Cumbria Prayer Diary



December 2022

& January 2023

*Praying with our fellow Christians in Cumbria, together with our link dioceses of*

*Northern Argentina, Stavanger and Zululand*

*For full information of the Anglican Communion please visit* [*https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer.aspx*](https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer.aspx)

If you wish to have a physical copy sent to you please let Sarah Marshall-Ellison know via email [Sarah.Marshall-Ellison@carlislediocese.org.uk](mailto:Sarah.Marshall-Ellison@carlislediocese.org.uk)

**At the end of the prayer diary are prayers for Peace in Ukraine and the Vision Prayer.**

**Prayers for 2023**

Prayer requests are invited for 2023. If you would like to a prayer on a special day next year please send me you request by 6th January to: [Cameron.butland@carlislediocese.co.uk](mailto:Cameron.butland@carlislediocese.co.uk)

**Week Forty-Seven Theme – Ecumenical County**

**Sunday 27th November – Advent Sunday**

*Ecumenical –* giving thanks for the sixth anniversary of the signing of the ecumenical covenant. For our partner and companion denominations. For the developing sense of our common mission

*God for All -* Pray for IME1 students (ordinands and Readers in training) starting their contrasting parish placements at the start of Advent

*World Church* - The Nippon Church of Japan

**Monday 28th November**

*Ecumenical –* for all church leaders:

Brian Jolly and the URC North West Synod;

Bishop James and the Carlisle Diocese;

James Tebutt and the Methodist District;

Bishop Paul and the Lancaster Diocese;

David Taylor and the Salvation Army;

and for those who act as co-ordinators for other churches, Andrew Dodd and Baptist chapels; Bill Bewley and Society of Friends; and the Borderkirk, together with independent church fellowship.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Nsukka – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Enugu Province)*

**Tuesday 29th November**

*Ecumenical –* for all Churches Together groups in the county, for the county President Andrew Dodd, County Social Responsibility Officer Jo Philips and Anna Chaplaincy Co-ordinator Katherine Froggatt

*World Church -* The Diocese of Nyahururu – The Anglican Church of Kenya

*Bishop James* – attending the House of Bishops

**Wednesday 30th November**

**St Andrew**

Andrew led his brother to meet Jesus. He is the patron saint of all missionaries and fishermen. As patron saint of Scotland his flag is a reminder of his martyrdom for the faith.

*Ecumenical –* for those who are part of the ecumenical governance of the county, especially for the regular church leaders’ meetings, the Strategic and Operations Group meetings, as well as the DEOs for each denomination.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Nyamlel – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Northern Bahr el Ghazal Province)*

**Thursday 1st December**

**Charles de Foucauld**

Charles died in 1916 living as a hermit among the Tuareg of Algeria. Despite not achieving his aim of founding a contemplative community in his lifetime, his example has inspired the worldwide community of the Little Brothers of Jesus. He is best known for his personal prayer of abandonment:

*Father, I abandon myself into your hands;*  
*do with me what you will.*

*Whatever you may do, I thank you:*  
*I am ready for all, I accept all.*

*Let only your will be done in me,*  
*and in all your creatures –*  
*I wish no more than this, O Lord.*

*Into your hands, I commend my soul:*  
*I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,*

*for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,*  
*to surrender myself into your hands without reserve,*  
*and with boundless confidence,*  
*for you are my Father.* ***Amen***

*Ecumenical –* for all our Mission Communities, giving thanks for our common mission and witness to the gospel, for innovative and creative ways to express our common discipleship as followers of Jesus.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Nyang – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province)*

**Friday 2nd December**

*Ecumenical* – for the national ecumenical structures of each denomination and for the work of Churches Together in England, especially for Bishop Mike Royal in his work as General Secretary.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Southern Nyanza – The Anglican Church of Kenya

**Saturday 3rd December**

*Ecumenical* – for the World Council of Churches and our brothers and sisters in countries across the world.

*World Church –* The Diocese of Nzara – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Western Equatoria Province)*

*Bishops –* Bishop James’ Teaching Day at St James’ Carlisle.

**Week Forty-eight Theme – Methodist District and New Churches**

**Sunday 4th December – Advent 2**

*Ecumenical –* pray for James Tebbutt as District Chair, Janice Rusling, Synod Secretary and Glynis Hayton, District Treasurer

*God for All -* pray for Christian Communities across Cumbria as we seek new ways of communicating the Christmas message of hope, peace, joy and love come down this year

*World Church* - The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

*Bishop Rob* – preaching at St Andrews, Penrith

**Monday 5th December**

*Ecumenical –* for the District Circuits and for all ministers, stewards and churches locally

*World Church -* The Diocese of el-Obeid – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

*Bishop Rob* – Solway Chapter Quiet Day

**Tuesday 6th December**

**St Nicholas**

Bishop Nicolas of Myra in the fourth century. Most famous for his acts of kindness, especially on behalf of children and orphans. Over the centuries, the customs associated with him have led to the personification of gift giving in Santa Claus. Today we celebrate charities which act after his example in caring for children.

