

Loving god

We thank you for love

The love that turns us to one another

And urges us to look with surprise

Into the eyes of another

A different face

And draws us out of strangeness or indifference
to find friendship or reunion.

Your love revealed to us through Jesus Christ

Softens our hearts

Helps us reach across divides

And brings us close to those who have seemed different.

Today we bring to you your world

A world that seems to know so much about how to hate

A world that seems to know so little of how to love

A world full of people who dream of peace

Yet do not know how to achieve it.

Loving god

Breathe your spirit of healing on our world

When we are rejected and yearn to belong

When we are isolated and long for company

When we are lonely or despised

Or just plain exhausted

Breathe on us

And help us feel your spirit of justice

And forgiveness and healing.

Guide us O loving lord

As we bring to you those areas of life uppermost in our minds to day

In a few moments of quietness we bring them and lay them in your arms as we remember that Jesus is always in these situations

Families

Friends

People in hospital and care homes

People who work in hospitals and care homes

People who still make our lives run

Whether council workers or shop workers

Strengthen us and guide us in the right way.

Make us good shepherds of your flock

And guardian of the gospel treasure.

Give grace to all who hold power in the world

That they don't despise or neglect any who come under their authority.

We pray especially for any today who feel they sit in a wilderness
Wondering where rescue will come from.

Wondering how the dream of their family members will be fulfilled

Reassure them

Take their broken, twisted and disappointed lives

And produce your spirit breathed works of art.

Help all who sit and mourn

Missing the opening of the door

Or staring at the empty chair by the fireside.

Help us to share their times of sorrow
And join in their times of rejoicing

Grant wisdom and patience to all who care for the needy in our
community.

And loving Lord

We thank you too for the memories of those who taught us how to
love you.

Gather us with them into your fold of eternal love
Your whole church together praising you.

We ask these things through your son who taught us when we pray
to say....

Our Father in heaven

Hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,

Your will be done,

On earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those

Who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

And deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

And the glory are yours

Now and forever.

Amen.