

## **Prayers for the people for April 7, 2019**

When you hear the words "God of compassion" please answer...hear our prayers

Creator God, we come before you with grateful hearts but also with hearts filled with fears and questions. Calm all of our hearts this morning and open our hearts and minds for your spirit to guide us now and in our daily lives. Show us what you want us to do.

God of compassion.....hear our prayers

May we encounter Jesus in a new way on this Lenten journey.

God of compassion.....hear our prayers

We thank you for the arrival of beautiful spring weather, the flowers, the sunshine, the gentle rains and the beautiful waters that surround our island. We thank you for the freedom to worship you in peace and in a tranquil setting. We thank you for the gifts that Rev. Karen and her husband James bring to us. Bless and guide them in all they do.

We thank you for the gifts of music shared with us this morning. We praise your name with joyful hearts. We feel your spirit among us.

Guide all the church leaders wherever they maybe and however they serve you.

God of compassion.....hear our prayers

We bring the throngs of suffering people before you. We are afraid because we live in a world that is changing so rapidly. We stand before you with the people in Mozambique who were hit by a severe cyclone and now so many are dying because of the outbreak of cholera. Be with the workers who are there to help them.

Be with the masses of migrants who are trying to escape tyranny and oppression. Dwell among the overcrowded refuge camps in Syria and give wisdom, strength and courage to those who are willing to help them.

Remind us that we are blessed so that we may bless others.

God of compassion.....hear our prayers.

We heard the story of Mary anointing your feet and are grateful for your example in your rapport with women. That was not the custom in those times either. You treated them as equals to men. You made both woman and man in your image. Thank you for that gift. Change the hearts of all men who cannot accept that message. In many countries including our own there is so much violence and abuse of women and girls. We especially feel the pain of all the women and girls in India and in many countries in South America. God be with them all and bring change.

Knock on the hearts of all the world leaders to rule wisely and fairly and that they may work together to protect the round ball called earth, from destruction.  
God of compassion.....hear our prayers

Bring hope and comfort to the homeless everywhere, the mentally ill, to the men and women dependant on drugs. Be with those who work among them

Give all parents the love and the courage to instruct and discipline their children wisely.

Be with all those whose who teach children, youth and adults. Protect both those who teach and the students from violent actions. May they know that there is help from you. You promised "Ask and it shall be given"

We bring before you the youth of the world. So many have given up hope for the future, are bullied and misunderstood. Guide us to be a comfort to them.

We pray for those who do not know how to pray.  
God of compassion.....hear our prayers

We also ask for your love and help for ourselves. Be with those who are getting frail, those of us who are ill, those of us who mourn for loved ones who passed away. We pray for our friends and family members who are ill or depressed. We name them in silence or out loud.....  
God of compassion..... hear our prayer.

Guide us to be still and listen and teach us to leave all of our concerns at your feet.

We ask it all in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen