

Prayers at Holmbury St Mary and Wotton

Sunday 5 July 2020

*The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.*

To "The Lord hears our prayer," you may like to respond "*Thanks be to God.*"

Lord, we take this time to reflect on the way you taught us to pray, thinking particularly this weekend of the need for **our** self-control when we are tempted and **your** protection when evil confronts us.

In the desert, when the devil made cheap offers, you told him to go away, and he did. So we pray for your continual reminder that we don't live by bread alone, that God is not here to be tested, and that we are not to be distracted by the trappings of this world.

The Lord hears our prayer: *thanks be to God.*

We pray that world leaders, for all their power, will do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. We ask that both they and we actively show your concern for the health of this your world as it continues to be confronted by the evils of climate change and virus as well as hunger, oppression, extreme weather and loss of species.

The Lord hears our prayer: *thanks be to God.*

Lord, comfort and strengthen all who are confronted by illness, all who are grieving, and all who have been enduring loneliness. We name people we know personally... We hold before you those near and far who have died recently in such numbers. By your power may they know your glory.

The Lord hears our prayer: *thanks be to God.*

But, Lord, we also thank you for recent positives: for quieter roads and skies, cleaner air, and greater opportunities for neighbourliness, the food parcel, the extra phone call, email or knock at the door, for the extra time children and parents have been able to spend together. We thank you for enabling greater recognition that many who are low paid merit high esteem.

The Lord hears our prayer: *thanks be to God.*

So, Lord, in joy and in adversity, be alongside us, everyone we love, and all you have created, until it is more fully seen that the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.

The Lord hears our prayer: *thanks be to God.*

*God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.*

Amen to that.