

**St Paul's Letchworth  
Intercessions - 20th October**

Lord, we marvel at your majesty and your power, the power to lay the earth's foundations and to show dawn its place. We thank you for the time that you give us. For your love and blessings. We are blinded by your grace, humbled by your mercy, staggered by your humanity.

We thank you for the journeys that you take us on. And even though these journeys may be tough, we know that you are walking with us - an unrelenting companion by our side. That as you shape us we are brought closer to your glory and your vision for us.

**Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Lord, we thank you for the energy of this church. Its mission and its service to the community. We celebrate together when new members walk through our doors or hear your message - we welcome them and cherish their trust in us.

Father, as a church we are blessed by servant leadership from our clergy and staff team and the gifts of time given by our volunteers. We thank you for their dedication and all the amazing things that it allows us to do.

**Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Lord, in a year that has been dominated by elections and politics and with a significant vote a few weeks away. We are reminded of your words, of what makes a great leader, that whoever wants to be great among others must be a servant - just as your Son came not to be served, but to serve.

We ask, we pray, we beg that those in power and those seeking power know this, hear this and be this. To dedicate their lives and their

leadership to service, a service that helps people, a service that lifts families out of poverty, that heals the sick and welcomes the stranger.

**Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

We pray for an end to conflicts worldwide, for ceasefires and negotiations to replace fighting. We ask that you direct the leaders of Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Lebanon and Iran to a table to reach an agreement that ends the catastrophic loss of life.

But whilst wars rage we pray that you speak into the hearts and intentions of those involved to remind them and ensure that children are not a target, that hospitals, schools, peacekeepers and rescue workers are not targets.

That every life lost is a life full of potential, a life that is a collection of emotions and memories. A life that has the capacity to love, learn, laugh and live. But ultimately a life that belongs to you, that was created by you and is cherished by you.

**Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.**

Lord our shepherd, as we consider the week ahead and all that it holds, we ask that you continue to speak your word into our lives. To challenge and teach us. To lift us and forgive us. To guide us and to guard us. Thank you Father.

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