

Sunday 3 May – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prayers written by Wendy Borgartz

Lord Jesus, we know that wherever and whenever we are gathered together you are there, waiting to hear our prayers to you.

Lord, we know that in the busyness of life we do not always set time aside for you or listen well to you. We seek your guidance and support so that we are ready to hear you, not covering our ears and turning away from you. We pray for all your church throughout the world, that all Christians may be ready to follow the example of Stephen in speaking out about you to others.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Father, in these times of turmoil and unrest throughout the world, we pray for your peace. We ask for wisdom and integrity for world leaders that they may listen and hear you and work together to bring your justice and peace to our broken world. We pray for our Jewish brothers and sisters living in fear, that all those with hatred in their hearts turn away and let your peace into them instead.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Lord Jesus we pray for our families and our friends, for our homes and our local communities. May they all know the blessing of your love and support for them. We pray for families who are struggling at this time, that you may heal divisions and let them feel your love for them.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Father, we bring before you today for your healing comfort all who are suffering in body, mind or spirit. We think especially today of Jericho Hasieber, Sarah, David Richards, Andy and Jean and in a moment of quiet all others on our hearts.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Lord Jesus, we thank you for going before us to prepare a place for us in your father's house. We pray for all who are mourning the loss of a loved one at this time, either recently or in the past. From our memorial book we remember and give thanks for the lives of Mary Ann Corner, Evelyn Hulquist, Glenece Olive Giles, Frederick Murray and Duncan Nutt.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Lord Jesus, the way, the truth and the life, we pray that we may remember this through the week ahead and follow your guidance and share your love with all those we meet, be it through our deeds or our words.

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