

**CALL TO PRAYER: SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY**  
**Prayer @ 7pm**

At this present time, we are especially conscious of the need to protect and to be protected. Indeed, our collective awareness of the need to protect life and the lives of those whom we love has perhaps never been so heightened. In response to the threat posed by Covid 19, we seek to protect and shield those whom we care for most deeply.

In the Gospel of John (17: 1-11), Jesus prays for his disciples in anticipation of the time when he will no longer be with them. What is it that he prays for? Jesus asks the Father to 'protect' his friends. Whilst he was with them, Jesus protected and shielded the disciples and later in his prayer he prays for each one of us. The ascended Lord Jesus continues to pray for us and assures us that his presence will be renewed through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We pray:

Living God and gracious Father,  
Protect and shield us.  
Living God, protect and shield  
All whom we love,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Living God, your Son now sits in your presence  
And shares in your glory and honour.  
We thank you for the promise  
That his presence shall be renewed for us,  
Through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Living God, we thank you that Jesus prayed for us  
And that he continues to intercede for us.  
We thank you that he continues to pray  
For us and for our protection,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Living God, we pray for the life of the world.  
We thank you for all those who, in these days,  
Strive to protect and shield us.  
Renew them in heart and soul, and mind and strength,  
Through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Living God, renew us we pray and renew the life of the world.  
For you so loved the world that you gave your Son  
That we might share in the life of the world to come.  
Hear our prayer, now and always,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Signed by:

Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair, Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland  
Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman Catholic Church  
Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish Episcopal Church  
Rev. John Fulton, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland  
Rev. Dr David Pickering, Moderator, United Reformed Church (Scotland)  
Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland  
Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)  
Rev. May-Kane Logan, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland  
Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army  
Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)  
Rev. Jim Ritchie, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of the Nazarene  
Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian Church of God  
Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS)