

**PRESIDER**

Dear friends, the word of God encourages us to wait in hope and peace for the day of salvation. Full of expectation, let us pray for the coming of God's reign.

**READER**

We pray for church communities around the world. May we accompany one another in prayer and peace through this Advent season of divine promise. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for world leaders. On this United Nations Day of Human Rights, may they pledge to respect the God-given dignity of all human beings and uphold their fundamental rights. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are working to sow seeds of peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen, Myanmar and Afghanistan. May they not lose heart at the immensity of the task. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for young people pleading for the protection of nature. May the world they will inherit be kept safe from the ravages of global warming. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for women subjected to domestic violence, especially those who fear for their lives. May they find the refuge and support they need to break free. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they dwell for ever in God's new heavens and new earth. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

**PRESIDER**

God of all comfort and consolation, you never cease to renew our hope for the transformation of the world. Free us from fear and help us play our part in your work of love. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.