

Sunday 23 November – Christ the King

Prayers written by Sue Lyne

Gracious and eternal God, maker, redeemer and inspirer, we are your people. You are our God. We stand in line with those you call to bear your love to hungry souls. And so, we come within this place to worship and to learn, to offer praise, to hear your word, to do your will in the cause of your Kingdom.

Loving God, we pray that we may know your Spirit in us and amongst us as we gather for worship, to offer our praise to you, to seek to know your will for us, to grow in faith and understanding, and so live out in actions day by day the faith we now proclaim in words.

Lord God whose Holy Spirit is always with us we ask that our lips speak a word of love for those who are starved of affection.

Holy Spirit, sing a song of joy in our lives, especially for those who have forgotten how to smile.

Holy Spirit put in our hands and those who govern the countries of this world the gift of peace for those who live in places of violence and fear.

Lord hear us... Lord graciously hear us.

Holy Spirit through our thoughtfulness, offer the treasure of patience to those who endure many trials and difficulties.

Holy Spirit in our deeds show the worth of goodness, to encourage all who believe evil is in control.

Holy Spirit, enable our feet to go the extra mile of kindness, supporting those who are weighed down by their problems.

Lord hear us... Lord graciously hear us.

Holy Spirit in our constancy, display the enduring quality of faithfulness, so that we may stand by those who have lost their trust.

Holy Spirit kindle in our hearts the candle of gentleness, lighting the path of those wounded and dismayed.

Holy Spirit fill each demanding day with your gift of self-control, so that we do not do damage to your name as we respond to human need.

Lord hear us... Lord graciously hear us.

Holy Spirit we ask that you surround those who are suffering in mind, body and spirit and this time. We pray especially for June Dennis, Jericho Hasieber and Jo and for those known only to ourselves. Give them strength and comfort.

So, we pray Lord, as autumn gives way to winter and the leaves fall to the earth to feed the coming spring, so may the times of loss and seeming death in us become resources for new life and growth. And if the season seems too long, and winter grips our spirit in its vice, give us the patience to know that lengthening days will lead to brightness and to joy, as year leads on to year and time to time.

Holy Spirit be with those who have lost loved ones at this time, surround them with your love and we pray for the families of Audrey Hayward, Martin Turner and Eileen Tubb and for those who remember loved ones who are now with you and rest in peace. From our memorial book we pray for Michael Corbett and John Edward Poyntz.

We pray that your Holy Spirit will be with us all to guide and guard us today and in the coming week.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen