

Passion Sunday Intercessions

(John 12) In Jerusalem for the Passover. Andrew and Philip met some Greeks who wanted to see Jesus. When they brought them to him, Jesus saw this as the beginning of the universal growth of his Kingdom. It would begin with the Cross – like a grain of wheat dying in the ground – but would end with his glory as his followers learned to die to themselves and live in, with and for him. We follow that theme in our intercessions, with a response:

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

When grains of wheat are lost in the soil, who would see a field of golden grain – each seed head multiplied a hundred times?

Give thanks as we recall amazing gifts we have received from God, and wonderful things he has done with us
Give thanks for beauty in all its forms
Especially for creation murmuring, sometimes shouting his glory

Give thanks for the cross-shaped experiences of our lives which have drawn us closer to God in helpless trust

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

Pray for our natural world
For wise use of all creation
And unselfish regard for others, now and in future generations

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

When God gave himself to be lost in his world, and be hanged on a cross for those he loved, who could believe the whole world would be transformed by his love?

Give thanks for God's grace – far greater than any human love, giving itself in Jesus for our salvation now and for always.

Pray for the Church in its role of giving life to the world

[Contemporary issues and Prayer Handbook themes here]

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

And pray for our church and Circuit – ministers, and people – to share in radiating the love of Christ in our communities.

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

*When Jesus was taken from a blood-stained Cross, who would have believed that Cross would become a sign of hope for all people?
Who would believe that all the suffering of our world today could be held within Christ's promise of renewal?*

Pray for the world's needs - those on your heart
[and current issues from the news]

We want to see Jesus; **And share his Kingdom Glory**

Bring to God our own painful, impossible situations and those of family and friends around us.

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Lord Jesus, who would have believed that twelve men from Galilee responding to your call to leave everything would be the beginning of a healing force across all the world?
Who would believe that our lives, dying to self and alive in your Spirit can be part of that on-going Kingdom power today?
Lord, give us faith and courage to live by the Cross and so reveal your glory.

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