

Prayers of Intercession – Harvest Festival

Lord, help us turn towards you, in quietness and trust. Thank you for always being there for us, even when we forget, or find it easier to grumble, or are weighed down by the world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Help us to hold fast to your promises, especially when everything seems so uncertain. That you love, us and will care and provide for us. Help us to be generous with what we have; help us share with those you place in our paths. Help us to share our patience, and kindness with our friends, loved ones and colleagues – and to be gentle, not knowing exactly what our neighbour is struggling with. Help us to be a source of joy and support to those around us. We pray that we could live each day to the fullest, as you intend us to, free us from the worries and stress that cloud and distort our lives.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for the church throughout the world, for places where being a Christian is difficult or dangerous and we're grateful we can still come together and worship freely, able to choose, in safety. We thank you for all the new opportunities for outreach and evangelism. We pray that we can reach out to those to need us, to plant seeds that you will grow.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for the world, for balance and prosperity for everyone. We pray for our government and the challenges they face. We pray for everyone working for Track and Trace, for those in the labs, for everyone in the NHS, for everyone who is working hard to keep us safe.

We pray for students everywhere, for school children returning to classrooms and university students starting over. We pray you would keep them safe and happy as they adjust.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We raise before you everyone who is ill at this time, whether in body, mind or spirit. We pray especially for those suffering with long-covid, where they continue to experience symptoms months after the initial illness. We pray for everyone with chronic or on-going conditions, that you would rain down peace upon them.

And we pray for those who have died, and for those who mourn them, who have to say goodbye in a different way than planned. Let them feel you close to them, supporting and loving them.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Thank you for bringing us to another harvest, to the turning of another year. And in the midst of all the trouble, all the restrictions and loneliness and fear, you paint us a new canvas to look at the world. As summer gives way to autumn, you gift us with bright new colours, with crisp, clean air, and frosty mornings. Help us to be grateful for your indescribable gifts.

Accept these prayers, for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.