*Ecumenical –* for all Methodist Deacons and their District Guild, we give thanks for their role within local Mission Communities

*World Church -* The Diocese of Offa – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Kwara Province)*

**Wednesday 7th December**

**St Ambrose**

St Ambrose was Bishop of Milan and one of the first theologians living in the fourth century. He was a firm opponent of Arianism. He is one of the Western Church’s four fathers of the faith.

*Ecumenical –* for the work of Graham Kay as District Safeguarding Officer and for close working between all the denominations of the ecumenical county in this important area of responsibility

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ogbaru – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Niger Province)*

**Thursday 8th December**

*Ecumenical –* for the links between the District and worldwide Methodism, giving thanks for links to the Argentinian Methodist Church

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ogbia – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Niger Delta Province)*

**Friday 9th December**

*Ecumenical* – for all new and independent churches in the county giving thanks for their vibrancy in the Gospel and for working with other local churches

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ogbomoso – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

**Saturday 10th December**

*Ecumenical* – for all fresh expressions of church and for all local fellowships bringing fresh disciples into the faith

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ogoni – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Niger Delta Province)*

*Bishop James -* Teaching Day at St Thomas Kendal

**Week Forty-nine – RC Diocese of Lancaster & Communities of Prayer**

**Sunday 11th December – Advent 3**

*Ecumenical –* for Bishop Paul Swarbrook and the RC parishes and priests of the county, for the Sisters at Boarbank and their care for all in need

*God for All -* pray for the planning for the Cumbria Big Carol Sing Christmas campaign, involving Radio Cumbria and drawing in people right across the county.

*World Church* - The Anglican Church of Kenya

**Monday 12th December**

*Ecumenical –* for ARCIC3 and the conversations between the Diocese of Carlisle and Diocese of Lancaster over the ‘Walking in the Way’ report

*World Church -* The Missionary Diocese of Ogori- Magongo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Lokoja Province)*

*Bishops* – Attending College of Bishops

**Tuesday 13th December**

**St Lucy**

Lucy was a child from Sicily who was martyred under Diocletian. She has become a child saint who is remembered in Scandinavia countries. She is associated with the Advent message of light in darkness, hope driving out fear. The customs of giving food in memory of her are widely observed today throughout the Christian world.

*Ecumenical –* for Ted Gannon and the Spiritual Direction and Weeks of Guided Prayer in the diocese and for new links through the Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality network

*World Church –* The Diocese of Ohaji / Egbema – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

*Bishops* – Attending College of Bishops

**Wednesday 14thDecember**

**St John of the Cross**

St John was a supporter and friend of St Teresa of Avila in reforming the Carmelite Order. Kidnapped and tortured he developed a deep spirituality which found expression in ‘the dark night of the soul’. John is regarded as one of the great contemplative teachers.

*Ecumenical –* for all the Society of Friends and local Meeting Houses in the county

*World Church –* The Diocese of Ohio – The Episcopal Church *(V (5) Province)*

*Bishops* – Attending College of Bishops

**Thursday 15th December**

*Ecumenical –* for the spiritual direction network, for all who offer spiritual accompaniment and all who are accompanied in their journey of faith

*World Church -* The Diocese of Southern Ohio – The Episcopal Church *(V (5) Province)*

*Bishop James* - Trinity School AGM

**Friday 16th December**

*Ecumenical* – for the local houses of prayer being established in the county, for local groups coming together to focus on the need for prayer

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oji River – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Enugu Province)*

*Bishop James* - Derwent Deanery and Chapter

**Saturday 17th December**

**O Sapientia**

Today marks the beginning of the ancient countdown to Christmas, called the Advent O’s. Today is O Holy Wisdom and these traditional eight days end with O Come Emmanuel.

*Ecumenical* – for the new monastic communities represented in the county, praying for the Iona and Northumbrian community groups

*World Church -* The Diocese of Okene – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Lokoja Province)*

*Bishop James -* Carol Singing with Carlisle Street Pastors

**Week Fifty Theme – Children Charities**

**Sunday 18th December – Advent 4**

*Charities –* for the work of the Children’s Society and for our local groups, for all those assisted by their work

*God for All -* pray for the Bishop’s Christmas messages in various media, for the online resources and for the national campaign.

