

10 May Intercessions based on Acts 17:22–31, John 14:15–21 and 1 Peter 5:1–5

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

God who made the world and everything in it, you are not far from each one of us. As Paul spoke in Athens, give your Church clarity of voice and humility of heart. Where we stand among people who do not share our story, make us attentive, truthful, and gentle. Draw near to all who search for meaning, and reveal yourself as the one in whom we live and move and have our being. Teach us to honour the earth you have made, and to recognise your life at work in all creation.

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

Christ Jesus, who promised not to leave your people orphaned, be present with all who feel abandoned, anxious, or unseen. Let your Spirit of truth be known among us — the Spirit who abides, who comforts, who leads us into community. Shape the leaders of your Church according to the pattern Peter sets before us: willing, humble, and attentive to the people entrusted to them. Guard us from striving and self-importance. Strengthen those who wait for healing, those who carry grief, and those who cannot see a way forward. Sustain communities living with the strain of environmental damage, and all who work for the healing of the earth.

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

Spirit of truth, who leads your people into all truth, steady the nations in what is just and good. Give wisdom to those who hold authority in this and every land. Restrain what is destructive; strengthen what serves dignity and the common good. Guide all who make decisions affecting the earth and its creatures, that the world you have made may be tended with care.

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

Trinity of Love, in whom we live and move and have our being, hold in your mercy those who have died. You raised Jesus from the dead and made known your life-giving power to the world. As Christ promised, “I will not leave you orphaned,” gather us with all your flock when the chief shepherd appears. Draw us into the shared community you give — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — a community that abides, a community held together in you, a community you are renewing in all creation.

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

Merciful Father,

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