

*We meet in the presence of God
Who knows our needs
Hears our cries
Feels our pain and heals our wounds*

God be in our heads and in our understanding

Too often we hear concerns for our planets future,
and the destruction of our environment.

As ice sheets melt, flood waters rise, species disappear, forests are decimated
As airports expand and traffic and pollution increase,
it seems impossible to fix the problem
We feel there is little we can do.
It is easier just to ignore or deny it.

*Creator God Help us to understand just what we are doing to our world
Show us how to live responsibly and to act decisively to put things right*

Lord in your mercy

We pray for nations which are threatened from outside,
living in fear of those who seek power or the excuse to attack.

We think particularly at the moment of the frightening situation between North Korea and America

We pray for nations which are being devastated from within;
torn apart by civil war or unrest
whose people have lost their homes and families;

We pray for the nations with the power to prevent war
And to solve these social and relational problems

Jesus said Love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you,
pray for those who mistreat you
Forgive not retaliate

We pray that those who have hearts filled with hatred and violence may come to repentance by knowing
the love that Jesus has for them

Saviour of the world, save us from ourselves

Give those living in the shadow of fear, true hope

Those driven by bigotry, hatred, suspicion or greed, living faith

Those obsessed with protecting their own interests, sheer grace

Make your people active peacemakers, socially, politically, locally and globally

And to bring about the changes that would turn this world into what you would have it be.

Lord in your mercy

God be in our eyes and in our looking

Too often on our television screens we see scenes of devastation caused by drought or floods or bombs
We see mothers nursing hungry babies with nothing to offer them;
We see rescuers desperately scrabbling through the rubble of shattered cities looking for the missing
This week we have seen the aftermath of the mud slide in Sierra Leone
Survivors crying for help to find lost relatives. Children orphaned and left homeless
In the comfort of our homes, we feel the guilt and frustration of our helplessness,
yet frequently do nothing.

*All seeing Lord, cause your church to open its eyes and take in what is truly there
Give it the vision to take action in both its politics and its generosity.*

*Through its actions and its awareness
In the darkest corners of the world, let the light that is Christ, shine*

Lord in your mercy

God be in our mouths and in our speaking

Father God

We give thanks for your Church.

For our Bishops and Clergy and all who work so tirelessly and continuously for your purpose.

Thank you, Lord, for all the relief and charity organisations working throughout the world in you name

For our PCC and the various committees that plan, organise and lead all we do as a parish.

We give special thanks for the team which secured the grant

to enable much needed repairs to this building to commence early in the new year.

*Give all who act on our behalf strength of purpose, clear thinking in their decision making
and success in their aspirations.*

*Guide us all on issues that concern us and when we have clearly thought them through,
give us the courage to speak out openly and distinctly for all to hear*

Lord in your mercy

God be in our hearts and in our thinking

Almighty Lord

*The same Lord that so loves his children as to lay down his life for them; the same Lord that spoke the word
that recognised the faith of the Canaanite woman; the same Lord that restored sight to the blind, cleansed
lepers, made the lame to walk and raised Lazarus from the dead, our hearts go out to those killed, injured
or missing through the landslide in Sierra Leone or the terrorist attacks in Barcelona and Stockholm
Visit now we pray all that are suffering in any way, and particularly those known to us*

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*Give strength to those who support love and care for all who are in need
often disregarding and forfeiting their own comfort or well-being.
Give us the strength to support them*

Lord in your mercy

God be at our end and at our departing

Comfort those who mourn. Grant that in all their grief they may turn to you and find the peace of your consolation and the joy of your love

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Lord in your mercy

Abba, Father

Thank you for bringing us into your family

May we never disappoint or forget you

Gather to us those who have been outcast

May they see in us the influence of your love

To your honour and glory

Merciful Father