

**Hinckley United Reformed Church**  
**Prayers for week beginning Monday 29<sup>th</sup> 2024**

“This is the day the Lord has made we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Lord God, we have come this day to this place to honour you with our praise and adoration

As the source of creation, we are overwhelmed by you: by the sheer size and wonder of the universe, by the awful ferocity of earthquake, wind and fire, by our smallness in the whole order of it all.

As a forgiving and loving God, we are surprised by you.

By the way you care for each specific detail of creation, by the varied ways with which you come to share our life, to bear the burden of pain and loneliness, to rejoice with us in each new challenge and opportunity given to us.

Lord God, as one who demands obedience, we wonder at you.

We cannot fathom your sense of justice. You do not turn away, as we would do, from those who give up on you.

You do not always regard faithfulness with comfort and peace, as we would expect of you.

Still we ask the age old question, “Why do the wicked prosper”? Lord, your symbol is a cross, and we do not always understand. Forgive us our faithlessness.

Still, we turn aside from those who have hurt us

Still, we despise those who think differently from us.

Lord, you have given us the ability to bring unity or divisions in to our lives. May we be found using our time to build up and restore relationships that have been shattered.

As your peoples may we work for unity in diversity so that we may find common ground on which to meet all people for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

In our prayers today we pray for those who are unable to come along and worship with us-those because of mobility are confined to their homes, those in hospital, or in nursing care, those who have responsibilities of taking care of loved ones.

In our prayers we pray for those who have drifted away from regular attendance-those who have lost their faith, or joined other churches, or moved to new areas.

Loving God, may each of these, our friends, know that they are in our thoughts and are still much remembered much valued, and cared about. May we find ways of supporting them, and expressing our interest in their well-being.

And, whatever their situation, may they know you close by their side, joined with us and all your people,, in the fellowship which only Jesus Christ can bring.

We remember in our prayers the War in Ukraine, we remember the carnage in the Middle East.And we pray Lord God, that you will hasten the day when all your children will live in peace and harmony.

Lord, King and Head of the Church, unite us through the love of Jesus Christ, in whose name we sing the Lord's Prayer.