

Prayers of the People: Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3, 2026

Let us bow or kneel as we offer our prayers to our Father in heaven on this, the fifth Sunday of Eastertide. In this 50 day season between Easter and Pentecost Sunday, and especially through our readings this morning, we more fully understand WHO you are Jesus, what your mission here on earth was, and the message you have given us. In our readings from John 14 you clearly state, "I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. "You say that you do not speak on your own authority, but through the Father, living in you. You say that anyone who believes in you will do the work you have been doing, and they will do even greater things. You say that we may ask for anything in Your Name and you will do it, in John 14:14. Thank you Father God for this great promise that you have given us. Help us, this morning, through the Power of your Holy Spirit, to understand and know this mighty promise that you have given to us. We lift up our hearts in great thanksgiving.... we pause...to understand the magnitude of this great gift. (PAUSE)

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

As we pray for the worldwide Anglican communion, we pray that this understanding that you, Father God, ARE the Way, the Truth, and the Life is the foremost desire of every church and everyone in our leadership worldwide. WE pray the words of Colossians 1:9 over all our spiritual leaders: "That they may be filled with the knowledge of His will in ALL spiritual wisdom and understanding."

In the Anglican Communion of Canada, we pray for our Primate, the Most Reverend Shane Parker, and for our national Indigenous Archbishop, the Most Reverend Chris Harper.

In the Diocese of Rupert's Land, we pray for our Bishop, the Right Reverend Naboth Manzongo, and for Iain Luke, Executive Archdeacon. I pray over them the words from Proverbs 2:6, "For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." Grant our bishop and archbishop great wisdom and understanding as they lead your flock, Father God.

Here at St Aidan's, we continue to pray for our new wardens, Ruth and Darcy as they grow in their understanding of their new responsibilities and roles. Grant them great wisdom and vision. Grant them strength and sustenance. Let them truly lay down their burdens at the cross at the end of each day. We pray for Linda, that you give her clarity of purpose in her new role as Ministries Coordinator, and that she can learn and adapt quickly to the many demands and needs around her. Enable her through the power of your Holy Spirit, to minister deeply to the people of our parish. We pray for Rev. Kim and Rev Susan in the new roles of leadership that they have taken on in their time of retirement. They are both likely busier now than they imagined they would be and we pray your protection, in Jesus Mighty

Name, over their comings and goings, their family, and their many activities here at St Aidan's. Grant them sustenance and extra measure of your strength every single day.

In this "in between" time here at St Aidan's where many leadership roles are new and at times perhaps a bit unclear, we pray for unity of purpose, unity of spirit, and unity of vision. You say in Proverbs 29:18 that "without a vision the people perish." So, we ask for clarity in leadership roles, clarity in conversations, clarity of purpose both individually and collectively. And we thank you, Father, that you hear these prayers! We thank you that we can come to you in this way and ask for your help. We thank you that you wait graciously and that you want to give us more than we can ask or imagine! Ephesians 3:20.

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

In our Missions cycle, we bring Naomi House before you, the people and the work. We especially ask that you would be present to those new refugees facing difficulties because of the new federal laws concerning their status, making it less easy to process their claims. Make Naomi House their refuge, because YOU Father God, are present at the centre! May You be their strength and give them patience as they wait. And may your loving concern be evident at Naomi House. Thank you, Lord.

As we think of those who are ill in our parish community, You alone Lord, know their needs best. May they be comforted by your presence in their lives. We pray for all those who are on our Prayer Chain, and those caring for them. Thank you for the marvellous job Dianne Frith does in maintaining our Prayer Chain and keeping it timely and up to date. Bless her for this service she freely offers.

We remember those who are part of our church family, but who cannot be with us in person, some of whom are facing life threatening challenges, some of whom are hospitalized, and some who are in personal care homes or housebound. By name we remember: Al, Barbara, Bernie, Carol, Charlotte, Deb, Diana, Elizabeth, Harold, Joan, John, Joy, June, Kath, Ken M., Ken N., Len, Margaret, Merle, Pam, Pamela, Rob, Ruth, Sarah, Sue, and Tracey.

We remember and give thanks for those recently departed in Christ, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

At this time, let's take a moment to remember aloud or in silence, the names of any others the Lord has placed on our hearts in this Eastertide season. (PAUSE)

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

As we turn our hearts to the issues that we face in our world, we pray for peace and justice in every situation faced by innocent peoples who are suffering because of wars and political instability. We stand in the gap as you call us to in Ezekiel 22:30. We at times feels so helpless but we know you hear our prayers. WE pray for tolerance, understanding, and great mercy to prevail as world leaders made decisions that affect innocent and vulnerable children and people. Lord, we ask you to intervene, we ask you to make a way where there seems to be no way. You are our miracle working God and we look to you, we place our trust and our hope in you to hear our prayers for peace.

Let us take a few minutes now to quieten our hearts and listen for a Word from God for St. Aidan's. If you believe that God has given you a word, scripture, or image for our community this morning, please rise and speak loudly and clearly so that all may hear what God has to say to the Church. (PAUSE)

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

In closing, we remember from our reading of Psalm 31 this morning that we take refuge in you alone, Lord. Come quickly to our rescue; be a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save us. Into your hands we commit our spirits, dear Father. Let your face shine on us, your servants, in this week to come, and save us with your unfailing love.

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