

Ian Galloway

Prayers of Thanksgiving and concern

St Andrews Church, Jerusalem, Sunday 13 July 2008

How great is Your name through all the earth – You, the God of all life are great indeed – the God of all time and space, of sun, moon and stars – and yet you are the God who has made a home with people.

We thank You for all Your goodness to us:

- for the world we inhabit, in all its variety and wonder
- for each new day and the opportunities it brings
- for health, and for the means to sustain us from day to day.

We thank You too for this time together, gathered as children of a loving God/

We thank You for the gift of one another, that we might see Your spirit in the face of our neighbour, and so serve You in serving one another.

For these and for all Your gifts we give You thanks and praise from the depths of our being.

We remember now, in love, this world and its people, hurting in so many ways and so many places. Heal the wounds of Your people, we pray, and in your mercy show us how to live together in peace and harmony.

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

We pray for the Lands of Israel and Palestine. Be with all who strive to work together so that justice and peace may prevail over hatred and division. Give strength and endurance where they are needed, and faith that can move mountains so that every obstacle to a better future may be overcome.

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

Gathered in this place of witness, hospitality and service, we remember Scotland and all the issues facing its people now and in the days and months to come. We pray for Glasgow, where those in some parts of the city will live an average of fifteen years longer than their neighbours in some of our poorest communities. Help us to find common ground in tackling inequality and bringing hope to people who find it hard to hope for themselves.

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

God of earth, fire, air and water, we pray for the whole created order. Creation groans under the weight of our demands. As the North Pole ice floes melt, elsewhere flood waters rise to threaten the habitats of our sisters and brothers in other parts of the world. As oil prices rise

and rise, and water supplies grow uncertain, we see the need for change in the ways that many of us live. Help us to live simply, that others may simply live.

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

We pray for ourselves. Whether our lives are to be spent in this land, or in Scotland, we pray that our path will be the way You guide us in, keeping us at all times in Your love and care. We pray for this Church and Guest House as it continues to be a place of welcome and hospitality, for Colin and Helen as they continue their sojourn here, for the congregation and for the staff. And we pray for the members of then Inter Faith Pilgrimage Group as we complete our programme today and prepare to return home. We remember with love, David, our Moderator, and Philip, and Moshe who have gone before us, and the families and friends and the work that awaits us on our return. We pray for unity of purpose, and the will to make a difference together.

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

And in a few moments of silence, we remember the people and places close to our hearts, and in the quietness we weave our prayers together before You, the God of each and the God of all.

(Silence)

Kyrie Eleison – GOD HAVE MERCY

Your will be done on earth, O God

So let it be – Amen.