

Prayers of intercession

Father God as we celebrate you at work, we are aware of many in the world trapped in circumstances where it is hard to see your hand.

We think of those whose lives are destroyed by war: homes flattened, families lost, loved ones maimed and hungry.

We pray for peace between Ukraine and Russia. Move hardened hearts and bring about change. Lead those in power to the negotiating table so there can be an end to the devastation and a laying down of arms.

We pray for the Middle East where the fragile tightrope of peace strains to breaking point as more strikes are ordered. There were recent celebrations of homecoming hostages but there are still families mourning those not returned.

Father God of all power and grace, may we see your hand at work as you bring about a silencing of guns and a laying down of arms. May the world celebrate your mighty powers of restoration, peace, and justice.

Our hearts go out to those caught in the path of hurricane Melissa, the magnitude of which has not been seen for a generation. We pray Father, for your world where sea levels are rising and winds and rains are intensifying with each year that passes.

Father God of all power and grace, may we see your hand at work naturally restoring nature and halting climate change.

We pray for this country and the struggling economy. May your hand fall upon this nation, this government. Evaporate simmering tensions within society.

We pray for our shambolic prison service and justice system; for the falsely imprisoned and those escaping justice through bungling errors. We pray for the abused and victims of crime still to see justice.

We pray for all our emergency services: police, firefighters, ambulance workers, and our overstretched NHS. May you comfort the sick and suffering and all who care for them. Meet the needs of all still waiting for appointments.

Father God of all power and grace, we pray to see your guiding hand at work bringing wisdom, truth and healing to bear where it is needed. Meet all needs, Father God with your loving grace and mercy.

Father God, we bring before you our own communities, the struggling businesses, the lonely, the hungry, those in danger of losing their jobs and wondering how they are going to meet financial pressures. Remove all fear of the future.

We pray for your church. May it be true to your Word, looking only to you and not pandering to worldly influencers. May your church give hope, reaching out to the lost, breaking chains that bind.

Father God of all power and grace, we join our prayers with all those that have gone before. We exalt and celebrate you, lifting our prayers to you, our loving God who has ultimate power over all things. Hear our prayers.

Amen.