Intercessions 23 June 2019

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do;
for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.
Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Let us pray a few words in faith now in the knowledge that when two or three are gathered together He will hear their prayers

Everlasting God, we thank you for the Good News we have been given through your son;
help us receive your gift of peace,
Keep us secure in our faith,
remembering that it is not just for us,
but to be passed on to the rest of your creation
fix our hearts where true joys are to be found,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Lord, we pray for your Church.
 Inspire in us the desire to draw together as we seek to serve you.
 Inspire us to reach out as the Body of Christ to all who remain outside.
Through your grace, may we invite them to taste and see that the Lord is good.
 And then, as you have taught us,
may we as a united whole
worship you in the beauty of holiness, in spirit and in truth

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Generous God, we thank you for the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.
We pray for all those called to lead your Church, for Justin and John our Archbishops,
Alan, Michael and Richard our bishops,
for Alan and Bill here at St Andrew's
and especially we ask your blessing on Wendy
as she prepares for her ordination at St Albans on Saturday.
 Be with her during her retreat
pour out your Holy Spirit on her,
enfold her in your love
and fill her with all she needs
as she answers your call to love and serve your people.
We give thanks for her family
 and all who have supported and guided her through her training

We pray for all the many facets of the work of St Andrew's
remembering in particular Sele Farm Church,
the efforts being made to form a new Toddlers group on Sele Farm
and the new welcome team being formed here.
We pray also for all those who are working with the marginalized around the world
often putting themselves in real danger
many miles from their own homelands.
Bless Julie as she brings her message to us today.
May she and all those like her

know your power as they bring change and hope in your name

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

We pray for the leaders of the world,
mindful especially of the rapidly changing political landscape in which we live,
and which impacts on us every day, both in this country and abroad.
We are aware of the many changes, tensions and questions that this can bring,
and the challenge it can seemingly pose to the stability and wellbeing of all.
God of nations, whose Kingdom rules over all
 have mercy on our broken and divided world.
Give wisdom to all who have influence and authority,
through their political standing, fame or wealth.
Speak into their hearts of righteousness, integrity and compassion,
that all may be led into the ways of justice, freedom and peace
to the honour of your name.
May all that they do and say be rooted and grounded in you

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Lord, we raise before you those in need of comfort and reassurance;
all in pain and mental anguish,
those troubled with doubt and those who need your Good News this week.
Comfort all who are distressed.
Be with them, we pray,
through the lonely watches of the night and the narrow tunnel of their pain and grief.
 Give to the suffering the faith that will protect them from despair,
and give them the hope that will deliver them from fear and faint-heartedness.
Our thoughts today go out to

. . . .

Lord, we bring before you those whose earthly life is now ended
and those whose earthly journey is coming to an end.

Today we remember

. . . .

Receive their souls into your kingdom, we pray,
that redeemed by grace
they may be forgiven for their sins, rest in peace and rise in glory.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Lord, Let us walk with you and know your peace
Let our lives speak of you
And our whole being wait on you
To hear you and spread your word
And to do your will

Merciful Father Accept our prayers