

Sunday 2nd May

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord
and he rules over the nations. Ps22

All the ends of the earth will remember. What do we
remember? How do we remember? What is the importance
of remembering? In this Psalm we are told that in
remembering, all will turn to the Lord and worship him.

As we remember those who have also worshipped in this
building, those who are not able to return to worship right
now, those who are ill and frail at home, generations before
who sat in these pews may that also cause us to turn to our
faithful God that we too may worship with hope and trust.

Father God, as we remember members of our church family -
we turn to you.

As we remember those unable to be with us today – we turn
to you.

As we remember the generations that have been part of the
very fabric of this place – we turn to you.

And as we remember, may we trust that we too are being
remembered by your Son, our Saviour and Lord AMEN

As part of the living vine, go from here to bear fruit in the
name of the true vine, Jesus Christ, our Lord and the blessing

of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit will
be with you today and always. AMEN

God, in your mercy,
you gave Jesus as a gift to the world. He became the vine that
we might be the branches— extending your goodness out
into our communities and world.

By your spirit, you resource and nourish, you plant seeds of
gifts and talents within each one of us that in your time will
flourish and burst forth in harvests of love and kindness,
mercy and compassion, justice and peace.

Harvests which will impact our world for good and enhance
the lives of others.

We seek forgiveness today for the times when we break
connection with the vine; when we seek to go it alone and do
things in our own strength and wisdom.

We seek forgiveness today for refusing to hope in the face of
the storms of life which cause us to strain under pressure,
refusing to believe that you are with us in those storms.

And forgive us when we become transfixed by our own
worthiness, that we fail to acknowledge the good that other
people and organisations bring to the communities in which
we live and the world of which we are part.

Lord, like refreshing rain wash over us and bring renewal and
new life. Take the ingredients that make us who we are, and
make them into something full of life, energy and vigour.

May your Spirit grant us forgiveness, and inspire us to new
growth as we join hearts and voices together to say – 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