

CONNECTING WITH PRAYER

12/11/23

Paraphrase of the Prayer of the Week

God, the bible gives us amazing insight into so many things that are still being rediscovered today. Help us to read it patiently and in such a way, that we can see the deeper meaning and connect fully to the eternal truths that bring us into your presence. **Amen**

Prayers of the People

God of wisdom, we are reminded of the fragile nature of our human existence. We are bewildered by unfolding tragedies in the world. We pray for those caught up in the stalemating war in Ukraine, those suffering in the Israeli – Hamas war, the fighting in Gaza and beyond with threats to spread further in the Middle East. We pray for all those seeking peace and justice to live their lives in this world.

We also pray for stability in our own region. We pray for foresight and clear governance by leaders as the changing role of China in the world and region is under active negotiation at this time. Give not just us, but all in our region, a spirit of unselfishness, compassion, and fairness in public and private life.

God of creation, we are such an infinitely small part of your universe however we look at it. The more we learn the more we are in awe of your wonder. We give thanks for the learning, knowledge and understanding that we can gain from being part of your world.

We pray for your guidance as we continue on our faith journey so that we may discern your truths and joyfully share your gospel. May people everywhere know and love you.

Guide those among us with the gifts you have bestowed upon them to faithfully minister to all. We especially hold before you our Priest, Rev Paul, and the team who support him. Help them to feel our love and care as they minister to us.

God of compassion, continue to give us growing wisdom and understanding of those around us in this community here at St David's, in

our homes, among family and friends, neighbours and community, so that we may recognise their needs and respond with compassion.

We hold before you those who are in need of your healing love through sorrow, sickness, despair, loneliness or any other trouble. May they feel your presence in their hearts. We also remember those who care for others.

God of grace, we give thanks for the lives lost due to conflict, natural disaster, illness or other adversity. We hold before you our loved ones who have gone before us and the work of those who have honoured you throughout their lives.

We thank you for your grace, your patience and your forgiveness so that we, encouraged by the example of others, may run with perseverance the race that lies before us and can be called to share with them the fullness of joy in your kingdom. **Amen**