

Father you have called us to come with our prayers for others. So often we find ourselves at a loss as to how to pray. Thank you for giving us help, for reminding us that Your Holy Spirit takes our feeble groans bringing them before your throne in heaven.

Today as in all days just now we cry out to you for your help in combating the Coronavirus. We believe that you are able to stop its devastating effects and remove it from our world completely.

You have given so many different people the talents that are needed to help folk through this time. We give you thanks for all who are working so hard and so long in order to care for those affected. Our Health Service is so stretched as are hospitals throughout the world. Come Lord God bring your strength and your compassion to those who care.

Come, bring your presence of love and peace to those who are suffering – the folk who are infected and those in their families. Bring your healing presence into their midst.

Come Lord God to those who find this new style of living life away from others so hard. Come bring your companionship and your patience.

Be with all those who have volunteered to help, either in the hospital setting or in the community, getting food and goods to those who cannot get out themselves. Thank you for the way in which so much goodwill is being seen. Thank you for the Selkirk Response Team and those who have volunteered to help here. May this be something which stays in our society once there is a return to normality.

Come Lord God to those who are in charge of making the day to day as well as the bigger decisions about how the country should react. The wisdom of Solomon is needed by all who govern – please give it to those who need it.

Come Lord God to the world situations which still exist yet we are not hearing about, those still affected by flooding, those countries where wars and famine still occur. Refugees are in such a vulnerable position. Come Lord come bring your strength and your hope to those who suffer and those who care for them. We pray for the many charities the world over who continue to care – thank you for all their dedicated staff. Bless them and encourage them in the work they do.

Come Lord God to ourselves, our families, our friends, our church today. You know each of our needs and so we leave them in your care. Bless us as we strive to be your people.

Come Lord with your over-arching care and commitment to being our God, the one who from eternity to eternity remains the same, the one whose power and passion for your people and your creation moves you to action in ways which bring hope and growth.

In Jesus' name we pray Amen.