

## SUNDAY MAY 02, 2021

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love. Each petition will end with the words "God of New Life" and you are invited to respond with "We pray to you."

**[pause]**

Loving God, you are the vine, and we are the branches. We give you thanks, that like the one who cares for his vineyard, you care for us, and you prune us to bear much fruit as we live in you!

**God of New Life**

**"We pray to you."**

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. In our Anglican and Lutheran cycle of prayer, we pray for the dean, council, and congregations of the Winnipeg South Area of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod. For the Most Reverend Anne Germond, Bishop and the Most Reverend Fred Hiltz, assisting Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Missionary area of Moosonee. In our Huronia cycle of prayer we pray for the Reverend Eileen Steele and the people and ministries of the Parish of Penetanguishene and Waubauskene. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love.

**God of New Life**

**"We pray to you."**

Grant that this congregation may always abide in you, as you in us. In our parish cycle of prayer we remember this week – Diane Millar; Elaine Moll and George Wallace; Beverley Morrison; Ainsley Munro. Make us fruitful in words of faith and hope, and in deeds of love.

**God of New Life**

**"We pray to you."**

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love. – Especially we lift before you the needs of: George Anderson and family; Nathan and his family; Pat & Garry Grayston; Erica and Ben Duffy and family; Pastor Lori; Diana, sister of Brent Mayhew; and for those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts **[pause]**. In your mercy, provide for the needs of all.

**God of New Life**

**"We pray to you."**

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit. **[pause]** With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping.

**God of New Life**

**"We pray to you."**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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### REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

#### ACTS 8: 26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

#### PSALM 22: 25-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

(Ps 22: 27)

#### 1 JOHN 4: 7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.

#### JOHN 15: 1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.

### READINGS

#### Sunday May 02/21

Acts 8: 26-40

Psalm 22: 25-31

1 John 4: 7-21

John 15: 1-8

#### Sunday May 09/21

Acts 10: 44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5: 1-6

John 15: 9-17