

PRAYERS for August 22, 2021 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Assistant: On this fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Gracious Lord, we thank You for gathering us together today to worship You and to hear Your Holy Word. Help us use our hearts and our voices to gladly sing new songs of praise and thanksgiving to You. When Your voice comes to us through the Bible, through our liturgy, and through preaching, help us to understand its true meaning, to apply its principles to our lives, and to purposely act on what we learn. Today, we joyously celebrate the families who profess their desire to belong to this community of Your followers. We accept them with open arms, prayers of thanks, and words of welcome.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Living God, we are humbled by Your love and mercy. We ask You to make us strong in faith, strong in purpose, strong in patience, and strong in endurance so that we may abide with You each day. Even though we sometimes fall short of following Your commandments, You love us with a power that is beyond our understanding. We know that You are our Father and that we are Your children. Help us always put You at the center of our lives and show Your steadfast love to others.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Gracious Father, make us ever mindful of our words. Our world can be a difficult place, and many of Your children can become discouraged or afraid. Make each of us powerful sources of encouragement to all those around us, and let our words and deeds be worthy of the priceless gift of eternal life that You have given us through Your Son, Jesus Christ. We do not know our futures on this earth, but we ask You to keep the hope of heaven fresh in our hearts. We know that if we believe, we will spend eternity with You.

Lord, in Your mercy..... *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Healing Father, we come to You on behalf of those who are suffering today and who are in need of Your comfort. You promise to open Your hand and fulfill the desire of every living creature. Bring peace to those whose lives are torn apart by addictions, hunger, unemployment, homelessness, separations, and pain. We pray that You grant the gifts of health and hope, comfort and guidance, strength and cheer to all whose need is great. We especially ask You to be with all the friends and families on our prayer list and those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) **Lord, in Your mercy.....** *hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Heavenly Father, we have so many prayers for people around the world. We ask Your hand to be on the many people who are still being affected by the corona virus. We pray especially for all those who live in places of conflict. Shield the Christians and especially the women in Afghanistan who are trying to escape the take-over by the terrorists in their country and turn the violence there into peace. Comfort the citizens of Haiti whose lives have been impacted by the earthquake and the storms. Turn their brokenness into wholeness. Keep safe our college students and military personnel who are away from home. Father, help us to be strong when we are worried, heartbroken, or weary for You are our strength and our salvation. **Lord, in Your mercy.....** *hear our prayer.* **Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**