

# A Month of Sundays

## August 2025



# Preston Ribble Circuit

## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025**

### **Call to worship**

Downhearted or inspired,  
fed-up or joyful,  
eager or reluctant,  
we come just as we are,  
to be with God just as God is.  
Let us worship God together.

### **A prayer of adoration**

Eternal God, we worship you for your greatness,  
your creativity and your vastness.  
Lord Jesus, you are all and in all.  
We worship you for calling us to serve you  
and for clothing us in your love.  
Holy Spirit, we worship you for your uniqueness,  
your energy and your power.  
Holy Trinity, we worship you today and every day,  
**and you are more than enough.**  
**Amen.**

### **Bible reading: Colossians 3:1-11**

#### **Living as Those Made Alive in Christ**

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is

no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

## **Hymn: Singing the Faith 548**

- 1        Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine:  
          O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
          Heir of salvation, purchase of God;  
          born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:  
              *This is my story, this is my song,*  
              *praising my Saviour all the day long.*  
              *This is my story, this is my song,*  
              *praising my Saviour all the day long.*
- 2        Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
          visions of rapture burst on my sight;  
          angels descending bring from above  
          echoes of mercy, whispers of love:
- 3        Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
          I in my Saviour am happy and blest —  
          watching and waiting, looking above,  
          filled with his goodness, lost in his love:

Frances Jane van Alstyne, (Fanny Crosby) (1820–1915)  
Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 548.

## **Reflection**

In Colossians chapter 3, Paul encourages us, indeed urges us to change our focus, to look up and ‘seek the things that are above’ (Colossians 3:1). There is a particular value in doing this when life feels like Ecclesiastes 1. When Christ becomes ‘all and in all’, then all things are possible.

One person who can testify to that is Trudy Makepeace. In her stunning book Abused Addicted Free, she courageously tells the story of the depths she plumbed through a series of dangerous addictions and abusive relationships. Jesus saved and healed her.

He gave her a new focus in life. Trudy writes:

*‘Since I came to know Jesus, my heart has always been to make him known to anyone and everyone. However, I have always been particularly drawn to the most down-trodden and broken, perhaps because of my own story. I have seen the evidence and power of how the word of God worked out in my life. If he can do it for me and countless others, he can do it for you. There is no one beyond the reach of his mercy, love, forgiveness and healing.*

*My life is evidence of the fact that God will take the good, the bad and the ugly, and if you trust him, he will make something beautiful out of it all. As we allow God to work in us and heal us, he takes our brokenness and turns it into a blessing by using those things in our lives to bless and help others.’*

(Trudy Makepeace, *Abused Addicted Free*, Sarah Grace Publishing, 2021, p226)

What is noteworthy is how her change of focus resulted in the desire and drive to help others to leave places of Ecclesiastes-like despair and find wholeness and freedom. May it be so for us too.

## **Prayers of intercession**

Lord our God, your abundance, your love, your provision, your blessing amazes us day by day. With such knowledge we bring our prayers for others in need this day.

We pray for those in need of food on the table when the cupboard is bare or when the crops have failed. No one should need overseas aid and yet they do. No one should need to use Foodbanks and yet they do. No one should go hungry and yet they do. Help us to do all we can to help feed the hungry.

God of abundance:

**hear our prayer.**

For those who are hungry for love, hungry for care, hungry for compassion, hungry for purpose, may they find what they need and what they seek from the abundance of your richness to the world.

God of abundance:

**hear our prayer.**

**Amen.**

## **Say the Lord's Prayer**

### **A sending out prayer**

As we go, Lord, please help us to look up,  
seeking the things that honour and please you,  
letting go of the things that damage us and others,  
clothed with Christ-likeness,  
to live and work to your praise and glory.

**Amen.**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

### **Call to worship**

*Based on Psalm 33*

Happy are the people whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen.

As God's chosen and beloved people,  
let us come to him in worship  
and receive from God whatever God  
wishes to bless us with this day.

### **Bible reading: Hebrews 11: 1-3,8-16**

#### **Faith in Action**

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear

children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

## **Reflection**

Hebrews was written for people who were in danger of starting to lose interest in Jesus. It is possible that some were becoming disillusioned with faith because of personal issues. Most of the previous chapters deliberately remind people of how wonderful Jesus is – in particular, that he is the real high priest (compared with the shadows and copies on this earth; Hebrews 4:14-15).

Chapter 11 is an encouragement to keep on believing and to keep on going in faith. Abraham and Sarah are held up as exemplars of people who kept going in faith when the odds seemed to be stacked against them. The writer draws on Genesis 15:1-6 and the promise of an heir for Abram and Sarai (as they were then called), from whom descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky will come.

It is an inspiring story and has been an encouragement to many who have struggled, not least with the acute pain of childlessness, to keep on going in faith. There are many people who can testify to the joy of having their prayers answered against the odds, often having walked very painful pathways. Michelle Obama in her book Becoming tells of the struggles she and Barack had in conceiving and the pain they went through before their two daughters were born – daughters that brought them untold joy.

Sheridan Voysey's book Resurrection Year helpfully shares how he and his wife Merryn coped with this. The writer to the Hebrews is refreshingly honest about this. In verse 13, he speaks of those who 'died in faith without having received the promises.'

Every week we pray for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. Where might that prayer be particularly urgent today? How might we be part of the answer to that prayer?

### **Hymn: Singing the Faith 28**

- 1 Jesus calls us here to meet him  
as, through word and song and prayer,  
we affirm God's promised presence  
where his people live and care.  
Praise the God who keeps his promise;  
praise the Son who calls us friends;  
praise the Spirit who, among us,  
to our hopes and fears attends.
- 2 Jesus calls us to confess him  
Word of life and Lord of all,  
sharer of our flesh and frailness,  
saving all who fail or fall.  
Tell his holy human story;  
tell his tales that all may hear;  
tell the world that Christ in glory  
came to earth to meet us here.
- 3 Jesus calls us to each other,  
vastly different though we are;  
creed and colour, class and gender  
neither limit nor debar.  
Join the hand of friend and stranger;  
join the hands of age and youth;  
join the faithful and the doubter  
in their common search for truth.

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 28

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## **A prayer of praise and thanksgiving**

God of all ages,

we praise you for all those who have gone before us  
and shown us the way of faith.

We praise you for all the ways you have honoured their faith.

In faith we trust you for now, for tomorrow  
and for all that is to come.

In Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

## **Prayers of intercession**

Lord God, we know that not everyone in the world is experiencing times of treasure right now. We lift to you those who have had to flee their homes due to war or natural disasters. We remember those who live in refugee camps or take their lives into their hands by trying to cross the Channel to the UK. We pray for all who are ill, particularly those known to us... and we lift to you those who are sad and sorrowful at this time, particularly the high-profile cases of those who have lost children to injury or sudden death this week...

Lord, in the midst of their pain, difficulty and despair, may they somehow find the treasure that is you. Help us to be treasure-bringers to those who need your comfort.

Lord of the treasure store:

**help us to seek for your treasure.**

Lord, we are aware that, for so many of us, earthly treasure seems in short supply right now. We pray for those who are struggling to make ends meet as the cost of living soars. We remember children who may go hungry during the school holidays. We thank you for our foodbanks and all they can do to help, even though we wish that we had no need for them. Help us to keep our eyes and ears open to those who need our love and support at this time.

Lord of the treasure store:

**help us to seek for your treasure.**

**Amen.**



## **Say the Lord's Prayer**

### **A sending out prayer**

As you go, may the God of Abraham and Sarah go with you.  
May you be ready to meet Jesus whenever he comes to you,  
and may you know yourself held within the love of God,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

### **A call to worship**

We're in a race  
– so come and get your running shoes on!  
Let's get in training  
and listen to those who ran before us  
and those who run with us now,  
so we can all run our best race!

### **A prayer of adoration**

Holy Trinity,  
we praise you for all you have done throughout history  
in the lives of those who have joined your team,  
run your race and shaped the communities around them.  
As they pass on the baton of faith to us,  
help us to run with it courageously  
and pass it on creatively,  
for the furtherance of your kingdom.  
**Amen.**

### **Reading: Hebrews 11:29–12:2**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land;  
but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched  
around them for seven days.

By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated—the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## **Reflection**

Have you ever seen the delight on the faces of a winning relay running team? The joy is all the greater for being shared. Even defeat shared is less bitter!

The writer to the Hebrews likens the Christian life to a race, stretching out into the distance before us. We need stamina and

determination to complete our leg of the relay and we need to be team players, encouraging those who run with us, and accepting help from them.

Some people run much better as part of a relay team than they do in individual races and it is easy to see why. There is strength to be gained from those running with you or from being cheered on by those on the sidelines – even more so if they are not just spectators but people who understand what it is to run in a race. According to today's reading from Hebrews, there is a 'great cloud of witnesses' who have run previous legs of the race we are running. Some of these legs have been extremely difficult – some have had to 'run the bend' or have a great deal of catching up to do.

The greatest encouragement an athlete can receive is from fellow athletes who have run similar races.

