

# Pray – Look to the Lord



***Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.***  
(1 Chronicles 16:11 NIV)

**A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus** (From Church of England Website)

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love,  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.* (1 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV)

## Pray for:

- Those who are suffering with coronavirus, for comfort and healing
  - Give thanks for those who have recovered and pray for complete healing for all
- Those who are self-isolating and may be feeling lonely and cut-off
  - Give thanks for the many individuals and groups arising to provide support.
- The NHS staff who are under enormous pressure
  - Give thanks for those willing to serve us.
- Those leading the fight against the spread of the virus at local, national, and international levels.
  - Pray for wisdom for leaders facing difficult decisions.
  - Give thanks for the skills and technologies that we have and pray that have effective tests and vaccines quickly.
- The light of Christ to shine in the darkness, that God's perfect love would drive out all fear.
  - For those who are anxious about being trapped in with difficult or even abusive others.
  - *A virus is infectious in ways that are unseen but real. I believe faith, hope and love can be just as infectious and real. If we can be people who share kindness and care, our behaviour can be infectious in ways that bring life, comfort and joy.* Catherine Ogle (Dean of Winchester Cathedral). Pray for an outpouring of infectious love and the grace of God.
  - *Our God, from your sacred home you take care of orphans and protect widows. You find families for those who are lonely.* (Psalm 68:5-6a CEV). God invites us as his family to participate in His work. Being family, supporting each other and actively inviting others, whatever their background, into this support over the coming months is being the church, far more than 'services' – in fact, this is now our 'service', our act of worship. Pray that we might be effective salt and light in our communities and to our neighbours
- For the poor, the marginalised, for example, single-parent families, those on zero hours contracts, in rental accommodation or suffering long-term sickness.
- For local and international business, the owners and workforces, facing very uncertain times.
- Individuals and situations as God leads you.