

Prayers for Sunday 6th September 2026 – Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

God of freedom and of new beginnings, you called your people to ready themselves for change, a walk from drudgery and oppression to a land of new hope. Not an easy walk, but a walk with you.

We bring to you now the things that weigh us down, that burden your creation, trusting in the promise that your plans for us are good. We ready ourselves to hear your voice, to follow your call, to place our trust in you.

We pray for our world, your world, as we hear reports of war and conflict, natural disaster and human greed ravaging the land. We think of the continuing hostilities between America and Iran, Israel and Gaza, Russia and Ukraine and the civil war in Sudan. Strengthen and empower those working for peace and those bringing aid to innocent victims of oppression and violence.

We pray for the many people killed, injured and displaced by the glacial collapse and floods in Nepal, Tibet and China; for those affected by earthquakes and flash flooding in America; and for the disastrous effects of wildfires in Algeria, Indonesia and elsewhere.
Lord, break the chains of despair. **Lead your people into new hope.**

As parliament reconvenes under a new Prime Minister, we bring our prayers for our own country, asking that you bless all those in positions of power and leadership. Guide them into wise decisions and effective policies - fair and in the interests of all - not just the wealthy or influential. Where Pharaoh feared those of a different ethnicity, turning welcome into hostility, may we instead embrace the opportunity to cherish our neighbours, no matter how they may differ from us, sharing in the joy of knowing that all are your children and made in your image.
Lord, break the chains of poverty and intolerance. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Just as the Hebrew people prepared for upheaval, this is a time of transition for many experiencing major life changes. We think especially of children, young people and adults embarking on the next stage of their education or employment. We pray for those experiencing anxiety or other mental health difficulties brought about by change or fear of the unknown, and for those who support and mentor them, especially parents and grandparents and other carers. We pray for those relocating, retiring, or entering into new relationships.
Lord, break the chains of uncertainty. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Grant your love, strength and comfort to those whose life is not going smoothly. We think of those sick in mind, or body or spirit; or finding their independence or quality of life restricted in any way; those who are dealing with financial challenges such as unemployment or redundancy, homelessness or unsatisfactory accommodation, poverty or need; and those whose relationships are not running smoothly or who find themselves isolated and alone.
Lord, break the chains of insecurity. **Lead your people into new hope.**

In a moment of quiet, we bring to you the things that are particularly on our hearts today.
Lord, break the chains that bind us. **Lead your people into new hope.**

Amen