**Intercessions – Palm Sunday**

Gracious Father, we turn to you in prayer for our world, nation, church and community.

In this time of uncertainty and distress we pray for all those affected by the coronavirus, for those who are sick, those that have been bereaved, for the anxious and fearful. We pray that they will know your healing, comfort and peace in their lives. And that we may all find our trust and rest in you, our Heavenly Father.

**Lord, graciously hear us**

We thank you for the sacrifice and skill of all those who are caring for us at this time, we ask that you keep them safe and well and that they will get the protection and tests they vitally need. Our prayer is to you Father that you will turn this virus around, that it will be defeated. We know that you often use human agencies and we pray for those working to find a cure that you will grant them wisdom and insight and the breakthrough we need, we also ask that you give the governments and health authorities the wisdom and actions they need. Lord, but our cry and hope is in you!

**Lord, graciously hear us**

You are teaching us much at this time, help us to understand what you are saying to us, grant us patience and a grateful heart to appreciate all you have given us, sometimes it is only when it is taken away from us that we realise all we have been given. Help us to have a heart that is quiet, at peace and thankful, to pray for our world, church and community as we look for your deliverance. We also remember those who live in countries where there is much poverty and health care is not so advanced, we pray that they will not be neglected.

**Lord, graciously hear us**

Lord, look after our families and friends at this time, keep us safe, although we can’t meet we are in each others hearts and minds in prayer, we look forward to the time when we can be together and join in public worship, give thanks and praise. Thank you for all you are to us dear Lord and for all you have done for us.

**Lord, graciously hear us**

And finally, we know that we might be restricted but our prayers aren’t, your Holy Spirit is still at work and we know that you are still building your kingdom. We pray that at this time when there is more awareness of our own mortality that many hearts turn towards you.

*Our Father in heaven,*

*hallowed be your name,*

*your kingdom come,*

*your will be done,*

*on earth as in heaven,*

*Give us today our daily bread.*

*Forgive us our sins*

*as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*Lead us not into temptation,*

*but deliver us from evil.*

*For the kingdom, the power,*

*and the glory are yours*

*now and forever.*

**Amen!**