Intercessions for Sunday June 14/20  
  
Let us turn toward God, our Father, Leader, Strength, and Comforter. At the end of each prayer, I will say , “Lord in Your mercy”  
and your response is, “ Hear our prayer.”  
  
Prince of Peace,  
In our world of chaos, we need Your peace. The kind of Peace that only You can give, Lord. The peace that doesn’t make sense, that allows us to breathe deeply. Your Peace, that floods our hearts with calm, love, warmth, hope in spite of, and in the midst of world chaos. The peace that reminds us to trust You, that is our Light through the darkest of days.  
Lord, throughout the world, protests and marches are being held against racism and prejudice. Father God, You have taught us that black lives matter, that indigenous lives matter. That people with mental health issues, people of all religions, and sexual expressions, the young and old, people from every nation, that every person matters. Lord, pour out Your Love, and Your hope upon all of the protesters and marchers, and especially upon those who have known prejudice , bullying, and fear because of who they are. Rally us round, Lord, and bring the world to effective change, that all of Your creatures may live in harmony, each treating the other with respect, and with love, because You , Lord, love us all, every one.  
Lord in Your mercy  
Hear our prayer.  
God, our Rock,  
Things are crumbling, God. The economy that keeps alot of us relatively comfortable is unstable. Job loss and unemployment is climbing daily. Incomes have been reduced, savings are disappearing, and costs keep rising. People are hungry, with more living below the poverty line. Lord God, money is something that we don’t think about too much while it’s coming regularly into our bank account, or while we have enough of it. But suddenly people here in Port Perry and throughout the world don’t have enough of what they need to survive. Grant us Your strength, faith, and hope, Lord. Show us solutions so that we may help each other. Help us to keep our eyes on You, Lord, as we seek out local and global solutions.  
Lord in Your mercy  
Hear our prayer.  
  
Jesus, our Great Physician,  
We pray for all those who are suffering. For those with Covid 19 and their families. For those with other health problems, asking that they don’t fall through the cracks of a health care system under pressure. We pray for those living in long term care homes and seniors residences. For those who put their own lives at risk to care for others.  
We pray for the family on Fralick’s Beach Rd who are homeless after a fire and explosion this week. We pray for the injured firefighters, and give thanks for the physical safety of the family.  
We pray for all those who mourn.  
And we pray for all those on our hearts and minds who may be named now either aloud or in silence....  
Lord, pour out Your healing love upon them.  
Lord in Your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.  
  
God, our Father and Mother,  
We are sick and tired of the pandemic, Lord. We’re sick of hearing about it. We’re sick of masks. We’re sick of Lysol. We’re sick of hearing the words “social distancing.” We’re sick of feeling anxious about going in to stores and other businesses, not knowing their new routines and new rules. We’re sick of missing our families and friends, of trying to pretend being alone is okay when it’s not.  
But we know that we must do these things for the good of our families, and community, for Canada and the world. Help us to stand firm with You, O Lord. To persevere in what is right. To not give up. Help us , Lord, to recognize that You are present with us, and that we are not alone. Help us to take every opportunity to practise prayer and meditation during these times when we are at home. Lead us closer and closer to You, O Lord. Use this time to bless us, that we may in turn bless others. Help your Ascension People to become people of Hope, people of true Joy. Help us to put down our words of complaint and whining, and to pick up words of encouragement for others. Stay with us, Lord.  
Lord in Your mercy  
Hear our prayer.  
  
Thanks, Lord, that when we must stay apart from others, we may snuggle in with You.  
Amen.