

Together, Lord, we come to seek the 'Jesus way'.

May we know your truth and your presence in all that we are.

May we receive new life, and be empowered to serve you in all that we do.

Amen



Roman Road I.M. Church
Failsworth

Sunday 10th May

Did you manage to celebrate VE Day on Friday? We had planned a VE day afternoon tea celebration for Saturday 9th May. Maybe we can get together for a VJ day afternoon tea in August. In the meantime Rev Dr Helen Paynter from Bristol Baptist College has written this prayer for VE Day.

God of justice and self-sacrifice, healing and reconciliation, Prince of peace and victorious risen Saviour.

We remember the events of VE day, and all that that day signified:

- the culmination of enormous sacrifices made by individuals, communities and nations,
- the formal conclusion of unspeakable sufferings inflicted by humanity upon humanity.
- gain and loss; victory and defeat; joy and sorrow.

God of righteous outrage and justice, we thank you for the end to the Third Reich and all the hatred and evil that it unleashed upon the world.

God who gave himself in sacrifice, we thank you for the sacrifice of those who gave their lives, their loved ones, their health or their freedom to strive for the cause of justice and to resist great evil.

God of grace and restoration, we thank you for those who gave their energy to peace and reconciliation after the war: who worked with bricks and mortar, finance and healthcare, hearts and minds to bring aid, restore communities, and to rebuild bridges of trust between nations.

God of healing and new beginnings, we confess that we have not wholly lived in the new possibility that peace and victory opened up. We have continued to wage war, we have turned once again to suspicion and antagonism against other peoples and nations. We have permitted the rise of hate-based ideologies across Europe. And we have allowed the seeds of murder and war to continue to live in our own hearts.

God of victory and peace, we look forward to the end of all evil – including our own; the end of all violence – including our own; and to the coming of your glorious kingdom of love and justice. And we commit ourselves once again to working with you towards that beautiful goal.

Amen.

Did you read the book of Jonah in April?
For May there is another book beginning with J
and this month the Bible book of the month is
Joshua.



This week is Christian Aid week but without the usual house-to-house collection or special fundraising events. Why not have a go at the Quizian Aid quiz with Rev Kate Bottley and Dr Rowan Williams <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=585083509054469>. On Sunday at 1.00pm there is a live streamed service for Christian Aid week with Dr Rowan Williams on the Christian Aid Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/christianaid/>

A prayer for Christian Aid week

'Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary' Psalm 96:6

Pray for all the activity and opportunity of Christian Aid Week to run smoothly in communities across the United Kingdom and Ireland and around the world.

Pray that the story of Rose having to walk many miles to collect water – while in her late sixties – will evoke a compassionate and generous response. Pray that, through Christian Aid Week, many churches will get to connect in a meaningful way with their local community.

Pray for the call for climate justice to be clearly heard through the prophetic voice of our partners being amplified this Christian Aid Week.

May the strength and beauty of your will be at work through Christian Aid week.

Amen



A prayer for others

In the world at this time there is so much fear,
many have had their lives and livelihoods destroyed;
many grieve for loved ones who have died;
many are still sick - or fear becoming so:
that they may all know your strength and peace,
loving God - be for them a rock and a stronghold.

In a world where industries and infrastructures have failed,
where means of transport and delivery struggle to survive,
where many do not have adequate food, water or power:
that they may know your strength and peace,
loving God - be for them a rock and a stronghold.

In a world where many people are or feel alone;
where many do not know where to look for comfort;
where many see no purpose or future:
that they may know your strength and peace,
loving God – be for them a rock and a stronghold.

In the name of the living Lord Jesus. Amen

A personal prayer

Show me your way; help me to know your truth, to live your life. Amen

