PRESIDER

Dear friends, ever watchful for the signs of God's gracious presence among us, let us pray for our fractured world to find new hope and peace.

READER

We pray for the whole human family, that leaders with deep wisdom, breadth of vision and true humanity will arise to rekindle the world's hopes for peace. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Christian churches, that their communities will be a joyful sign of the divine wedding feast to which all are invited. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who are driven by power, hate or revenge to wage war on the innocent, that by the power of God's Spirit they will forsake their rage and lay down their arms. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for scientists and engineers developing technologies to reduce global warming, that their creative endeavours will gain enough support to prevent climate failure. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for parents blessed with the birth of their first child, that they will treasure the gift of new life and grow together as a loving family. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will rise with Christ and remain with him for ever. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

Holy God and Fount of Wisdom, you promise us the fullness of joy in your presence. Sustain us with hope as we make our way to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.