

We come before you, God, with open and tender hearts.
We are called be the church,
the witness of Christ in the world.
The disciples who follow in the
steps of the One who lived within and for the marginalized
- those kept to the outside of society.

We are called to welcome the stranger in our midst.
Stir within us the flame of solidarity
so that we will commit ourselves to action.
That by our thoughts, our words, our dreams,
the strangers in our midst will find a home.

In the stillness of this time
with the knowledge of people who are suffering
take seed in our hearts,
we affirm that we are the people of God.

Called to listen to the voices of others.
Called to action on behalf of those who suffer.

We affirm that it is Jesus of Nazareth
who shows us the path we should follow.

“If anyone wants to come with me, that person must
forget self, and carry the cross and follow me.”
This is not always easy to do.

Empower us through your Holy Spirit to be people of Shalom.
To build communities committed to the needs of others;
people who invest in the dignity of others,
people who walk and live in partnership with others.

Let there be Shalom!
Let hope shine in the faces of all people!

(adapted Christian Conference of Asia – Hong Kong)

On this day, we offer to you the names of those who need your love.

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We pray for the families of the 215 children whose remains were discovered last week at the Kamloops Residential School.

We can hardly believe it. Unmarked graves. Families waiting for their children to come home. Today we will light a candle, wear something red ...and pray. Pray for healing ...it may take years. We pray with deep reflection and respect.

“The discovery of the children affects all of us...still...we need to pray for their safe arrival to the other side...theses children need to be children. This should never happen again. We need to spread the word of love and kindness to everyone.” Alberta Billy (Elder)

Today we pray for others who walk with grief. May they know your quiet strength. We pray for the poor, the homeless, the lonely and those who live with violence. We pray for all children who are afraid. Keep them safe.

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We are thankful that most people have had a Covid vaccine (or two), and things are beginning to slowly open. Be with us as we make plans to move back into our sanctuary. Help us to take our time and be mindful of taking care of one another. Remind us that we don't need a sanctuary to be with you, to thank you and praise you.

Be with those who are anxious about going back outside into the world.
Be with those who believe they should be happy, but somehow aren't.

We know we have much to thank you for, we know how blessed we are.
We pray for ourselves. Stay with us and guide us as we leave the past 14 months and move into a new season. Remind us of the joy and pain we lived.

We pray for one another. For those on our prayer list, and those who are not. Strengthen them, hold them, heal them, love them. Bring us all peace.

We pray all these things, in the holy goodness of your names.
Let us say together the prayer Jesus taught us;

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.