

Prayers for 31st January 2021

God knows all things well, and our prayers come before Him.
He is our hope, and the hope of all creation.

Come, Lord Jesus, come into our suffering world.

Come, Lord Jesus, to all who are bereaved.

Come and bring your comfort and love to those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

Come, Lord Jesus, to those who are ill.

Come and bring healing, strength, and reassurance to all who are frightened, in pain and fighting for life in every hospital ward and Intensive Care Unit.

Come, Lord Jesus, to those who care for others.

Come and bring encouragement, support, and stamina to all in the medical profession, ambulance drivers, front line workers and carers. Grant rest, refreshment, and respite to those in despair, exhausted with the challenges of meeting so much need.

Come, Lord Jesus to our fractured society.

Come and rescue those who are lost, the homeless living on the streets, those drowning in the misery of drugs or alcohol, prisoners, victims, the violent, the abused. Save these lost people Lord, transform their lives, we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus, to our community

Come and bring peace, calm and love into every home. Especially where people are struggling to cope with the stress of lockdown, the demands of home schooling, the challenges of working from home, the worry of redundancy, the anxiety of shortage of money, the limitations and isolation of living alone, the frustration of an uncertain future.

In a few moments of silence let us lift to the Lord all those we know who are in special need of our prayers at this time.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Most loving and gracious Lord, we bring before you the troubles of all people and nations around the world.

We pray for all countries in their fight against coronavirus, especially those with poorly developed health care systems and a shortage of vaccine and those faced with tackling new strains of the virus.

We pray for peace and unity in the USA under their new administration. Guide them towards racial harmony, fairness and equality for all.

We ask that countries of the world may be united in their determination to tackle the causes of climate change, pollution, deforestation and all that spoils and destroys the Earth. Grant that we may work with each other to reverse this destruction and to appreciate, value and respect your Created world.

We pray for national leaders and all with responsibility and authority. Especially, at this time, we pray for our own government. Give them wisdom and courage as they seek to make decisions about our future livelihood and well-being and to find the right way forward. May they have a heart for

peace, justice and understanding, at home and in their international relations, for the good of all people.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We ask you to calm the storm of our present lives, Lord Jesus,
rebuke the wind and waves of uncertainty and frustration,
breathe through our fear and doubt, shine into the darkness.
Let your still, small voice of calm rest on our hearts.
May we each know that we are safe with you, always and for ever.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Dear Lord, through your Holy Spirit at work in us, grow us into resilient Christians.
Seeking to forgive others and accepting forgiveness for ourselves through your Son's sacrifice on the cross.
Confident to be open and vulnerable and imperfect.
Secure in the knowledge of your great love for us.
Committed to loving you with all our heart, mind and soul.

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