

St. Margaret's Church, Dunham Massey
Intercessions for 8th Sunday after Trinity – 29th July 2020

The Gospel reading this week relates the miracle of the feeding of the 5000 out of the



meagre supply of five loaves and two small fishes. It won't be long now until we can be together again in church to share in the bread, representing the body of Christ our Lord. In the meantime, we have the privilege of our online services led by Sue, Geoff, and Keith (and Alan at St. Mark's). Those services have sustained me

during these difficult times as I know they have sustained many others. We again today share our intercessions online, so let us pray.

The response to the bidding, 'Lord, hear us' is 'Lord, graciously hear us'.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the daily bread that nourishes soul and body. We thank you for the Bread of Life, Jesus, your Son. Give us this bread always and help us to share with those who are hungry.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Almighty God, we pray that you will feed your Church on earth with the Bread of Heaven. Refresh it with living water. Nourish it with the milk of your kindness, then send your Church into the world, to invite those who do not yet know you to drink from the waters of salvation and feed on the bread of life.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful God, we pray for Christians around the world who are imprisoned and tortured because they name Jesus as Lord. We pray that they will know your steadfast love and feel your presence in whatever they have to bear. We pray for Mojtaba, in our own congregation, who is still living in a state of uncertainty. We pray that those who have decisions to make concerning his future may act with justice, diligence, and fairness.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

God of love and compassion, we bring before you today those who are suffering, physically, mentally, or spiritually. We pray for Max as he is now home from hospital, and for Wendy. We pray for those in our own congregation whose medical conditions render them more than averagely susceptible to Covid19 and who have been isolating for many months. We pray for Ged Hindley that you will be with him in his time of bereavement and we pray for the Eaves family as Robert's funeral takes place this week.

Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

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Gracious God, sometimes when we come before you with our prayers, we feel humbled that the cries from our hearts seem as nothing when measured against the enormities of the problems of the world. Yet we know that it is a privilege to carry everything to you in prayer. In a moment of quietness, therefore, we lay before you the things which are troubling our hearts and minds, trusting that you will hear us as we pray.

Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

As we always do, let us end our prayers by saying together the Grace.

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore, AMEN

I hope you won't mind me sharing with you a poem I wrote when I was going through a difficult time.

Dear God, I don't know who you are,
Or what it is that brings you near to me
When I am sad, or glad.
Or, how you fill an aching void,
And, when I'm overjoyed,
Contain emotions so that they don't over-fill
And spill, destroying me.

I cannot understand the Hand
That rules this universe, this earth,
So mighty and so vast,
And yet a single soul,
In deep despair,
Can feel You there.

I only know that pain unbearable,
Can soothéd be,
By the one Hand,
That rules all destiny.

Every blessing,
Christine Armstrong