*World Church* - The Anglican Church of Korea

**Monday 19th December**

*Charities* – for the work of the NSPCC and for their campaign to protect children from all forms of abuse

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oke-Ogun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

*Bishops –* Bishop’s Leadership Team meeting

**Tuesday 20th December**

*Charities* – for the work of the Barnado’s charity and for the support and family work in the community

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oke-Osun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

**Wednesday 21st December**

*Charities* – for all children’s cancer charities and for the work inspired by Helen House to provide hospice care for dying children

*World Church -* The Diocese of Okigwe – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

**Thursday 22nd December**

*Charities* – for all international agencies working to create healthy and sustainable futures for the world’s children

*World Church –* The Diocese of Okigwe North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Friday 23rd December**

*Charities* – for the work of UNICEF and for all children who are helped through its work around the world

*World Church -* The Diocese of Okigwe South – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

**Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve**

*Charities* – for the work of SANDS and for all who remember today a child who has died in past years

*World Church -* The Diocese of Okinawa – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

**Week Fifty-one Theme – Medical Charities**

**Sunday 25th December – CHRISTMAS DAY**

Christmas Day

Today is the second holiest day of the Christian year. We celebrate the birth of the Emmanuel, God with us.

*God for All –* give thanks for all who have heard the Christmas message afresh online and through social media this Christmas.

*World Church* – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

*Bishop James* - preaching at Carlisle Cathedral Christmas Service

**Monday 26th December**

St Stephen

The first Christian martyr, St Stephen is celebrated the day after Christmas. As one of seven deacons appointed by the Apostles, Stephen is put to death for his faithful witness of the gospel.

*Charities –* give thanks for the Anna Chaplaincy movement, for our Cumbria chaplaincy and for the work of the Alzheimer’s Society

*World Church* - The Diocese of Oklahoma – The Episcopal Church *(VII (7) Province)*

**Tuesday 27th December**

St John the Evangelist

One of the four New Testament gospel writers, John as one of the Apostles is a great teacher of the faith. St John’s Gospel has priority over the other gospels and has a special place in Christian scripture.

*Charities –* for the work of the British Heart Foundation and for all associated charities working to eliminate heart disease

*World Church -* The Diocese of Okrika – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Niger Delta Province)*

**Wednesday 28th December**

The Holy Innocents

The children murdered by King Herod are remembered immediately after Christmas as a reminder of the world’s cruelty in opposition to God’s love.

*Charities* – for the national work of the Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital, for their pioneering treatments of children’s cancer and generic illnesses and for the charity that supports them.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oleh – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Bendel Province)*

**Thursday 29th December**

**St Thomas Becket**

Archbishop Thomas, who was murdered on the orders of King Henry, became a saint in the days after his martyrdom and his shrine in Canterbury was the most visited in the late medieval church.

*Charities –* for the work of Marie Curie and Macmillan nurses, for our county’s Hospice at Home and for our two hospices, for the work of all these charities and all who are helped by them.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Olo – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Western Equatoria Province)*

**Friday 30th December**

*Charities* – for the work of Cancer Research and all other smaller cancer charities which support pioneering work in tackling different forms of cancer and for all those assisted by them

*World Church -* The Diocese of Olympia – The Episcopal Church *(VIII (8) Province)*

**Saturday 31st December**

*Charities* – for MIND and all mental health charities. Pray for all seeking to help younger people and those who live by themselves. We pray for groups in the county who support local people

*World Church -* The Diocese of Omu-Aran – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Kwara Province)*

**Week One Theme – New Beginnings**

**Sunday 1stJanuary 2023 – Christmas 1**

Naming of Jesus

Today we remember the story from St Luke’s Gospel of the baby Jesus being brought to the Temple in Jerusalem and Simeon prophesising that he would be the light of the world.

*New Beginnings* – we pray for this new calendar year, for the difficulties faced by so many and we ask for the gifts of hope, perseverance and compassion in helping us to cope with these challenges

*God for All –* for our leaders seeking to renew our ecumenical vision

*World Church -* La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

**Monday 2nd January**

**St Basil the Great**

St Basil is one of the Greek fathers from the fourth century, regarded as a great teacher of the faith and one of the first great theologians.

