

Gracious God

You ask us to think about you.

You prompt us to align our lives with what you want as we reflect on your promise

And your presence.

We know you are with us

But sometimes we do find it difficult to answer our questions of life.

Help us to see reassurances of your presence when we look into our friends faces, yes

But also as we remember we are not the first people to have these questions and concerns.

Remind us to return time and again to scripture .

Help us to see the wide breadth of interpretations we find there.

Then urge us to work out and discuss with others what we discover.

For church moves forward through discussion and debate as realisations dawn on some ring true with others through your love.

Help us to be part of that reflective approach to being church today.

And as we reflect we know that many are uncertain,

Many feel sad

Many look for certainty.

Help us to rest in your reassuring presence

The greatest promise and encouragement there is

Now and for ever given through your son, yet wrapped in so much that went before and after

Such that together we bring our pleas in the words he taught us

We say together.

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.