

Hinckley United Reformed Church
Prayers for week beginning Monday 15th April 2024

Prayer based on Matthew 25: 31 – 46

Living Lord, we see Your tears in the daily news,
appealing to us in helpless, hungry, dehydrated children
and in the bitter anguish of their parents
in the Middle East, Africa and Asia
challenging our complacency through those who are unprotected:
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

You are Christ, the refugee,
escaping violence and injustice, oppression and war,
earthquake and famine,
seeking asylum, needing shelter, food and clothing
and challenging us to work for peace and justice.
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

You are Christ, the homeless on our streets.
We pass You by, aware of our guilt but not knowing what to do.
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

Christ, the prisoner, suffering the humiliation of a prison cell,
longing for release,
for letters and visitors, for words of encouragement and hope,
for acceptance and love,
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

Christ, You came as a stranger, a newcomer to our town,
and maybe our church;
You came as a visitor from another part of our country
or another part of the world.
You challenge our insularity and prejudice,
our indifference and apathy,
hoping that we shall respond with love and respect,
welcoming You into our fellowship
and with the hospitality of our homes.
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

Lord Jesus Christ, You are here in our community,
in the sick and house-bound, the bereaved, lonely and depressed,
in the mentally ill and all who are handicapped,
the battered wife and the abused child,
You are unemployed.
You are here, in our midst, longing for our time,
our understanding, our friendship and our love.
You made us one family:
Lord, show us how to care.

Written by Maureen Edwards