

Intercessions 9.8.26

We come to God, who refreshes our souls and offers us living water to satisfy our deepest needs as we pray: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, in the dry wildernesses of our lives, in the days of heat and thirst, you offer us living water. We thank you and praise you, that however we may thirst, whatever we may need to satisfy our souls, you offer it freely and abundantly in Christ; Give us courage to come to you just as we are, to bring you our deepest needs and to trust in your love and healing. As we drink deep of the living water you offer, may we always seek to pass the cup to others, who, like us, are thirsty for your grace.

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

God of peace, we hold your broken world before you, continuing to pray for all those countries torn apart by unrest, war and violence. We pray particularly at this time for the people of Ukraine, Iran, South Sudan, Israel and Gaza. We bring before you the deep divisions of our world. When all seems hopeless, when evil and hatred threaten to overwhelm us, when peace feels so far away, help us to trust you, to remember that you are God all-powerful and that your promised reign of peace will come.

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

God of comfort, we hold our nation before you. As this country and countries around the world consider their response to those individuals and families seeking refuge and asylum, we pray for compassion, empathy and understanding. May all in authority seek always to uphold justice and never fail to recognise and protect the dignity and value of every human being made in your image.

We pray for your blessing on the work of all charities seeking to support refugees and asylum seekers and all who speak up for and give a voice to the most vulnerable in our world.

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

God of all healing, we bring to you all who suffer in body mind or spirit. We pray for all who are sick, who are undergoing difficult treatments or anxiously awaiting the results of tests. From our own community, we pray today for... We also hold before you all those we know who have asked for our prayers and whom, in a moment of silence, we name now in our hearts.....

Loving God, we know you to be both Lord and healer of your broken world, and we ask you to touch with your love all those for whom we pray today. May your love flood their lives with hope and healing, in body, mind and spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Finally gracious God, hear us as we remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, both those who have confessed the faith and those whose faith is known to you alone. We particularly remember before you.... We remember too today those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, particularly.... Pour upon all who mourn your healing, comfort and peace. Grant us with all who have died in the peace of Christ, a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of St Stephen and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love. Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Rev'd Ros Wilshire