

Prayers of Intercession
Advent Sunday - 29th November 2020

At the beginning of the church's year we have an opportunity to reflect and prepare for the coming of Jesus. We have time this year to choose to maybe do things differently, not to get so caught up in all the Christmas preparations, perhaps to make things simpler, to stop and be still for a few moments each day.

Lord, on this Advent Sunday, prepare us for your coming in this church. We have had to be a very different church from the one we are used to. Let us reflect on the good things which have come out of this and the things we have learnt, change what we think needs to be changed and reinstate the things we have missed. Let us see it as an opportunity not a problem.

Not only do we thank Phil, Lin and Carol for rising to the challenge of on-line worship and for all their input, we say many thanks to Russell, David and Ben for their technical expertise in making it happen.
Give us a new vision and hope for the future.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord, prepare us for your coming, in the world, a world hit by this dreadful pandemic. We know how difficult it has been for us but what about those millions of people who are in the third world or refugees who don't have clean water or access to medical help . We pray for those in positions of power and influence who are dealing with this situation. Give them courage and patience to do the right thing. We pray for good government, that international help will be forthcoming and that a vaccine will soon be available. And we pray for all those affected by the hurricanes, this season predicted to be the worst on record. So often affecting those people who have no time to recover from one disaster before another one strikes.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord, prepare us for your coming in our own community.

We pray for the sick and elderly who are in lockdown, lonely and see no-one. We pray for those suffering from mental health problems that they will be able to access the help that they need. We pray for those in business who can see their livelihoods slipping away, those who have been made redundant already and those fearing it. We pray for doctors and nurses and all the staff in our hospitals and care homes who are overworked, tired and anxious and must be afraid of going to work each day. We pray for them all and for people in any kind of need.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord, prepare us all for your coming..... and for what lies ahead in the next few weeks and months. We pray for our families, friends, neighbours and ourselves. May we all do everything we can to reduce the spread of this virus and we pray for those involved in medical research that an effective vaccine can be found for use by everyone. We pray for patience and perseverance as we wait for this to happen.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Lord, prepare us for your coming, make us watchful and keep us faithful so that when our Lord does appear he may not find us sleeping but active in his service and joyful in his praise.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your son,

our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.