

Prayers for the 18th of September

Come into our presence Lord.

Come and be with us this morning in a way that we have not felt before.

I ask this as we know that where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom, there is healing and there is strength.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Jesus, we thank you for the life of our beloved Queen Elizabeth. Oh Lord, show us how to live like she did with an unwavering faith and a steadfast dedication to you. We thank you that she was a role model, showing us clearly what it takes to live a life of service. I thank you too for her focus on reconciliation and inclusivity and I pray that you instil this kind of commitment in us too.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

I thank you for the outpouring of love in her honour, all leading to the state funeral tomorrow. Lord, I pray that it will be a safe and seamless occasion – a respectful display of the best of the Queen, the best of this country and the Commonwealth. Above all else, I pray that your glory and majesty will be clear for the world to see.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Faithful God, help our new King Charles the third in his role. I pray that with your guidance, your direction and your wisdom, he will be the king that this country needs at this time. I pray too that he will be a king focused on a fair and just society, on the sustainability and preservation of this planet and on the success of this country for years to come.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

King Jesus, I bring our individual burdens, concerns and insecurities before your throne of grace, asking for breakthroughs this week. In a moment of silence, I ask that we bring forward issues, things or people on our minds that we are worried about. Thank you, God, for fresh perspectives and new solutions.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy Lord, we pray for people struggling to make ends meet, because of the cost-of-living crisis. Lord Jesus, we ask that you make miracles like you did when you fed the five thousand from very little indeed.

We ask too that you challenge and prod those that have enough to give to share in these difficult times.

We pray together as our Saviour taught us

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**