

## **Sunday 26 April – Fourth Sunday of Easter**

### **Prayers written by Sue Lyne**

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. As we follow in his footsteps we experience the fellowship of his company, which gives us both courage to do his work and also peace of mind, even when life is difficult.

My friends in Christ, as we gather in the great hope of our risen Lord who leads us, let us pray to God who has shown us such patient love.

We pray for unity among all who follow the Way of Christ; that in keeping our eyes fixed on him we may be enabled to dissolve barriers, to forgive and be reconciled, through the healing power of accepting love.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for the areas here in this country and in the world in which there is fighting, unrest and unresolved conflict, for the unprincipled, the corrupt and those who thirst for revenge.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for our homes and families, with their hopes and sorrows, difficulties and celebrations, that all our relationships may be bathed in your love and compassion.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for those who incite others to antisocial or criminal behaviour, for all involved in drugs traffic; that they may open their hearts and allow you to transform and heal; for the weak, lonely, young and depressed who are so vulnerable to their temptations; give them help and strength to resist the pressures on and around them.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for those known to us who are suffering in mind, body and spirit at this time. Give them strength and the knowledge that you are with them in their difficulties. We pray especially for Jericho Hasieber, Sarah, David Richards, Joanne Fearis, Andy and Jean. Surround them with your healing hands.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for that those who have died in faith may be welcomed into the eternal joy of heaven to live with you for ever. Remembering at this time June Groeninger and Brian Southwood. May you comfort those who mourn their passing. And we give thanks for the lives now resting with you named in our memorial book. Derek Thompson, John Musselwhite and Robert Guest.

We thank you for all the richness of this beautiful world, for the gift of life and time to spend with you in praise and worship and for the companionship of Jesus.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen