

**PRAYERS for July 2, 2023 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Worship Assistant:** On this fifth Sunday after Pentecost, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**Worship Assistant:** Gracious Lord, let today and every day be a time of worship for we are truly blessed when we worship You. Thank You for bringing us together today to praise You, to honor You, and to receive Your blessing. Let our worship be an expression of the love we feel for You and for each other. Thank You for watching over us and not casting us out when we need forgiveness, when we lose hope, or when we ask for Your mercy.

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

**Worship Assistant:** Holy God, our nation is facing challenges, divisions, and discontent. Remind us of the great gifts that You have bestowed upon us. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we always seek Your will and strive to do it. Bless us with peace, with freedom from every evil and falsehood, and with honest servants who attempt to bring our citizens together. We know that all You ask is that we be true to You. Be patient with us because we know that our hope is in You and there is steadfast love and plentiful redemption.

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

**Worship Assistant:** God of Mercy, thank You for the people of our Word of God family and help us to see one another with the eyes of Jesus. Give each of us gentle hearts and words that help us follow Your lead and do what You would have us do. Shape all our words and works so that we may find encouragement, forgiveness, hope, and renewed joy in loving and serving You. Give us fresh ways to reach, speak with, and walk beside people who don't know Your love. Bless and guide all who are learning to be disciples of Jesus, especially our Fish Stix group members and dedicated volunteers who are getting ready for their VBS. Help them share their joy with everyone they meet.

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

**Worship Assistant:** Merciful Father, hear our prayers and grant to Your people who are suffering in body, mind, spirit, or circumstance, the strength of Your power and remind us that those who hope in You will renew their strength. Sometimes our burdens seems very heavy, and we need extra support and comfort. Help us trust and wait with patience for the rest and strength that You promise to give us. We especially ask You to be with all our friends and families on our prayer list and those whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

**(Wait at least 15 seconds for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.....hear our prayer.**

**Worship Assistant:** Saving Lord, keep safe those in the military and all people on the front lines of chaos and danger around the world. Guide all that they do that is in accordance with Your will. Give them clear heads, capable hands, and upright spirits. Bring them safely home when their tasks are done and heal those who are injured. Keep safe all those who travel this July fourth weekend and throughout the summer. Along their way, help them to be Your disciples and share their love of Christ by their words and actions.

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

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**