You may have heard of the very popular parkrun events or even taken part yourself. There are amazing volunteers who turn up each week to organise and run the events. parkrun is open to all and, although you are given a completion time, it is really all about running and finishing along with a group of like-minded and 'like-footed' people. At points in the race, there are people specifically appointed to call out encouragement and urge people to keep going. Then there are the 'tail walkers' (sometimes dressed as foxes, with suitably bushy tails), who encourage and help the stragglers, so that everyone can finish safely in the best time possible for them.

We might think of Jesus, who the writer to the Hebrews calls 'the pioneer and perfecter of our faith' as an excellent 'tail walker'. Not only that, but it is he who starts us off on the run, encourages us all along the way and is there to cheer us as we cross the finishing line.

The writer to the Hebrews points to people from the past who have had great faith to complete their race. Along with them and our fellow 'runners for today', we can run with perseverance the race that stretches ahead of us.

## Hymn: Mission Praise 335

- 1 Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks, and sing,  
and triumph evermore:  
*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice! Again I say: rejoice!*
- 2 Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules both earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:
- 4 He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:
- 5 Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the Judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home:  
*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
God's trumpet-call shall sound: rejoice!*

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 335.

## A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

Lord Jesus, pioneer and perfecter of our faith,  
we praise you because: **you run with us.**  
Through all the bumps in the road, when the climbs are steep  
and when the potholes are many: **you run with us.**  
When we are tired, jaded and disillusioned: **you run with us.**  
When the finishing line is near and the race is nearly done: **you run with us.**

And so we praise you, because every step of the way: **you run with us. Amen.**

### **Say the Lord's Prayer**

#### **A sending out prayer**

Lord, help us to run with perseverance  
the race ahead of us.

Help us to encourage each other on the way.

We look to you, Lord Jesus,  
the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

**Amen.**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

#### **Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 103**

May all that is in us bless God's holy name,  
for he is the one who forgives our sin,  
saves us, and crowns us with love and mercy

#### **A prayer of adoration**

God of purity and perfection,  
your holy Word draws us to you

**in reverence, awe and wonder.**

The skills you have entrusted to poets, artists,  
musicians and dancers draw us to you

**in reverence, awe and wonder.**

The vastness of the sky, the power of the sea,  
the song of the birds draw us to you

**in reverence, awe and wonder.**

The smile of a child, the joy of friendship, the gift of life  
itself draws us to you

**in reverence, awe and wonder.**

Your deeds throughout history, your coming among us  
and your empowering spirit draw us to you

**in reverence, awe and wonder. Amen.**

#### **Bible reading: Hebrews 12:18-29**

**The Mountain of Fear and the Mountain of Joy**

You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.” The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our “God is a consuming fire.”

## **Reflection**

Imagine a wedding with 10 bridesmaids, all excited for their friend the bride, in a celebratory, festive mood. Imagine the excitement as they get dressed and have their hair and make-up done, chatting and laughing together. When they are all ready, they climb into the minibus to go to the church, carefully negotiating the steps and helping the bride with her train. Then imagine the scene in the church. The congregation are chatting together, full of anticipation as they await the bride’s entrance, joking about whether the best man has left the rings behind. But then, as the ceremony begins, a hush descends. There

is a sense of reverence and a palpable feeling of the presence of God as the couple make their vows.

During Jewish festivals, whole towns could be taken over. At the Passover feast in Jerusalem, there was an atmosphere close to chaos. But there was a serious intent and reverence as well as celebration and festivities. When the Commonwealth Games came to Birmingham in 2022, the people there got some idea of a festival taking over the whole city for a common purpose. So, what about this ‘party’ in the heavenly city, with ‘innumerable angels in festal gathering’? Today’s reading from Hebrews suggests a ‘universal party’. But it is more than this. The whole place is shaken to its core, but here we are talking about a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, giving rise to further celebration and worship. There is worship and awe and reverence in the midst of great celebration – and on an unimaginable scale.

It may seem strange to think about this in August, but at Christmas we may sing, ‘Heaven invites us to a party, to celebrate the birth of a king’. At the same time, the shepherds kneel in awe at the manger and we too worship the new-born king in wonder. The coming of Jesus among us brings a whole ‘new look’ to our celebration. We see the awe and wonder of God, but with a human face. We can worship here freely with confidence and without fear, as the woman Jesus heals in the Gospel reading is able to do after being set free.

### **Hymn: Singing the Faith 102**

- 1       For the beauty of the earth,  
          for the beauty of the skies,  
          for the love which from our birth  
          over and around us lies:  
              *Gracious God, to you we raise  
              this our sacrifice of praise.*
- 2       For the beauty of each hour  
          of the day and of the night,  
          hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
          sun and moon and stars of light:

- 3 For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight:
- 4 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
pleasures pure and undefiled:
- 5 For each perfect gift and sign  
of your love so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835–1917)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 102.

