

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Sunday, August 8, 2021)

- L: Let us pray for others. I will end each brief petition with the words, **'Lord, hear our prayer'** to which you will respond, - **Lord, graciously hear us.**
- L: We place before you, God of Heaven's Armies, all who are going through difficult times. Nations facing the challenges of terrorism, flooding, collapsed buildings, and in the Caribbean – the volcano in St. Vincent, the murder of the President in Haiti, the political uprising in Cuba, and the bombardment of the Jamaican people with financial hardship, crime, violence. Remind us Lord that you are near to us. Even in the valley overshadowed with the threatening specter of death, you are beside us, giving us our every breath. In this season of strife and struggle, we need your power. Father, strengthen us by your Spirit. Grant us the fortitude to withstand the slings of the enemy [however it disguises itself] because you God are with us and you will never leave us or forsake us. We pray that in the midst of our trials, we may claim your promise. Give us the strength to be bold and the courage to stand up for what is right. **Lord hear our prayer:**
- P: Lord, graciously hear us**
- L: Lord Jesus Christ, the church is your beloved bride and we look to you to lead your people. We ask now, that your word would be clearly and faithfully proclaimed in the family of your church and that, through it, all would be challenged, encouraged and transformed. We pray that church leaders would be protected from temptation, complacency and idolatry. We ask that your church, across the world, would be filled with joy when your people gather and sing your praises. Lord, fill the prayers with confidence in your mighty power and fill your people with your Holy Spirit. **Lord hear our prayer:**
- P: Lord, graciously hear us**
- L: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of our families, but we ask now for your helping hand in restoring love within our families. We grow apart because of the challenges we face. We pray that your love keeps us united always, through happy and sad times, through sickness and health, through job loss and promotions. Help us to always pray for each other and wish each other well in our endeavors. Remove any shred of jealousy in our hearts that we may celebrate each other's achievements. Your greatest commandment is love and you are the God of love. Let your love draw us back to each other. Help us to forgive each other's faults as you have forgiven us, and help us to keep no record of each other's wrongs. Almighty God, let us aspire to live in peace with everyone. **Lord hear our prayer:**

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- P: Lord, graciously hear us**
- L: Dear Lord. We plead now for the protection of our children and young people. They are surrounded with distractions of all varieties. But Lord it is under your grace that they live. Grant them a sense of discernment as you hold them close to you. We pray that you continue to provide them with opportunities whereby they may grow into their full potential. Grant their teachers, wisdom, hearts of gold, and the spirit to fulfill the tasks you have entrusted them with. Bless their parents who continue to make sacrifices on their behalf; and be their light in uncertain times. **Lord, hear our prayer:**
- P: Lord, graciously hear us**
- L: Finally, Lord, we come to you today asking your protection and health for our essential workers. Without them we couldn't function, yet so often we take their faithful service for granted. Forgive us for the times when their work has gone unnoticed by us. Help us to be more aware of who they are and what they do. Lord, make their workplaces and working conditions as safe as possible. Provide them with the ways and means to prevent exposure to the coronavirus. Grant them the time they need to rest, eat well and relax from stress. We pray that you will boost their immune systems and restore their energy so they might be mentally alert and make wise decisions. Reward them with decent pay and with supervisors who appreciate them and value their efforts. **Lord hear our prayer**
- P: Lord graciously hear us, Amen.**

