

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

A time to be born and a time to die, today we give thanks for the ministry of all churches in our region. How they have blessed peoples lives, nurtured them, and spiritually fed them. We thank you for the thousands of lives that have been touched by your presence.

Yet we know with all things, there is a time to live and a time to die. Today we give thanks to God for the following congregations who have ceased operations in the past year.

And we pray: God of all times, we give you thanks for the ministry of these churches. They have served their communities well. Bless all who worshipped and work there. May there legacy never be forgotten.

Hymn: VU 494 Those Hearts We Have Treasured

