**Intercession, Pentecost, 2020**

Eternal Spirit, earth-maker, pain-bearer, life-giver, in whom we live and move and have our being, father and mother of us all, hear our prayers.

Today we celebrate your gift of spirit and of love. In all our days and activities, let us be guided by your spirit.

The spirit which is in our wonderful land. The spirit which shines through the deserts and the seas, the farmlands, the animals and birds, the plants with which we share the land. We are glad the we live in an ancient country with so much beauty, and we thank you with all our hearts for the privilege of living here. We remember the first custodians of this land and we thank you for their wisdom and understanding of your ways.

Loving God, In your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Spirit of justice, that lives in us all,

Help us to make and keep this country a home for all its people. Grant to our governments and all their representatives imagination, skill, energy and compassion so that we all share in what this land offers to us, and we can live here in peace and safety.

Loving God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Spirit of love and friendship,

We are blessed in our church and our community. We will nurture the spirit of friendship and comradeship that is here in the things that we do for each other and the love that we show for each other, even if we do not meet as we used to do. Thank you for Sophie and Jo and Paul and all the people who are helping us with our worship.

We hope that soon we will be able to worship together, but until that time comes, we are secure in our care and love for each other.

Loving God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

God of love,

We are blessed with families and friends, those people who have taught us how to love and who have loved us. May we be people who, through the spirit of love and Joy that we have inherited, enrich the lives of those around us.

Loving God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Great comforter,

We pray for those people who are sick, for those who will not recover, and for those who wait with them. We pray for those for whom the burden of caring is heavy. We pray for those who seek healing of their bodies or their minds.

The burden of grief is heavy around the world just now. People have lost loved ones, lost their livelihoods, lost their confidence in living. Be with us all as we work through this time of sickness..

Loving God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Eternal Spirit,

We thank you for our dead, for the love they gave us and for the example they showed us. Their spirit lives on in us, we can not be separated from their spirit, just as we can not be separated from you.

Loving God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

In the week that comes, may we speak to people in ways that they understand, serve people in ways that heal and nourish, and live and love abundantly as people of Christ.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers,

**Grant that what we have asked in faith, we may by your Grace, receive.**