

Prayers of Intercession.

In the power of the Holy Spirit let us pray.

To the bidding The Lord loves righteousness and justice, will you respond: **The earth is full of His unfailing love**

Father, in these challenging times we thank you for the many who have opened their hearts and minds and their lives to those around them. Thank you that their generosity has taught us the beauty of unselfish action. We have witnessed goodness, kindness, patience and gentleness in those in the caring professions, and self control in most of our fellow countrymen during this pandemic through which we are living. Help us all to maintain these gifts of your Spirit as we enter the next difficult phase of easing the lockdown.

The Lord loves righteousness and justice: **The earth is full of His unfailing love**

Father, we pray for all in authority who have difficult decisions to make. We pray for the government, for employers, and for school teachers and governors that they may be granted wisdom and understanding. In our homes and places of work, our schools, hospitals and care homes may there always be time for the warmth of loving concern and the comfort of being valued.

The Lord loves righteousness and justice: **The earth is full of His unfailing love**

We pray for the grace and power to live out our faith in the real and challenging world among those we meet and whose lives we share, without compromising your calling to us to be the body of Christ, living God's integrity, forgiveness and love.

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At this time loving Lord we pray for the thousands who are bereaved, especially those who weren't able to say goodbye to their loved ones or hold the funerals they would have chosen; and for those distressed by regrets and those who are angry with God for their loss. We pray for those who have died and ask you to calm the fears of the dying. Lord have mercy on us all.

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