*New Beginnings* – for the beginning of a new working year, for those who lost jobs or businesses, for all who are under pressure in their work

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ondo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ondo Province)*

**Tuesday 3rd January**

*New Beginnings* – for God for All roadshows and strategy, for the ecumenical governance structure and the work of Mission Communities

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ontario – The Anglican Church of Canada *(Ontario Province)*

**Wednesday 4th January**

*New Beginnings* – for those who have come to faith, and for the gospel message to be presented with clarity, humility and in love

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oregon – The Episcopal Church *(VIII (8) Province)*

*Bishop James* - Steering Committee

*Bishop Rob* – Licensing of Stephen Tudway

**Thursday 5th January**

*New Beginnings –* for the developing Fresh Expressions and Network Youth churches, for new fellowships which seek to be church in new ways and to plant new communities of prayer

*World Church -* The Diocese of Eastern Oregon – The Episcopal Church *(VIII (8) Province)*

*Bishop James –* Licensing of Sarah Jones at Upperby

**Friday 6th January**

The Feast of the Epiphany

Today the church remembers the visit of the Magi. The Orthodox celebrate this day rather than the nativity of Christ. Epiphany means God made ‘manifest’ in the life of Jesus.

*New Beginnings* – for our young people returning to schools, colleges and universities, for the difficult year ahead and for the challenges faced by all educational teaching and non-teaching staff

*World Church -* The Diocese of Orlu – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

**Saturday 7th January**

*New Beginnings –* for our own personal new beginnings this year, for the challenges ahead, for courage and confidence in the future

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oru – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

**Week Two Theme – URC and Baptist Churches**

**Sunday 8th January – Baptism of Christ**

*URC –* for the process of appointing a new NW Synod Moderator, for the synod officers and the partnership in the ecumenical county

*God for All –* for plans being made for local groups joining together to deepen our faith

*World Church* - The Church of the Province of Myanmar

*Bishop Rob* – preaching at the Emmanuel Theological College Residential weekend in Swanwick

*Bishops –* attending the Evangelical Bishops Residential

**Monday 9th January**

*URC –* for the county’s churches and their ministers Alastair Smeaton, Martyn Coe, Kate Kent and Lisa Wilson

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osaka – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

*Bishops* – attending the Evangelical Bishops Residential

**Tuesday 10th January**

*URC* – for the URC General Assembly, for Kevin Watson and Alan Yates its moderators and for the leadership of the national church

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

*Bishops –* Carlisle God for All Roadshow

**Wednesday 11th January**

*Baptists –* for Andrew Dodd and his representative role on behalf of the county’s Baptist chapels

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osun North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

**Thursday 12th January**

**Benedict Biscop**

St Benedict Biscop brought Bede into the religious life and was one of the great teachers of the Celtic monastic communities. He made five visits to Rome and brought back libraries of books for his monastic foundations.

*Baptists* – for the distinctive role of the county’s Baptist chapels and their joint mission with local Mission Communities

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osun North East – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

*Bishop Rob – DBE Board Meeting*

*Bishops – Barrow God for All Roadshow*

**Friday 13th January**

**St Kentigern (Mungo)**

St Mungo was forced to leave Glasgow in the sixth century and came to Cumbria founding a new community at Crosthwaite, Keswick. There are a dozen churches in the county dedicated to Kentigern showing his influence on the founding of the church.

*Baptists* – for the Baptist Union, its President Hayley Young, General Secretary Lynn Green, and Baptist Assembly

*World Church -* The Diocese of Ottawa – The Anglican Church of Canada *(Ontario Province)*

**Saturday 14th January**

*Baptists and URC* – we remember with sadness the past splits in the church which led in 1662 to the expulsion of many Baptists and Presbyterians, we give thanks now we are together in a common witness to the gospel message

*World Church -* The Diocese of Otukpo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Abuja Province)*

*Bishops* - Cumbria Ministry Development Day at North Lakes Hotel

**Week Three Theme – Week of Prayer**

**Sunday 15th January – Epiphany 2**

*Week of Prayer* – runs from 18th to 25th January. The theme this year is chosen by the churches of Minneapolis. Each day has a prayer contributed by the Christians living in these places. Today we remember the theme ‘pray for unity amidst injustice’

*God for All -* Pray for training for lay ministry and for local lay evangelists

*World Church* - The Church of Nigeria

*Bishop Rob –* preaching at St John’s, London Road

**Monday 16th January**

*Week of Prayer* – for our local preparations to mark the Week of Prayer and for all those who will lead prayers, groups and special services

*World Church –* The Diocese of Owerri – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Owerri Province)*

**Tuesday 17th January**

**St Antony of Egypt**

Antony ‘retreated’ into a deserted place to live a life of prayer after the example of Jesus. Following the Edict of Milan in 313 he inspired the desert Abbas and Ammas who taught the way of prayer that came to be known as contemplation. He has inspired Augustine, Benedict, Celtic, Ignatian, Carmelite and modern forms of Christian meditation. He is one of the four Greek Fathers.

