

Clergy Conference Prayers of Commitment June 2020

As we come to the end of our conference we pray that we will take all the learning and words of inspiration; the gifts of one another and commit ourselves to continuing to be light and love. We commit ourselves afresh to the world, to our local communities and contexts and we commit to ourselves.

May we be lamps of love

O Lord take my ears and hear through them

Take our hands and use them

Take our lips and speak through them

Take our eyes and smile through them

Take our hearts and mind and will

And use them as lamps of love

By which your light may shine in all

the world where there is joy, where there is suffering and where there is healing

Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

God calls us to be a light in every place

May we continue our service to all creatures of our God and King

May we bring the word to and in every season

Cherishing the land, the sea the skies and all that God has lovingly made for us all

May we commit to enjoying and not spoiling the beauty of our world and all the people that dwell therein

We pray for strength to find within ourselves kindness, gentleness, goodness and equality for all

We commit ourselves to sitting light to the precious resources of our earth and learning again how to share more equitably

And for a curbing of earthly desires that leave parts of our world bereft

Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

We give thanks for our diversity; for variety, for difference and for the blessings that come through our uniqueness of being

We commit ourselves afresh to those we serve and for those who serve us in our local communities, in our churches, those we meet through computer screens, visible and invisible

For the shy, for the confident, for the harmonisers, for the agitators, for the contemplators, for the preachers, for the holders, for the signers, the abled and disabled and every different kind of service in the Lord

Give us a renewed sensitivity to others; give us a wideness of vision and openness to the divine demands and calling

Enlarge the spirit of forgiveness within us, and heal us from resentments against those who have hurt us

Rekindle our desire to do **your work in your way**

Fill us with abundant patience to listen well to a different point of view

Give us courage to come out from any fortresses of our own being taking us into a fuller and deeper life in Christ; into a live of love

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'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.

We pray for a renewed commitment to ourselves, our whole selves for our minds that do the work of thinking and reflecting and dreaming and discerning the will of God; for our bodies that are the beautiful vehicles, the temples that house the very soul of God, and we pray for our spirits that we may take time to know well the grace that is always given freely to each one of us

Thank you that you have giving us all that we need for life on earth and life in eternity and all in abundance

We renew our commitment to return back to you, when we sense and feel ourselves wondering away, when we lose ourselves and are desperate to find a way back to you

Renew our hearts and give us the freedom to sit in silence and to rest with the One who has called us and will sustain us every time without limitation

In the days when we are less than kind to ourselves and afraid of our vulnerabilities, remind us that there is a strength in our fragility and that in our weakness you Almighty God are strong.

We are weak and strong

We are tired and energised

We are vulnerable and resilient

We are afraid and courageous

We are lost and found

'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours

Our Holy God has brought hope to a divided, hurting, frightened world in raising Christ from the dead. Now may God strengthen us to walk again in his ways and to witness to love.