

Let's Pray

Sun 7 June - Sat 13 June 2020

THESE THREE REMAIN...

Faith, Hope & Love

"These three remain..." is an initiative of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to draw congregations and their members together in God to express his life and witness in this moment. Content is also available on the PCI website and social media channels to resource the church for its continuing ministry and mission.

In this moment

A prayer for patience in a time of waiting

Timeless God,
what we thought might be a short pause,
now seems like an eternity;
what we began describing as extraordinary times,
are beginning to feel pretty ordinary;
what we first experienced as an interruption to our lives,
has merged into an unwanted new normal.
We need you to stay our hearts,
giving staying power for the long haul,
but also helping us stay put for the moment with patience and restraint.
Help us to learn the lesson that our times are in your hands,
and as we wait upon the Lord our strength will be renewed.
Help us to live in the in-between time;
like our father Abraham anticipating your blessing,
before the birth of God's promised son;
like Joseph captive as a prisoner in Egypt,
before his dreams came true;
like Moses tending his father-in-law's flock in the desert,
before encountering you in the burning bush;
like the Israelites wandering for forty years in the wilderness,
before entering the promised land;
like David on the run from Saul,
before his anointing led to his ascending the throne;
like Jesus, tried and tempted for forty days and nights,
before emerging to his life's great purpose.
Our hearts cry, 'how long O Lord?'
And you reply,
'know that the testing of your faith,
produces perseverance,
let perseverance finish its work,
so that you may be mature and complete,
not lacking anything.'
As we continue to wait on you,
give strength and courage,
for these long days.
In Jesus' name.
Amen

Sunday 7 June | Digital ministry

- *Pray for those who are preparing and delivering messages, prayers and other material for week by week digital ministry, asking that God would continue to give a word in season, clarity and creativity in communication and energy for the task of recording.*
- *Pray for those who edit and upload weekly digital ministry for congregations, asking that God would continue to use their gifts to bring blessing to others and smooth the processes of delivery.*

Monday 8 June | Towards easing of the lockdown

- *Give thanks to God for the steady decrease in cases of coronavirus and pray that as lockdown measures are gradually eased there will not be an upsurge in the rate of infection.*
- *Pray that a wise balance between continuing care in the area of public health and actions needed to restore other aspects of life and society impacted by the lockdown might be found and followed.*

Tuesday 9 June | The bereaved and suffering

- *Pray for those who have been bereaved during the lockdown, asking that God would draw especially near to bring comfort and strength in this season when the normal support of family and friends remains limited due to ongoing social distancing.*
- *Pray for those who suffer with serious and ongoing health conditions, asking that God would give extra strength, peace and perseverance in this period in which the usual care and treatment is restricted by lockdown and health service capacity.*

Wednesday 10 June | Search for a vaccine

- *Pray for scientific researchers as they continue to work towards developing a vaccine for Covid-19, asking that God would enable the use of their gifts and experience to provide a solution that will save many lives.*
- *Pray that increased knowledge and learning from the treatment of those who have had Covid-19 would enable a better understanding of the issues involved in combatting the virus.*

Thursday 11 June | Family life

- *Give thanks for opportunities for families to keep in touch through technology and to begin to see each other face-to-face again as restrictions are relaxed. Ask God to give us a new appreciation for one another.*
- *Pray for parents, children and young people all continuing to experience family life in a different way than usual, asking God for patience with one another and pleasure in closer relationships forged in lockdown.*

Friday 12 June | Maintaining social distancing

- *Pray that as lockdown restrictions are gradually relaxed that the general public will continue to exercise necessary restraint in social distancing and behave with common sense and a genuine concern for others.*
- *Pray for those who are working to develop social distancing in workplaces, shops, schools and other everyday settings, asking that God would help them to find viable ways of enabling a safe return to greater normality in coming days.*

Saturday 13 June | The PCI family

- *Give thanks to God for the denominational family of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, praying that he would help us to find encouragement in one another's stories of faith, hope and love.*
- *Pray for those who continue to provide support to congregations and their members through the various councils of the General Assembly, asking that God would give them the wisdom, strength and vision needed to work around present circumstances and find new ways of exercising their ministries.*