

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR JUNE 11, 2017 – Trinity Sunday

O Creator, thank you for this day. Thank you for the breath of life and for the opportunities you give us to act out our faith in you and for you.

Today is a special day for us. We will have a conversation with each other about renaming this church, this place where we worship you and gather energy for our daily lives. Ours is a Christ centered place, a place where we learn and carry out in our lives the messages that your Son taught us. You and your Son are the center of who we are in our beliefs and our actions. We hold within us your holy spirit, in which you guide, inspire and chide us to dream, to understand and to break from the ancient schemes which no longer serve us. We come together, as two churches, in a new passage in which we become one, traveling a pathway of faith and growth within a vast area of waterways not only surrounding us but within us.

Whatever name we thoughtfully choose, Creator, we know you will, in your grace bless us for that name.

In this, the world which you created for us, we have deep concerns. We know that around the globe, alliances are shifting, ground which we thought solid is moving, and the future looks uncertain for many. Within yourself, think of a place or people that is in need of prayers and name them now out loud or in silence:

In this, our country, Canada, which you have blessed us with, we also have concerns of a political, environmental or social nature. We pray for the Tataskweyak Cree Nation and Community of Split Lake, Manitoba, as they deal with flooding and the contamination of their local drinking water. We pray for all indigenous peoples within our country who are in great need of support and acceptance of their individual bands and communities and traditions. Within yourself, think of a place or people in BC or in other provinces that are in need of prayers and name them out loud or in silence:

In our local community on Gabriola, so many organizations need our help and prayers: PHC, the Gabe Shop, the Food Depot, those organizing against tankers or freighters, and GROWLS, just five among many others. Within yourself, think of a place or group on our island that are in need of prayers and name them out loud or in silence:

Within our church communities, locally, regionally and nationally, we pray for those who guide, educate and work with us to serve Christ's word: in the Presbytery Prayer Cycle we recognize, thank and pray for Rev. Phil Spencer, Dianne Collery and the congregation of St. Stephen's, Qualicum Beach; and Bishop Logan McNamie, who has done wonderful work with organizing workshops on conflict resolution, a pathway to understanding how reconciliation works.

Within our church family, let us pray for those who work steadily towards bringing us together in new ways: Peggy, the Transition Team and the Trial Joint Council.

Within our community O God, teach us how to help those who are suffering, either physically or mentally. Within yourself, think of someone who needs the solace of prayer and say their names silently in your heart or out loud:

Silently now, we wait for thee
Ready my God, thy will to see

Paddy Waymark
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