**TUNSTALL DEANERY**

**CHURCH AT HOME AND**

**OVER THE PHONE**

 The Lord is here:

 His Spirit is with us.

 Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open,

all desires known,

and from whom no secrets are hidden:

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

that we may perfectly love you,

and worthily magnify your holy name;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CONFESSION**

Most merciful God,

 Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

 we confess that we have sinned

 in thought, word and deed.

 We have not loved you with our whole heart.

 We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

 In your mercy forgive what we have been,

 help us to amend what we are,

 and direct what we shall be;

 that we may do justly, love mercy,

 and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

 May the God of love and power

 forgive us and free us from our sins,

 heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,

 and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

 Amen.

**BIBLE READINGS**

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.  *John 3.16*

  *(Or choose a reading from your Bible)*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

 We believe in God the Father, from whom

every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our

hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

 We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

 who strengthens us with power from on high.

 We believe in one God,

 Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**PRAYERS AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*(Your own prayers, and some of the prayers overleaf)*

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

 *and at the end:*

Merciful Father, accept these prayers

 for the sake of your Son,

 our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Either in the morning:*

God of glory,

by the raising of your Son

you have broken the chains of death and hell:

fill your Church with faith and hope;

for a new day has dawned

and the way to life stands open

in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Or in the evening:*

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,

and drive from it the snares of the enemy;

may your holy angels dwell with us

and guard us in peace,

and may your blessing be always upon us;

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Or at any time:*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you

for all the benefits that you have won for us,

for all the pains and insults that

you have borne for us.

Most merciful redeemer,

friend and brother,

may we know you more clearly,

love you more dearly,

and follow you more nearly,

day by day. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

 hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;

 thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

 Give us this day our daily bread.

 And forgive us our trespasses,

 as we forgive those who trespass against us.

 And lead us not into temptation;

 but deliver us from evil.

 For thine is the kingdom,

 the power and the glory,

 for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE GRACE**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

be with us all evermore. Amen.

**CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRAYERS**

**A prayer about the Coronavirus outbreak**

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us

from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

**For those in isolation**

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**For those who are worried/social cohesion**

Loving Jesus,

you are compassionate to those in need
and heal the sick in body and mind.
Look kindly on those who are fearful at this time.
Help us all to put away all thoughts and actions
that separate us from you and from one another.
Give us grace to live our lives, confident in your promise that you are with us always. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick,
and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love,
for your name’s sake. Amen.

**For those who are ill**

Merciful God,
we entrust to your unfailing and tender care,
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**For hospital staff and medical researchers**

Gracious God,
give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick,
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit,
that through their work

many will be restored to health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**From one who is ill or isolated**

O God,
help me to trust you,
help me to know that you are with me,
help me to believe that nothing can separate me
from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayers for when you can't get to church**

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,

‘I am with you always’.
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
and keep me in your care. Amen.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

**A morning prayer of praise**

Almighty and everlasting God,

we thank you that you have brought us safely

to the beginning of this day.

Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger,

order us in all our doings and guide us to do always

what is righteous in your sight;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**An evening prayer**

Lighten our darkness,

Lord, we pray,

and in your great mercy

defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,

for the love of your only Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.