Prayers of the People Easter V Sunday, May 5, 2024

It is before Your altar that we bow, Eternal Friend. And it is on this altar that we lay the burdens of our hearts. You have gifted us with companions to walk with us on the way. Loved ones and friends that we carry in our hearts. They encourage and strengthen us. They inspire and comfort us. They bring us security and joy.

We pray that our love for them may be life-giving; and we long for You to bless them as they have blessed us.

You have filled our world with neighbours who touch our lives with surprising reflections of You. Through them You call us beyond ourselves and teach us the lessons of compassion.

We yearn to see all people as bearers of Your image. May the welcome and service we give our neighbours offer them the dignity You have given us.

You bring us face to face with adversaries who challenge and unsettle us. Their gift is the shaking of our faith which strengthens its foundations and removes complacency.

Give us the courage to embrace the discomfort, and the humility to bless those who curse us. May we find and share the healing which forgiveness brings.

In our human frailty, there are times when we seek your healing hand in our lives for ourselves, our family and friends, and the world around us. Hear our prayers for those on our hearts this day – those suffering in body, mind, and spirit – and bring the healing that your people and world so desperately need. We ask for your mercy as we draw near to you, trusting in your words from scripture that the Father will give us whatever we ask in his name.

Thank You, Friend of Humanity, for connecting us with others.

May our prayers, spoken and performed, be the gentle fragrance of life to each one who enters our circle. Amen

Ascension Prayer Cycle: Andrea, Annie, Aubrey, Audrey, Barbara, Barry, Baxter, Beulah, Bill, Brenda, Brian, Carl, Christina, Clarence, Claude, David, Debra, Delilah, Dennis, Donna, Doreen, Doris, Dulcie, Edgar, Edith, Elaine, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Erin, Frederick, Flo, Frank, George, Georgina, Gerry, Gordon, Harry, Harryetta, Herb, Jack, Jason, Jeff, Jennie, Joan, Joanna, John, Josephine, Karen, Kevin, Laura, Leo, Leonie, Lori, Louise, Lucy, Madeline, Madelyn, Marina, Marion, Maurice, Maxine, Maxwell, Melissa, Melvin, Michelle, Mildred, Nicole, Pam, Patricia, Pauline, Phyllis, Randy, Randell, Raymond, Robert, Roland, Ruby, Ruth, Razia Rita, Scott, Sean, Shoma, Stephen, Suzie, Tina, Todd, Valerie, Warwick, Wilfred, Yvonne.