19 July 2020 Prayers by Sarah

Let us pray to God, who rules all things in heaven and on earth.

God our loving father, thank you that you never change. As we learn to live in a changed world thank you that nothing can ever happen that will make you alter. You are the one true God and Maker of all.

Lord, teach us in your Church how to be your servants today. Teach us to do your will and walk in your way with humility, care, and true joy. When our mind is clouded with our thoughts and worries, let us not lose sight of your truth. Replenish us with your vision. Renew us with a sense of purpose and hope that our actions will make a difference. In all that we do Lord, we know that you are constant and faithful to your church and all the world.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

Lord, we pray for your church, in all its different forms, and for its ministers and lay leadership. We pray for Caroline and Alan and the whole Saffron Walden team. We pray for Barbara for her work as church warden and for those on the Church Council. We pray for wisdom in all the decisions we need to make as we open our churches for prayer and services. We pray for the work of Christian witness and caring in our own communities. We thank you for all in our community who have helped and looked out for others in the past months. Help us lord in our own way to project a positive image of our faith by following the Lords example in daily living.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

Lord, we pray for your world as it faces many threats. We pray for all those countries around the world where thousands of people are still suffering and dying from Covid-19. Lord, you have given us wisdom and creativity and the means to pool our knowledge for the common good. We pray for the world leaders in these countries, that you give them wisdom in their approach to the pandemic.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are ill whether in body, mind or spirit, we remember those who are bereaved that in the midst of their loss, pain and suffering that they feel your loving hands around them. We pray for those who are unable to be with their loved ones in their last hours. Help us to support those who are ill or mourn both with our prayers, and with words of comfort, knowing when to speak and when just to be with them silently.

**Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

Lord, as we go from church today, we give you thanks for our happy times, but you know the fears and worries that sometimes fill our hearts. Anchor our thoughts and minds in your great power and love and send us into each new day with your peace in our hearts and the sure confidence of your fatherly care.

**Lord**, **accept these prayers for the sake of your son Jesus Christ, Amen.**