

Prayers for Others

(If you are using the PowerPoint slides that accompany this prayer, you will want to take your time and allow sufficient pauses that each face might be seen and appreciated.)

Let us pray,

God of heaven, and yet God over all the earth, we marvel that you hear us as we pray and that you respond according to your good will and purpose. In all things, we pray: your will be done; your Kingdom come.

Help us, Lord, to be faithful in prayer, day by day, that we might be ever mindful of the harsh realities being faced by so many in these days. And as we pray, soften our hearts that, filled with your Spirit, we might exhibit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

King and Head of the Church, today we pray for the Church and not least that you might equip your Church with those who would minister among us and across our communities.

Hear us then as we pray for:

- Those who, right now, are listening for your call and entering into the discernment process – some to readership, some to the Diaconate and some to be OLMs and Ministers of Word and Sacrament
- Men and women who are already serving in ministry – Readers, Deacons, Ordained Local Ministers, Ministers of Word and Sacrament
- The families of people for whom ministry will represent a huge life change
- Men and women who will present themselves for national assessment this spring
- Those who have come to us from afar and are in the process of familiarisation
- Experienced ministers who will mentor candidates for ministry in their 'on the job' placements and through probation
- Those who have completed their preparation and are presently serving as Assistant Ministers, waiting for opportunities to open up that they might receive their first call, and those completing their probationary periods
- Educators at the various Church Colleges that they might play their part in preparing students for ministry
- National staff and presbytery representatives who support and guide candidates through the journey to ministry.

And for all of us, God, help us to encourage and support those who are called to ministry in all its forms – those who have served faithfully and are now retired, or are nearing that time, and those who are just starting out. Might we and they together serve you faithfully as you work through us to establish your Kingdom.

These and all our prayers we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.