

Intercessions 11th October

God who transcends places, systems and structures. As we continue to meet for worship online, and adjust to different ways of gathering and being together, hold us in your loving embrace however we're feeling today. We pray particularly for those who for any reason cannot access online worship, for those we miss bumping into on the bus or waving at down the street. We also pray for so many people in our community and beyond who are experiencing loneliness, isolation and are feeling the impact of the lack of human touch. God, through your message we learn to live as embodied individuals and as we step forward into the unknown, with the fear of a second lockdown on the horizon, hold us, as we cling to you.

God of life and love:
Graciously hear us.

Loving God, we pray for our local care homes as they try to protect residents, carers and staff from the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and other illnesses and infections. As the nights draw in, the temperature drops and coughs, colds, and flu become ever more commonplace remind us that sometimes the most loving thing to do is to step back. Help us as we deal with these conflicting feelings to be close and yet needing to be physically distant and give us the tools to continue to find new ways to care and to be.

God of life and love:
Graciously hear us.

God, we know you can take our anger, our pain and our rage. We pray for those today, whether it be individuals, families, charities, or communities who are struggling as a result of a reduction in income or job loss. As we cry out at how unfair it all seems and the injustice that dominates the news we lift up the organisations trying to bridge the gap by offering emergency food provision and support whilst lamenting that food banks exist and remembering that they are not the solution. Give us the strength to continue to fight for your Gospel values, for your kingdom to come.

God of life and love:
Graciously hear us.

God of the here and now. We pray for our parish and the communities we serve in Broomhill and Broomhall. As we continue to strengthen points of connection between St John's, Ranmoor and St Mary's, Walkley we ask that you help us to discern how to be best be beacons of hope within the communities in which we serve. We pray for the clergy of the 3 churches, Sue, Shan, Cate, Matthew and Matt, their respective church wardens, readers, volunteers, staff, lay leaders and those who do the jobs that are so essential to the running of a church but are often done silently and behind the scenes.

God of life and love:
Graciously hear us.

At this time of increased uncertainty, unknowing and apprehension, we continue to hold in our prayers, David C, Lee, Mary K, Patty B and Stephen C. For those who are unwell, mourning or recovering from illness and accident. Alistair, Anne and Annick, Charlotte, Francena, Ian & Anne, John G, John S, Judith C, Lily, Liz C, Marjorie K, Marjorie W, Mary T, Naomi L, Norma S, Pauline E, Rob W, Ryan S and Zuandi. May your love surround them and provide them with sustenance for the road ahead.

God of life and love:
Graciously hear us.

God of endings and of goodbyes. We pray for those who have died recently in this community and beyond, and for their grieving families and friends, including Olive and Valerie C. Remind us God that grief is never a linear process and be patient with us when we trip and stumble. We also remember and raise up to you at this time, all those whom we love, but no longer see.

Living, suffering, loving God,
Hear us and help us to care for your creation. Amen