## **Prayers of intercession**

Lord, today is the sabbath;  
a day when we are called to rest from our labours and spend more  
time with you.

Help us to breathe deeply of your freshness and vitality  
so that our strength is restored for the week ahead.

Help us to know the freedom that comes from being your  
followers

and to drink deeply from your resources.

**Lord who sees all: teach us to follow your lead.**

Father, we pray for all who are expecting exam results this week.  
We know that education has been so disrupted over the past  
couple of years

so we pray for our exam students,  
asking that you will be present with them as they collect their  
results.

Help the staff at schools to be alert to any students who are  
unhappy

and quick to point them in helpful directions.

**Lord who sees all: teach us to follow your lead.**

**Amen. Say the Lord's Prayer**

**A sending out prayer**



Lord of awe and wonder,  
Lord of gentleness and strength,  
Lord of joy and celebration,  
we go out into the world with you. **Amen.**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

**Call to Worship: Based on Psalm 103**

‘Jesus is Lord!’

May we come to have confidence in this truth today  
and find out how to share it with others.

**A gathering prayer**

Lord, we come to worship you,  
the one who cares for us more deeply  
than we can understand.

Give us the confidence to care deeply  
for others, as you care for us. Amen.

**Bible reading: Hebrews 13:1-8,15-16**

**Concluding Exhortations**

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;  
never will I forsake you.”

So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.  
What can mere mortals do to me?”

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

### **Reflection**

Sister Helen Prejean, the author of Dead Man Walking, came from a well-to-do background to take holy orders. She was expecting to lead a life of quiet contemplation but experienced a spiritual awakening that made her realise that she needed to translate her faith into action. She was led to work with residents of the St Thomas' housing project in New Orleans and worked alongside people who were struggling in poverty. This then led her into contact with Patrick, a condemned prisoner on death row and the subject of her book. She began supporting the families of condemned prisoners and, ultimately, she campaigned against capital punishment (a campaign she continues today). None of this came without personal cost and took her into situations she would naturally have avoided.

This was a far cry from the life she was expecting – or was it? Sister Helen's faith and confidence in her Lord enabled her to look outwards to those in need.

There are many other examples of people who have stepped out in faith and confidence in God to help others. A prison chaplain with an interest in labyrinths for prayer, reflection, and well-being realised that they could be used to help long-term prisoners cope with the stresses of confinement. This led to the provision of labyrinths in exercise yards and finger labyrinths in cells, for the benefit of all prisoners, not just those who attended the chapel. This chaplain had the boldness and confidence to think 'outside the box' in order to help others in new ways.

Both Sister Helen Prejean and the prison chaplain have self-sacrificially lived out the commands in our reading from Hebrews, to 'show hospitality' and 'remember prisoners, as

though you were there in prison with them'. As we learn more about having confidence in God, our helper, and Jesus, the same yesterday, today and forever, how can we be more adventurous in reaching out to others? What is God calling you to have the confidence to do?

### **Hymn: Singing the Faith 272**

- 1 From heaven you came, helpless babe,  
entered our world, your glory veiled,  
not to be served but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live.  
*This is our God, the Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to the Servant King.*
- 2 There in the garden of tears  
my heavy load he chose to bear;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.
- 3 Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.
- 4 So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone him,  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

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### **Prayers of intercession**

Some schools have already reopened their doors for a new term, many others soon will. We know that schools bring together a huge variety of people from happy homes, difficult homes, unfamiliar homes, the clever, those who find learning hard. We

also pray for those who are afraid to return because they are bullied, asking that you will give them courage to speak out. And we pray for those who are the bullies, asking that you will give them the courage to change their behaviour. Give wisdom to staff to help schools eradicate any unkind, unloving behaviour. Lord, we thank you for our schools and pray that they will be places of welcome and refuge for everyone who enters – staff, students, visitors.

Lord, thank you that we have a place at your table:

**help us to welcome everyone in your name.**

Lord, we pray for all who have had to flee from their homes and build a new life somewhere else. Those who have left because of climate change, their livelihoods no longer viable because of the climate. We remember those who have had to leave because of war or famine, those who have been trafficked, those who have run away because of fear. Lord, all of these people are precious to you even though they may seem almost hidden from us. We thank you for those who work with them and help them and pray that they will regain their sense of self-worth.

Lord, thank you that we have a place at your table:

**help us to welcome everyone in your name.**

**Amen.**

## **Say the Lord's Prayer**

### **A sending out prayer**

We have worshipped you here today, Lord.

Now we go out, with hope and confidence, to love and to serve.

Help us to worship you out there, just as we do here.

**Amen.**