

SAFFRON WALDEN AND VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY

HYMNS AND PRAYERS FOR JUNE 2021

This prayer sheet may be especially helpful for those praying at home during Coronavirus restrictions. It covers Sundays in June, with readings and suggested hymns for each week. The text of the readings is given in the Grapevine, which will be sent round each week. We hope that this sheet will continue to connect you to the rhythm of our worship together.

You might like to light a candle, symbolising Jesus as the Light of the World: and to say the prayers and readings out loud. Remember that even if you are by yourself at home, you are still part of God's Church, praying across the world. In the Church's year, we have now left the great festivals of Easter, Pentecost and Trinity and are in what is known as 'ordinary time', with green vestments and church hangings. Yet this year as never before we know that no time can be deemed 'ordinary'. As circumstances change, we bring to God our concerns for ourselves and our world, trusting that he holds us in his love.

Introduction

We gather together, united in purpose though separate in place, in the name of God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

We say together an opening hymn: see pages 5- 11

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

We have come together as the family of God in this community.
Help us to pray to you in faith, to sing your praise with gratitude, and to listen to your word with eagerness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world, and knows our every word and deed.

Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

We have not always worshipped God, our creator
Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour
Christ, have mercy **Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.
Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

Hearing God's forgiveness

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As God's forgiven people, we say

Thanks be to God for his endless grace.

Readings *We now follow the readings on the Grapevine:*

Collect (the special prayer for each Sunday)

6 June: 2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1; Mark 3: 20-35 (*as Grapevine*)

13 June: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 4:26-34 (*as Grapevine*)

20 June: 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13; Mark 4: 35-41 (*as Grapevine*)

27 June: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5: 21-43 (*as Grapevine*)

Reflection *You may wish to read the Reflection on the Grapevine, and think what these readings have to say for you in your own life this week.*

We declare our faith together

We believe and trust in God the Father,

from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us with power from on high.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

You may like to base your own prayers around the themes below: feel free to expand and to use your own words

Lord our God, through your grace we are your people; through your Son you have redeemed us; and in your Spirit you have made us your own.

We pray for your church in this place, and for our Bishops, especially at this time for Bishop Guli as she takes up her new responsibilities as Bishop of Chelmsford and prepares to move. We pray too for those recently baptised in the churches of

this Saffron Walden and Villages Team ministry. Give to all your people comfort and strength through the fellowship we share in you

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for the peoples of your world, especially for all who live in countries where they are caught up in conflict, and those suffering from COVID in places where health care is totally inadequate to meet their need.

We remember the plight of refugees and ask for a Spirit of generosity to inform decisions made about their settlement.

Strengthen those who work for reconciliation and peace, we pray.

You may wish to pray for places or situations in the news this week.....

We pray for our own Government, both national and local.

We ask that you will give to all leaders wisdom and a true desire to serve their people and to find solutions to the difficulties they face.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our own community. As the weather improves and people are going out more, we thank you for the joy of being able to see friends and family again. Yet we know that the pandemic continues to take its toll, so we pray for all concerned about employment or livelihood, for young people taking exams and concerned about the next step, and for all facing family difficulties of any kind. We pray for all who are sick, in body, mind or spirit, remembering now those known to us who need our prayers.....

Give comfort and strength, Lord, to all in special need of your help this day.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We remember before you all those who have inspired our faith and nurtured us over the years, particularly those who we see no more. We thank you for their lives and that in you there is no final separation from those we love.

Be especially close, we pray, to all who mourn.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

In a moment of silence, offer to God any other needs on your heart.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sharing God's Peace

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

As you say this, hold in your mind all who are joining in these prayers today.

The Lord's Prayer *Let us pray together as Jesus has taught us*
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

We ask God's grace for the week ahead

Heavenly Father, sustain us in our joys and in our anxieties. Enfold us in your peace in our waking and in our sleeping, and may we know your presence with us now and always: in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We say (or sing!) a final hymn: see pages 5 -8

May God give to you and to all those you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us all now and evermore. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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SUGGESTED HYMNS

Sunday 6 June (Trinity 1)

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement giv'n.

For the love of God is broader
than the scope of human mind,
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

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Lift up your heads, you mighty gates,
behold, the King of Glory waits,
the King of kings is drawing near,
the Saviour of the world is here.

O Blest the land, the city blest
where Christ the ruler is confessed.
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King in triumph comes.

Fling wide the portals of your heart,
make it a temple set apart
from earthly use for heav'n's employ
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Come, Saviour, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide:
thy Holy Spirit guide us on,
until our glorious goal is won.

Sunday 13 June (Trinity 1)

The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation,
by water and the word;
from heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride,
with his own blood he bought her
and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great Church victorious
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.

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Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know,
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you, and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free,
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you, and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside,
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you, and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you,
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you, and you in me.

Sunday 20 June (Trinity 2)

All who would valiant be,
'gainst all disaster,
let them in constancy
follow their master.
There's no discouragement
shall make them once relent,
the first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Those who beset them round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound –
their strength the more is.
No foe shall stay their might
though they with giants fight:
they will make good the right
to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
us with thy Spirit,
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away,
we'll fear not what they say,
we'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

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Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r:
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heav'n's joys to me, O bright heav'n's sun
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Sunday 27 June (Trinity 3)

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart: it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

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I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one, lay down
thy head upon my breast.’
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live.’
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
‘I am this dark world’s Light;
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright.’
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In him my Star, my Sun;
and in that light of life I’ll walk
till trav’ling days are done.