us.

Merciful God, you are close to all in need, and by our prayers we draw close to you.

Claiming your love in Christ Jesus for the whole world, (P. 909, VU)
We dare to pray for others.

**Gracious God, hear our prayer;
And in your love, answer.**

Dear Creator,

Thank you for the world you have made, as we spin in a vast universe not only of water, but of space. We pray for those within it, for those with little or no water, who struggle for survival, and who need to use your waters to reach safety. We pray for Palestine, which has dwindling sources of clean water for its people. We pray for their children, too many of whom are in prisons or camps, and for Palestinian families who have lost their homes. Let us pray for the people of Aleppo, that aid may at last be brought in.

Thank you for our bountiful country, Canada. We pray for our indigenous peoples and the Metis, as they struggle to attain a fair and just place in our society. We pray for those environmental groups who work for all of us and are active in searching out fair answers in a world of serious climate change. We are hearing about the disappearing sand on the riverbanks of the world, which is being used in manufacturing. We pray that solutions will be found that will benefit all of us, and not just some of us.

We also pray for those in ministry who support their communities in their spiritual lives:

Minister Wayne Hughes and the congregation of Campbell River United Church; and on this day of Pentecost 19, David Chillman of Saint Philip-by-the-Sea in Lantzville and its community.

**Gracious God, hear our prayer;
And in your love, answer.**

Dear God,

Thank you for the good health most of us possess. We pray both for those we know and do not know; those who are here or off island, who suffer from pain, disease, fear or loneliness. We pray for those who are in relational difficulties or conflict. We pray that we can support them in thought and if possible, in deed.

*In our hearts and with our voices, we name before you
Either silently or out loud, those for whom we pray....
....seven seconds*

**Gracious God, hear our prayer;
And in your love, answer.**

*As the winds blow off the ocean
From the Northwest and southeast,
We are assured of God's constant love.
We ask you to help us to see ourselves,
Not as others see us,
Not as we see us,
But as you see us.
We ask you to help us,
And to live your love
In Christ's name we ask. . Amen*

*(Gathering 34-36
Pentecost.2 2016/C
For ideas)*

Reader – Paddy Waymark (GUC)