

Hinckley United Reformed Church
Prayers for week beginning September 2nd 2024

O Lord, we lift up to you
those with little dependence on possessions
those who have little, yet lead a full life
those who feel unworthy, yet are the salt of the earth.
We confess our own dependence.
Help us to become truly free.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven!

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who mourn the loss of loved ones
those hurt by the break-up of relationships
those who live with regrets.
We confess our own needs.
Help us to find the assurance of your love.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.'

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who have a gentle touch on life
those who do not push themselves forward
those who place others first.
We confess our own pride and self-centredness.
Help us to find true humility.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.'

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who have inadequate food and water
those who yearn to behave better
those who seek the strength of your spirit.
We confess our own waywardness.
Help us to know your will and do it.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who can be hurt without taking offence
those who can forgive right from the heart
those who see the damaged person not just the damage.

We confess our own unforgiving ways.
Help us to reflect your mercy day by day.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.'

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who we admire
those whose lives illuminate ours
those who set a beautiful example.
We confess our own lack of Christian stature.
Help us to have the mind of Christ.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God

O Lord, we lift up to you
those who take risks for peace
those who go between when two sides refuse to meet
those who never cease to search for avenues of reconciliation.
We confess our own readiness for conflict.
Help us to transform enemies into friends.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.'

O Lord, we lift up to you
those whose high principles bring them persecution
those who are in prison for speaking the truth
those who make a stand for what is right and lose their friends.
We confess our own concern for what others think of us.
Help us to have the courage of our convictions.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

O Lord, we remind ourselves of what it may mean to take up our cross and follow Christ.

Jesus said:

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for
in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were
before you