

An invasive weed



St Aidan's Uniting Church
16th June 2024

Call to Worship

The reign of God is like a mustard seed,
a small weed,
that becomes an invasive pest.

Come, and worship our God
and be part of that mustard seed's growth.

Prayers

God of the unexpected,
help us to recognise you in the unexpected.

When we pull out what we think are weeds
and so stifle the growth you offer our world,
**Farmer of the mustard seed,
forgive us.**

When we see the weed in the fields
and not appreciate the flavour it brings to our lives
**Farmer of the mustard seed,
forgive us.**

When we want fences for protection
and not take the risk of growing beyond our boundaries,
**Farmer of the mustard seed,
forgive us.**

When growing becomes a chore
and loses its mystery,
**Farmer of the mustard seed,
forgive us.**

Forgive us, gracious God,
help farm the mustard seeds with you
and be part of spreading your reign
to the world that needs to know your grace.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

God brings growth to all,
and draws us in with love
to share that love with the world.

Know that you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Intercession

Creative God,
there are so many places in your world
that need your love
to spread as an invasive weed.

We pray for the places at war,
for the plans for peace,
for those who are negotiating peace:

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray for the hungry,
those without adequate health care,
education,
or hope of a future.

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray for the outcasts,
because of homelessness,
mental illness,
sexuality,
disability:

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray for the leaders of all countries
who make decisions
that affect the lives of millions:

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray for the hopeless,
the forgotten,
the unwanted:

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

We pray for ourselves;
remind us what it means to pray

**May your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

Go out into the world,
the world that is the field
of our most extravagant farmer.

Go out to be weeds
sowing the seeds of God's love
wherever you go.

And as you go, may you always know
the love of God surrounds you,
Christ, the companion, walks with you
and the Spirit leads you on the dance of life.