

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE JUNE 18/17

Let us quiet our minds and open our hearts as we offer our prayers to God. When you hear the phrase God of Love & Understanding, respond with *Hear our Prayer*.

We are in the midst of spring and light-filled days and we are reminded of the light Jesus brought to the world. Help us to cast away the darkness in our hearts and open them so we may love each other. Help us to take the teaching “to love one another” into our community and to those we meet along our path. May others know we are followers of Jesus.

We pray for our church as it undergoes change and a new beginning. We have been blessed to have Rev. Peggy to guide us in this process and we give thanks for her presence and that of our Trial Joint Council. We give thanks for Jill's ministry amongst us and are happy for her new home on the mainland near her family. God of Love & Understanding, *Hear our Prayer*.

May your guiding presence be with us as we encounter those in our community struggling with poverty, addictions, homelessness and poor health.

We ask for your guidance and intervention with our government representatives so they may act in the best interest of all people they represent.

Holy One, we pray that compassion may be in the forefront in the governance of the United States. We ask that love for the most vulnerable may be foremost in decisions made by this government.

God of Compassion, we pray for those people who are facing extreme hunger and starvation in South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, Kenya and Yemen. God of Love & Understanding, *Hear our Prayer*.

Holy One, at this time, we ask for strength and healing for those in our congregation and community who are suffering from illness and loss. Please mention them now, aloud or silently in your hearts. God of Love & Understanding, *Hear our Prayers*.

God of Compassion, we are thankful for the many blessings you have given us. Guide us forward to spread the light of Jesus' teachings. AMEN

Resource: Nelson United Church