

PRAYERS for May 9, 2018 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Worship Assistant: Heavenly Father, we worship You, we thank You, and we make a joyful noise for the triumph of Your Son over the powers of sin, evil, and death. We praise You for His ascension to Your right hand; and we pray that You would give Your church on earth the steadfastness, joy, and boldness to proclaim His rule to all the world. Our life is not true life unless we know You and Your Son, and we cannot know You and Jesus except by Your grace and the work of the Holy Spirit. Thank You for Your love that is so true and so strong.

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

Worship Assistant: Gracious God, You have blessed us with mothers, whose willingness to set aside their own needs and wants for our nurture and protection, reflect Your grace, Your love, and Your generosity. Give a double portion of Your Spirit to all mothers, and to everyone who acts with a mother's love toward Your little ones. Grant them patience, wisdom, and even a good night's sleep. Forgive them when they falter in their high calling. Renew their spirits and make them a perpetual blessing to their children. Comfort all who have lost a child, and all who long to have children but cannot. Remind us to show our appreciation to the mothers here this day, to those who live away, and to those who have already gone to be with You.

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

Worship Assistant: God our Father, thank You choosing us to love You, to love one another, and to bear Your love into the world. The world needs You so much right now! Make us faithful and fruitful, so our words and actions nourish hearts starved for Your love. Grant that in this life, we may bear the fruits of love and kindness, and gather us into your Kingdom, where those fruits will fully ripen and be perfected. Help us show Your love and kindness through our service to others at the Midwest Food Bank and the Real Life Center this week.

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

Worship Assistant: Healing God, make us people of faith, hope, and love. We ask You to comfort the ill, the injured, the depressed, the lonely, and the grieving. If we become discouraged, remind us to turn to You. If we grow weary, lead us to look for strength in You. If we seek the counsel of the ungodly, guide us instead to seek Your will and help us to put our trust in You. We know that when You give us understanding, we see that those who follow Your Word build their lives on a firm foundation. With our country in such conflict, we need Your solid ground on which to stand. We 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: Protecting Father, bless all who safeguard life, health, and freedom. We thank You for those who have given their lives in defense of this country, and we ask Your blessing and protection upon all who are currently serving America. Give our leaders Your wisdom; give us Your courage; and take away our fears about the future, for we know that You are in control. On this Mother's Day, give an extra measure of love and support to all the mothers whose sons and daughters are working to protect our country, our communities, and our people.

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**