

# MHA Sunday



**One Sunday, one service, one church**

## **Prayers of Intercession, choose one of the following**

Lord God, we thank you that you have formed us into one body in the church. In all our diversity of age and outlook, you have made us one through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to honour one another, even when we're not quite sure how to act or what to say. Help us to find ways to communicate and share your love.

We pray especially for those who have recently been diagnosed with dementia and who know that life will change for them over the coming months and years. We pray that you would give them and those they love, the strength and courage they need to trust you for this part of their journey. We pray that they might be able to talk about their concerns and anxieties, and that you would help us to be there for them in whatever ways we can. We pray for those for whom language, communication and mobility have become extremely challenging. People we have known and loved who now struggle with communication, becoming frustrated by this and acting out of character. . Would you draw alongside them where we can't and let them know that they are loved and remembered by us still?

We pray for those caring for others and for the pain and responsibility they feel. We pray for them as they grieve the loss of a person they have known and loved, and as they constantly try to adapt their way of living to accommodate them. We think of those who are frail themselves and yet want to remain faithful to their marriage vows by caring until you come or call. Give wisdom to them, their families and friends as they go through this period of transition together. May they know your compassion and peace, and have wisdom to make the right decisions at the right times.

We thank you for those people with expertise in caring for those living with dementia, particularly for those working in our MHA care homes. Thank you for their skills, gifts and love, we ask that you would strengthen and encourage them in the work they do. For those involved in research and policy making on a local and national level, we pray that they may never lose sight of the human side and cost of this illness but would always act with compassion and integrity.

We pray for ourselves too. None of us know what the future holds. Help us to entrust ourselves to your care and if the time comes when we need to accept the help of others, or pass the care of people we love on to others, we pray that you would give us the grace to do just that.

Holy Spirit we invite your presence among us that we may learn to live as the diverse people you have created us to be in a way that honours and glorifies you and is a living witness and resource for the communities of which we are a part.

*Prayers for wholeness & healing if appropriate... We can be whole in our woundedness.*

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Leader: Lord, in your love and mercy

Response: Hear our prayer.

Lord, we pray for the world and its leaders,

Asking that you will open the eyes of those with power, authority or influence to the wise and true ways of your kingdom of justice, peace and love, where every human life is valued and protected.

L: Lord, in your love and mercy

R: Hear our prayer.

Lord, we pray for the Church and its mission on earth,

That together we might transform lives with the good news of your saving love for all humankind.

We pray for the work of MHA amongst older people, bringing a sense of worth to those whose voice is not always heard,

For...

L: Lord, in your love and mercy

R: Hear our prayer.

Lord, we pray for those who suffer or are in need,

Especially for ...

And for the old age of those we know and of ourselves, that despite its restrictions it may be a time of blessing, a time of feeling valued and loved.

L: Lord, in your love and mercy

R: Hear our prayer.

We make these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ,

Who, while we were yet sinners, gave himself for us, Amen.