

## **PRAYERS OF CONCERN - Sunday 23 May 2021**

On this day of Pentecost, we celebrate the Church's founding and today, we also celebrate our return to Trinity. Let us now take a moment to lift up our prayers to the Lord. Let us pray –

Loving God, as we are experiencing a glimmer of hope as our restrictions are gradually lifted, we understand that times are still difficult and prayers are still needed for so many during this pandemic. We pray for all of those experiencing tragedies and for all who are appearing in all the biggest headlines in our daily news. We pray they find comfort knowing that their stories are being heard and actions are being taken to provide help and hope for their futures.

Gracious God, we pray also for those in the unknown stories. The stories we don't see in the papers or on social media. The stories of those struggling that need help but may not be able to speak for themselves or for those that don't know how to ask. We pray that You give us the courage and compassion and the right words to say to those who need assistance and who are struggling. We pray for the countries in need of resources and the people in need of protection, shelter and peace.

Dear Lord, on this day we celebrate the founding of the Church, we are grateful that this has provided us with an establishment to help others in our local communities and around the world. We celebrate that we have a safe place to worship together to experience Your word. We pray that you always remind us of Your power to do Your work.

As we begin to feel a bit more freedom from lockdown, we continue to pray for those that are ill or recovering from COVID or other severe illnesses. We pray for the continued strength of the NHS - those on the front lines and those undertaking the massive task of scheduling and rescheduling the vaccines and we pray for the continued health of those individuals who haven't yet received the vaccine.

Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. How appropriate that this Pentecost Sunday is the beginning of our gathering again in post-lockdown. We pray this new beginning gives us new spirit, new life and new energy to experience Your word and live by Your principles. We pray for our entire Trinity family whether in person or worshipping at home. Continue to help us to grow as a church family and be there for one another especially during these unprecedented times.

God of peace, you have called us to work for peace and justice. Wherever we are, we can find opportunities to stand with people and identify with their needs and hopes. Wherever there is unfulfilled hope, we pray that we can be the inspiration. We pray that You call each of us to be the vehicles of hospitality.

And now in a moment of silence, let us bring before you our personal prayers for those who are on our hearts and minds -Lord God, through Christ You have given us peace that the world cannot give. Let your spirit of truth live with us so that we may live in hope, grow in faith and keep your commandments of love. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen