

July 26<sup>th</sup> 2020

Let us bring our hopes and our needs to our loving God, who is faithful from generation to generation.

Heavenly Father, you granted Solomon the gift of wisdom and discernment, that he might follow in your ways. So take us and make us into the people that you want us to be. Open our ears to your call, and our eyes to the needs of the world, and guide us in all that we do, that our lives may be filled with love and service to you and to others.

We pray for hope throughout the world. As we rejoice in the ability to come together and worship in church, show us how we may bring hope to those who are still confined, worried, or grieving. We give thanks for doctors, nurses, and care workers, who work to bring comfort and healing to the sick, as well the many ordinary people whose kind words and deeds bring support to families, neighbours and friends.

We pray for humility, as we remember victims of injustice: the weak, the vulnerable, and those subject to abuse, discrimination or worse. Help us to learn from recent events and to work together for a future with greater honesty, integrity and respect for all, that we may build a more equal and just society where all persons are recognized and treated as sacred, created in your image.

As we consider the beautiful world which you have given to us, we pray for appreciation, and an awareness of people who are deprived of that beauty: those who live in wretched dwellings, or whose landscapes have been ravaged by war, deforestation or other types of exploitation. Enable these people to see glimpses of your beauty, that they may have the opportunity of knowing your joy, your love and your peace.

**The Serenity Prayer:**

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; the courage to change the things I can change; and the wisdom to know the difference.

**Amen**