*Week of Prayer –* for ecumenical groups meeting this coming week, for sharing and new fellowships

*World Church –* The Diocese of Owo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ondo Province)*

*Bishops –* attending the College of Bishops

**Wednesday 18th January**

*Week of Prayer* – God, our only refuge and strength, we glorify you for you are a just and righteous God. We confess before you that we often covet worldly models of leadership. Help us to seek our Lord Jesus Christ not in the palaces of the powerful but in the humble manger and to emulate him in his meekness. Encourage us to empty ourselves as we serve each other in obedience to you. We pray in the name of Christ who with you and with the Holy Spirit reign forever in glory. Amen

*World Church –* The Diocese of Oxford – The Church of England *(Canterbury Province)*

**Thursday 19th January**

*Week of Prayer –* for prayer services marking this Week of Prayer

*World Church –* The Diocese of Oyo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Ibadan Province)*

**Friday 20th January**

*Week of Prayer* – for shared children’s groups and for closer working together

*World Church –* The Diocese of Pacong – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province)*

*Bishops –* Bishop’s Council Residential

**Saturday 21st January**

*Week of Prayer –* for social justice projects locally and for the outreach of our Mission Communities

*World Church –* The Diocese of Panama – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

*Bishops –* Bishop’s Council Residential

**Week Four Theme – Week of Prayer & Salvation Army**

**Sunday 22nd January – Epiphany 3**

*Week of Prayer –* for local church leaders, that together we might have the vision to encourage local mission

*God for All -* pray for the work of Emmanuel Theological College – for all students and staff and especially for Paul Dunthorne.

*World Church* - The Church of North India

**Monday 23rd January**

*Week of Prayer* – for following Jesus each and every day as fellow Christians witnessing to the faith in every moment of our lives

*World Church –* The Diocese of Pankshin – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) *(Jos Province)*

**Tuesday 24th January**

*Week of Prayer* – for our mutual care and respect for creation, for the movement to create eco-churches

*World Church –* The Diocese of Panrieng – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan  
*(Upper Nile Province)*

**Wednesday 25th January**

Conversion of St Paul

Saul’s conversion is recorded in Acts 9. He became known as St Paul and through his letters shaped the emerging church, one of the founders of our church.

*Week of Prayer –* giving thanks for this year’s Week of Prayer, we pray for a sense of unity and purpose

*Salvation Army –* for David Taylor and the leadership of the Salvation Army in the north west, for their commitment to the poor and those most in need

*World Church -* The Diocese of Panyana – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan *(Cantral Equatoria Province)*

**Thursday 26th January**

**St Timothy and St Titus**

Companions of St Paul and recipients of letters named after them. St Paul’s advice to them, teaches us all how to be Christ’s disciples in our daily lives.

*Salvation Army –* for the Salvation Army churches in Cumbria and their leaders, at Barrow, Carlisle, Kendal, Penrith, Workington and Whitehaven

*World Church –* The Diocese of Paraguay – The Anglican Church of South America

*Bishop James* - NW Bishops Meeting

**Friday 27th January**

*Salvation Army –* we pray for those assisted and supported by this year’s Winter Appeal. We give thanks for the practical love and care shown to so many who are neglected by our society.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Paraná (Curitiba) – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil *(2 Province)*

**Saturday 28th January**

**St Thomas Aquinas**

St Thomas was a Dominican living in the thirteenth century regarded as one of the greatest theologians of the church. His influence on the development of Christian doctrine has been immense.

*Salvation Army* – we give thanks for the Salvation Army’s key role is helping those who are rescued from modern slavery, supporting victims in their moment of need and assisting them in building a life for themselves free of exploitation

*World Church –* The Missionary Diocese of Pathein – The Church of the Province of Myanmar

**Vision Prayer**

Living Lord, as we offer to you our common life,

refresh our vision that we may know your will

and seek to follow in all your ways.

May we **follow daily** as your disciples,

**care deeply** for one another in community,

**speak boldly** your gospel word of love,

and **tread gently** as faithful stewards of your goodness.

We ask this in the power of your holy name,

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer

of our lives, today and for ever. **Amen**

**Prayer for Peace in Ukraine**

Lord Jesus you are the Prince of Peace,

look upon our divided world

to be with those who are victims of violence.

We pray for the people of Ukraine

and all who have been subjected to the cruelty of others.

Help us to know the gift of your peace

in the power of your Spirit and

we ask you to soften the hearts

of those who can stop the fighting.

Creator God we ask for your aid as your children of light

living in the darkness of our world. Amen

But most of all, be with us this day. Amen