

From Psalm 26, appointed for this day –

O Lord, we love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

Loving God, we recognise our responsibility to encourage and uphold one another and to live together in peace and love. We acknowledge our needs and our human weaknesses and come to you now with our prayers and petitions.

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Everlasting God, we thank you for our church leaders, locally in our Deanery and throughout the Anglican Communion. We pray for all who preach your word, inspire, lead and grow us as disciples as we reach out to those in need in our communities and in our world. We thank you for Bishop John's gracious and loving direction of our worship; for Paul's guidance of our thoughts; for Martin, returning to leadership with Anna by his side.

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Creator God, we pray for our world leaders; for the Royal Family; for the Commonwealth and for the United Nations.

We also pray for our national and community leaders and those in public office dealing with difficult situations especially those involved with the serious problems associated with the Pandemic. We thank you for the military medical leadership of Colonel Mike Smith as he takes up his new posting in the south. We ask for God's blessing on him, Hannah and Arora.

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for our children and grandchildren who are returning to school, colleges and universities to continue their education. We especially pray that all places of education will find ways of making teaching and learning safe as well as effective in such strange and difficult times. Help all students in their daily lessons; give them the wisdom to listen and learn and to keep safe. Help their teachers and give them patience and knowledge to teach well and help them all as together they learn the lessons of life. Let us remember Scott, Sandra, Judith, Susan and all those who serve in our schools.

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, we ask for your wisdom to discern your wishes and direction in our lives and ask for your help to interact with others we encounter; those with whom we live and work; those we meet in shops and supermarkets; those with whom we share our roads and those who serve us in cafes and restaurants. May we never be a “stumbling block” to those we meet in our daily lives and let us always protect them by following social distancing and other guidance.

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for all who we know who are housebound and in nursing homes; those in hospitals, in recovery and rehabilitation. We thank you for our local hospitals, health centres and clinics and for all those working in sheltered accommodation and care homes.

Margaret Athorn and Margaret Emmerson

Claire; Eva; Dennis and Christine Stedman’s granddaughter Kate; Bob and Barbara; Jean Coulthard; Valerie Strawbridge; Judith Morton; Liz Atkinson; Shona Allen; Frank and Maureen Gibbon; Mary Hartnell; David Willey; Josh Winch

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Merciful God, we pray for all those departed this life and for those who are bereaved by their passing. Help us to be sympathetic, caring and loving with the bereaved and always ready to help practically and to pray diligently in their time of greatest need.

We pray for Ian and Isobel as they mourn the loss of Neil Short

and recall those the anniversaries of whose death falls this week

Diana, Princess of Wales; Simon Murray; George Stephenson;  
George Wagstaff; Simeon Hepburn; Borek Krajicek

*(Short Silence)*

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Oscar Romero said that the hope that inspires Christians is this - we know that every effort to better society, especially when injustice and sin are so ingrained, is an effort that God blesses, that God wants, that God demands of us.

Holy God, we thank you that your wisdom not only enlightens us but transforms and guides us as we go from this place of worship and into our daily walk through life with you.

Hold fast to that which is good.

Merciful Father: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**