

The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies the work of his hands King David wrote around 3 thousand years ago. As we continue to explore the universe with all our technology, we are in awe of its size and wonders, billions of light years across, millions of galaxies, billions of stars, strange worlds, black holes, neutron stars and more, we can also say that the heavens declare your glory, your majesty, your power, we are so insignificant, to you we bring you our praise, honour and worship that is due to you Lord God almighty.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer

Merciful father, whilst much is focused on the war in Ukraine we also are aware of the millions who are suffering displacement, injury and starvation in Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and in Gaza due to conflict. We pray for those working for aid agencies striving to bring food, medicines and medical help. Please protect them and give them encouragement. We pray that all those who seek enmity and power in these countries and elsewhere in the world would see the suffering of the people and that their minds will be transformed to have compassion, truth and peace and through this the honour and respect they seek.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Lord God, we give thanks that we live at peace. We pray for all those in our government as they seek to lead this nation on matters at home and abroad. We ask that they would be given wisdom to lead with truth, compassion and righteousness. We pray especially for wisdom for our prime minister as he seeks to both negotiate wars and trade deals to provide peace and economic stability globally and also policies for the wellbeing of all who live in this country.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who find faith in you difficult, beset with doubts, troubled by questions they cannot answer, seeking and searching, who cannot reconcile the message of the gospel with the world around where evil appears to triumph. Come by your holy spirit we pray and reveal to them your love and help them to have faith in you and to enjoy the wonder of fellowship with you accepting that our perspective is so small and much is beyond our understanding.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

Lord God, we acknowledge before you that we are all guilty of our failure to meet your standards through thought and word and deed. It is by your grace that we can come to you, irrespective of our actions and how far we have gone from you. We cannot earn your love, you give it freely to those who turn to you and acknowledge their need of forgiveness through Jesus.

We give thanks that your love reaches out to us in our current state, that you welcome us home as your children, through Jesus our saviour.

Merciful father, accept these prayers for the sake of you son our saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen