

Intercession prayers for 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020. HARVEST

Creator God, we humbly bow our heads before you, our Lord, and come together in prayer.

Lord of the vast Universe and all that is in it - maker of the Earth, the natural world and the multitude of living things that fill it – your gift to us - our beautiful home.

At this our Harvest celebration we praise and thank you for the wonder, variety and beauty of all that you have created.

In a few moments of silence, we lift our grateful hearts to you thanking you for the things which **we** most value and treasure. (PAUSE)

You have gifted us this world to look after and share, and provided within it everything we need to flourish and prosper.

Inspire and enable us to restore and respect, to preserve and protect this beautiful world, for all people now and in the future.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Generous God, thank you for the Harvest

For food to eat from our own country as well as from abroad

For all involved in growing, processing, preparing and delivering it to us

Thank you, too, for the harvest of science and technology; power and manufacturing; medicine and healing music and visual arts; exploration and discovery; invention and creative thought.

Give us the wisdom, understanding and creativity to use and share your gifts wisely for the benefit of all your people throughout the world.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Lord of the Harvest, we lift to you all those who have no harvest to celebrate.

We pray for people, the world over, who are hungry and thirsty for whatever reason. those who are homeless, those who live every day with abuse, intimidation and fear, those struggling to survive, those separated from their loved ones and for refugees everywhere, in desperate need of help, peace, safety.

Merciful and gracious Lord, through your great love and compassion, turn these situations around.

We pray your blessing on lives overwhelmed with suffering and we ask that needs are met.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Today we pray for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal and for the work of Church and Community Mobilisation in supporting people of Nepal as they rebuild their lives and livelihoods after devastating earthquakes. We pray too for the foodbank supporting those in need in our own town. Thank you for those who give and care, bless those receive, we pray.

Strengthen, encourage and inspire all individuals and organisations who seek to help and may those in authority who can make a difference – be empowered by you to do so.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Lord Jesus, Word made Flesh,

Free us from all that imprisons us, our addictions and obsessions; our focus on worldly wealth and status; our pride, fear, and prejudice. Through your great love, give us the freedom to grow and flourish to be as your Father created us - the best we can be.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Lord, nurture our days with your love  
Water our souls with the dew of forgiveness  
That the harvest of our lives might be your joy

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