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## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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*Jesus is the resurrection and the life. He can transform death and despair, in any form, into life and hope.*

As the people of the living God,  
let us join together in our prayers  
for the Church and for the world.

Holy God, breathe your life into the Church;  
breathe holiness and deepening faith,  
breathe energy, inspired teaching and fervent praise;  
unblock the channels and make us more receptive  
to your gentleness and your power.

*Silence*

Breathe into us:  
**so that we live in you.**

Holy God, breathe your life into the universe;  
breathe responsible caring, honesty and compassion,  
breathe right values and good stewardship,  
peace and reconciliation, vision and hope.

*Silence*

Breathe into us:  
**so that we live in you.**

Holy God, breathe your life  
into our homes and places of work;  
breathe increased patience and understanding,  
and the courage to live the Christian life  
when to do so brings ridicule or demands sacrifice.

*Silence*

Breathe into us:  
**so that we live in you.**

Holy God, breathe your life into those who suffer;  
breathe comfort and wholeness,  
forgiveness and new confidence,  
breathe peace of mind  
and the knowledge of your love.

*Silence*

Breathe into us:  
**so that we live in you.**

Holy God, breathe your life into the dead and dying;  
breathe courage for the journey  
and the realisation that you can be trusted.  
Breathe life that lasts for ever.

*Silence*

Breathe into us:  
**so that we live in you.**

Holy God, breathe your life into us now  
as we offer you here our thanks and praise  
for your life laid down out of love for us.  
May our words be worked out  
in fresh commitment to you.

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**