

Intercessions for Advent 2 6th December 2020 – Jane Brough

John the Baptist calls us to think and act in keeping with the Kingdom of God, a World of justice peace and hope. Let us pray to God who seeks the lost, refreshes the weary and is a friend to the lonely. Let us pray for the church, that we may clearly witness the Lord's goodness and mercy both in our words and our actions and that people may see his love reflected in our lives. Comfort those who fear change, those who feel let down by their church and those who are still waiting for their own miracle. Comfort the clergy, when they wonder where you are leading the church but are still willing to follow.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Let us pray for those who suffer injustice far away and out of sight remembering all those in situations beyond their control – refugees - protestors - those who are displaced due to natural disasters and in conflicts throughout the World. May the bright light of God shine on their lives and may a way of change become clear and visible along with the people to make it happen, We pray for those who suffer injustice right in our midst, the people to make it happen. We pray for those who suffer injustice right in our midst, the people and problems that we are vaguely aware of but choose not to dwell on. May God help them to find a voice and us to find our will to help.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Let us pray for ourselves, that we may have ears to hear the cries for help from those nearby and far away and be willing to offer our hands and hearts to help bring change about. Comfort those who need to know there is love and hope for them. Comfort those who seek to give comfort, especially those whose ministries are unseen and comfort those in the caring professions who feel drained of energy and strength.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Let us pray for all those who are facing an unsure future, those who have lost their jobs – their homes – those facing health problems. We pray for those whose lives are entwined with ours and who face terrible pain and struggle. May God give them what they need to fight and what they need to let go.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Let us pray for all those who are grieving the loss of those they have loved, whether the actual loss was years ago or very recently. May God comfort them, hold them and bring them peace and freedom.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

God hears our prayers and is always willing to help those who call for the Kingdom. As we travel along the way that John the Baptist prepared, may we be empowered by the Spirit of God and take comfort from God's assurance of help.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen