

Intercession Pentecost 10 July 24

God sets his leaders apart to challenge prejudices and assumptions, and alert people to the truth.

Let us pray to the God who has loved us throughout our whole life.

The congregational response, as printed in to-day's bulletin, is (pause)

Lord God: you are our hope.

Heavenly Father, broaden our vision of your nature and help us respond to your calling, whether it suits or not, and whether it is convenient or not. (pause)

Lord God: you are our hope.

May the whole Church reflect your light and beauty in the love for God and neighbor, displayed in corporate worship and individual godly living. (pause)

Lord God: you are our hope.

May no corruption, cruelty or injustice go unchallenged in any part of our world, however unpopular the challenging may be. May our society protect the vulnerable and encourage mutual care and support. (pause) **Lord God: you are our hope.**

May our care of the very young and the elderly imitate the faithful and generous caring of our God; may we overcome our envies, jealousies and grievances, so that in God's love we can look at one another face to face, and practice the liberating work of forgiveness. (pause) **Lord God: you are our hope.**

May all whose bodies cause them pain or immobility be affirmed in value by loving encounter with Jesus and his followers; and may those who are spiritually crippled be set free to love and serve God. (pause) **Lord God: you are our hope.**

May those who have died in faith live forever in the joy and peace of heaven as children of Promise; and may those who miss their company be comforted and supported. (pause) **Lord God: you are our hope.**

May our gratitude to the One who sets us free be shown each day in the way we live and speak. Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen