

Wye Connect



The joint magazine of Trinity & Cores End
United Reformed Churches



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Sunday worship

June 2022

Pastoral letter

Dear friends,

The first weekend of June sees the combination of a historic celebration in the life of our nation and a major festival in the life of the global church. The Jubilee holiday weekend (2-5 June), celebrating the Queen's 70 year's of service to the nation as monarch, will coincide with Pentecost Sunday (on 5 June) when Christians rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, empowering the followers of Jesus in loving service and joyful witness down the centuries and across the planet today.

It is good to celebrate the Queen's remarkable reign, her resilience, faith, humour and dedication to nation and the commonwealth. While politicians have come and gone, crises deepened and receded, the Queen has remained as a constant, speaking to the nation at key points in its life. Whether you are an ardent royalist or fierce republican (and the URC includes both), there is something very moving to see how she has placed service to the people, both here and across the world, at the heart of her life.

One of the initiatives to mark the Platinum Jubilee is the Queen's Green Canopy, a tree planting initiative which invites people from across the UK to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". There's a small cherry tree on Cores End Meadow, planted by the Montessori School earlier in the year, that was given by the Council as part of this – and many more trees have been planted by church members on the meadow too. I hope we can also plant a suitable small tree in Trinity's garden, sometime this year as part of this campaign. This connects with 5 June which is not only Pentecost, but Environment Sunday and World Environment Day too. I believe the increasing commitment and concern for the planet and its diverse life forms, among Christians and people of all faiths and none, is a work of God's Spirit.

It will be good to celebrate the vitally important festival of Pentecost on 5 June and the gift of that Holy Spirit, touching the lives of every background and status. The Holy Spirit breaks through in unexpected places and unexpected people, the 'Go between' that reconciles old enemies and inspires new actions of compassion and kindness, wisdom and courage. The Spirit enables us to pray even when we have no words – or perhaps above all when words fail and we connect to God in some deeper and fuller way. The Spirit bears fruit in our lives taking us beyond mere busy-ness to creative action and loving prayer.

The world has been reeling from the crises of the pandemic, the cost of living, the war in Ukraine (and dire situation in Afghanistan, Yemen and many other parts of the world), the impact of the Climate emergency being felt already especially by the poorest people of the world. Crises demand resilience, hope and determined action – and we are seeing that among many people in response to these situations. So we pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit, restore the face of the earth. Come, Spirit of love, renew our lives. Come, Spirit of truth, focus our minds. Come, Spirit of wisdom, bring us vision and courage. Come, Spirit of Jesus, lead us in the way of grace and peace.'

Do come and share in worship on **Pentecost Sunday**, as we give thanks for the Queen and remember the story of those first disciples, receiving a power unlike any other – the flame of love, the breath of new life, the Spirit of God – and how that gift can be ours too. Come in the morning at Trinity and share in the bread and wine of communion, blessed by the Spirit that makes us one. Or come to Cores End in the morning for worship led by one of our local lay preachers, Sue Burke, connecting us with other Christians in the area. All are welcome too in the afternoon at Cores End for a Jubilee Tea (oh so British!) and Pentecost Praise (outside if the British climate is kind). In the words of the Brian Wren hymn:

There's a Spirit in the air,
telling people everywhere,
praise the love that Christ revealed
living, working in our world.

Happy Pentecost!



Contact: - minister.trinity.coresend@gmail.com



01628 525076

The minister's day off is Friday every week. Please contact your elder if there is a particular need to seek assistance on a Friday.

The next edition will be published on Sunday 26th June. Contributions by Sunday 19th please.

editor@trinity-urc.org.uk

Worship in June

Every Sunday at 10.30 am at both churches

Our thanks to all who led worship, read or provided music at our two churches in May as we journeyed through the Easter season. It was good to mark Christian Aid week in both churches.

It is good to see that Covid19 cases are falling nationally and locally, though people are still being affected by it and lives disrupted. Life is feeling more 'normal' and at present **the wearing of masks in church is left to personal choice**, but we ask all to continue to take care when at church (social distancing as appropriate) and of course do not attend if you have any Covid symptoms (or test positive). Please be especially careful and sensitive to those who are more vulnerable, cautious or anxious about the virus. We are reviewing our precautions regularly at both churches and if you have any concerns or questions, don't hesitate to contact the minister or elders.

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND CARING

We are continuing to stream the service from Trinity every Sunday so that those who are still confined to home can watch the service. Many thanks to the Techie team for doing this.

Worship online and in church

10.30 am at Trinity Church and streamed service – the link is bit.ly/trinityhw

5 June	Pentecost Worship with Holy Communion led by Terry Hinks
12 June	Worship led by Peter Green
19 June	All age Worship led by Barbara Sparks
26 June	Worship led by Leprosy Mission speaker

10.30 am at Cores End Church

3 June	Worship led by David Reynolds
12 June	Worship with Holy Communion led by Geoff Cronin
19 June	Worship led by David Tester
26 June	Worship led by Derek Holland

Join us at Cores End URC on Sunday 5th June



*4.00pm Jubilee Garden Tea in celebration of 70 years of the Queen's reign
followed at*

*5.00pm Pentecost Songs of Praise in the Meadow
(events will take place indoors if wet)*

All welcome (and cakes for the tea welcome too – contact Ann P or Elizabeth H)

Junior Church: sessions (or alternative activities) continue at both churches.

For more details of our activities with children please contact the Junior Church Leaders. There are also materials for children and families at <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/>.

Not included in this version

ELDERS' NOMINATIONS DURING JUNE AT CORES END

Please continue to pray and seek nominations

We are seeking nominations for elders at Cores End. Church members should approach the person they feel would make a good elder to get their permission to nominate (or ask someone else to do so on their behalf). The person needs to be willing to stand and have a seconder. Names of those nominated should be given in writing to the minister (or a serving elder) so that a conversation can be had with the nominee before their name is brought to church meeting.

Please continue to reflect on who might take this role or whether you yourself might consider it. June is a month for nominations. The list of nominations received will be shared with the congregation on Sunday 3 July, before the **AGM which is to be held on Monday 18 July**.



Lighthouse is ALL about hope! We hope and pray the volunteer numbers will have a sudden increase - preparations for Lighthouse 2022 across all sites are in full flow now but we still need LOTS of volunteers everywhere! Click [Volunteer here!](#) and join us! There are plenty of jobs and without volunteers we cannot take as many children as we all really want to. Do keep Lighthouse in your prayers. High Wycombe runs from 25 – 29 July and Loudwater 22 – 26 August.

Praying Together

Prayer Chains

Both churches operate Prayer Chains so do use these. The first point of contact is:

(at Cores End) david@dkreynolds.plus.com

(at Trinity). johnandrosemary@outlook.com

If you would like to be part of either Prayer Chain please get in touch.

Trinity Prayers (Wednesday Mornings, via Zoom) 9.30 am on 4 and 18 June. More information from Kate Yates, Sue Thorne or Terry Hinks.

24/7 Prayer for Wycombe contact Jane Franklin prayer@ccfh.org.uk if you would like to go on the mailing list.

Wye Churches Community Prayer takes place on Wednesdays at 4pm. The prayers move around the churches – and you are welcome to join the group at any time: There will prayers on Zoom on 6 May and then a break for the Easter holidays with Prayers on Zoom again on 4 May. Contact Terry for more details.

Visits to other faith places of worship (as part of Faith And Cultural Awareness Training) is still being planned by Peter Tate (a local Faiths & Cultures Trainer) working with Churches Together in High Wycombe Town Centre. We hope to have dates for visits over the summer soon.

Thank you for your Generous Giving

Thank you for your continued support of the churches' work, through your regular giving and donations. If you would like to give to the church by Standing Order, bank transfer or cheque please contact the treasurers for more details:

David B (Cores End) - dandrbailey@tiscali.co.uk

01628 520848

Sue T (Trinity) - treasurer@trinity-urc.org.uk

01494 564635



Church Correspondence

The Work of Church Secretary is being shared by elders and minister at present.

Church Correspondence should be sent to

(Trinity) secretary@trinity-urc.org.uk

(Cores End) berylgeoffbritt@gmail.com



Gretna Green to lose “business”?

The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 received Royal Assent on 28 April. Its purpose is to address the practice of child marriage in England and Wales.

It raises the minimum age of marriage and civil partnership to 18 in England and Wales, meaning that 16- and 17-year-olds will no longer be permitted to marry or enter a civil partnership with parental or judicial consent.

It will also mean that any marriages or civil partnerships that take place overseas or in Scotland or Northern Ireland than involve under-18s where one of the parties is domiciled in England and Wales will not be legally recognised in England and Wales. It will not, however, affect the validity of any marriage or civil partnership entered before the Act comes into force. The Act will also make it illegal for a person to arrange the marriage of a person under the age of 18 in England and Wales in circumstances where that is not already illegal.

Praying for Ukraine

KEEP PRAYING

There are many prayer resources including those from Christian Aid [Prayers from Christian Aid](#) and from the URC [United Reformed Church Prayers for Ukraine](#)



KEEP SUPPORTING THE MANY PEOPLE IN DESPERATE NEED

More than 5 million people have fled Ukraine since the conflict began and millions more have been displaced within the country, having to flee their homes and livelihoods. Critical infrastructure, schools and medical facilities have been destroyed in a nation that already had many people living in poverty. The desperate need will continue for months and years to come.

DEC Ukraine Appeal: The Disasters Emergency Committee is a coalition of over 15 aid organisations (including Christian Aid). Their appeal will be matched pound for pound by donations from the UK Government's previously allocated funds. Trinity sent £130 in April and more donations are welcome. You can donate online here: [Donate here.](#)

Maidenhead URC has been organising lorry loads of essential goods, donated by the public. If you want to support this amazing work please look at the website [Ukraine — Maidenhead URC](#) or contact Terry for more information.



DON'T FORGET THE MANY OTHER PLACES OF CONFLICT AND INJUSTICE

Reaching out

WYCOMBE REFUGEE PARTNERSHIP

You can find updates on the WRP Facebook page or receive their newsletter; see the website www.wycombe-refugees.org

ONE CAN Please Keep Collecting

Thank you for continuing to give to the One Can Foodbank at church and through its many collecting points. The need in Wycombe and the surrounding area continues to grow, with so many people facing food poverty at the moment.



Compassion UK

For more information about *Compassion UK*, please visit www.compassionuk.org. Donations to support Mary and Cristian (the two children sponsored by Trinity) and the wider work of Compassion UK can be sent to the Trinity Treasurer, Sue Thorne suethorne24@btinternet.com 01494 564635. We will be hearing again about this work in the autumn with a Compassion Speaker leading worship on 23 October.



Christ-centred



Child focused



Church-based

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

LENT 2022 Jars of Change

Thank you to all who have donated to the Water Aid Lent Appeal. £310 was raised at Cores End, and £110 at Trinity. Alternatively visit the website www.wateraid.org/uk to give a donation online.



CHRISTIAN AID



This year Christian Aid week (15 – 22 May) focused on the droughts affecting Zimbabwe and many nations in Africa as a result of Climate change and told the inspiring stories of Janet and Jessica and their families. Thank you for your donations to this important work. More information about Christian Aid can be found at

www.christianaid.org.uk

LEPROSY MISSION

Worship at Trinity on 26 June will focus on the continuing and vital work of the Leprosy Mission.



Wycombe Homeless Connection

We were delighted to host the WHC annual service on 5 May at Trinity Church, when staff, trustees and volunteers reflected on the year gone by and gave thanks for God's many blessings. You can watch the service online (via the website at www.wyhoc.org.uk). Having seen what was possible in assistance to those experiencing homelessness during the pandemic the charity is all the more determined to ensure all have proper housing. Their clear intention, inspired by the grace and compassion of God is:



- We are committed to there being zero tolerance to leaving people on the street
- We believe there should be enough homes for everyone.
- We will do everything we can to prevent anyone ever losing their home.

Please continue to support this work by prayer, donations or volunteering.



Sunday, 12 June
11am, High Street
lovewycombe.org.uk

The celebration will bring together Christians from across the area in united praise and worship, showing the Church working as One, in Jesus Christ.

*Donations given at the celebration will be supporting Growing Hope, a charity offering free therapy for children and young people with additional needs and also support for parents, carers and siblings. Its **therapy clinic is now open for referrals** for children and families living in the High Wycombe area.*



growinghope.org.uk

Trinity's rose in full bloom



Council for World Mission

CWM launches Master of Theology in Theological Education: CWM has developed a curriculum for Theological Education for an Economy of Life. CWM commissioned a team of scholars from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean to design for its pilot implementation.



Cambridge Centre Christianity Worldwide Summer Institute 2022: The first Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide residential Summer Institute on World Christianity and Global Challenges is open for applications. Held between 18-22 July 2022 in Cambridge England. CWM General Secretary Rev Dr Jooseop Keum will be delivering the keynote address on this year's theme 'Grief, Resilience, and Hope amid the Pandemic.

United Churches of Zambia launches pilot programme: The programme is for child abuse prevention. UCZ has piloted a three-year programme against child abuse in response to different forms of child abuse in schools and communities where UCZ has a presence to enhance the safety of young learners.

Caribbean and Europe International Women's Day: Over 139 participants attended 'Women Breaking Chains, 'Nurturing Communities, Planting Seeds of Hope', a virtual event held by the Gender Justice Working Group of the Council for World Mission Caribbean and Europe regions on International Women's Day.

Church across Britain and Ireland unite in prayer for Ukraine: UEI General Secretary Rev. Dyfrig Rees was among the Christian leaders gathered outside the Embassy of Ukraine in London in prayer and solidarity. Hundreds of congregations from various denominations across Britain and Ireland gathered in an act of witness to pray for the people in Ukraine.

Easter Greetings from CWM General Secretary: In the on going chaos, pain, and distress caused by the prolonged Covid-19 pandemic, military occupations and ecological crises, Easter 2022 comes with the message of the risen Lord, 'Peace be with you (John 20:19) 'The resurrection of the Lord gives us the power to rise from our vulnerabilities.

Easter Message 2022 by CWM Moderator Rev. Lydia Neshangwe: This Easter, we are given two instructions as believers in this world: Arise and shine (Isaiah 60:1). In other words, be visible. be seen, radiate, glow and sparkle, even in the context where you are. We are all challenged to take our place.

Good Friday: Love Crucified: By Rev. Julie Sim, Mission Secretary – East Asia and South Asia, Council for World Mission Psalm 22 One song that has often gripped my heart is this: 'Were you there? It has three stanzas that describe the crucifixion, the death and the burial of Jesus. Each Stanza guides and helps worshippers remember.

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand Moderator's easter Message: Passionately Hopeful: With recent struggles of COVID weariness, a widening income inequality due to house prices spiralling out of control, and dismay at the brutal invasion of Ukraine. The Moderator Right Rev. Hamish Galloway has encouraged all to see signs of lights through the cracks of despair.

Holy Thursday: Remembering The Broken Body: Rev. TAN An-Wei, the Presbyterian Church of Korea. The time we currently use to remember the past is part of flowing time. Events can have already passed, but we remember it on anniversary dates. For example, birthdays and the date of losing a loved family member are like that. We also remember the past.

Statement by Korean Association of Christian Studies: Russia must immediately stop the invasion of Ukraine! War is a crime against humanity that indiscriminately kills life. Stop the war and make peace. Russia has launched missile attacks and air strikes in key regions of Ukraine.

Young Voices in Peacebuilding Efforts in Asia: The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan has conducted an Ecumenical Forum Youth Webinar in April. The Neo-Cold War: The Resurgence of the Geopolitics of Global empires in North East Asia. Over 80 participants from across the world have participated.

Suffer the children: repairing the wrongs done through racist Christian Education: CWM organised 'Suffer the Children' Repairing the wrongs done through racist Christian education, an online meeting in April, time to share research findings on Christian Education material with member churches and partners, conducted as part of CWM legacies of Slavery, children, and racism projects.

Rosemary

For any further information go to the website: - [Home - Council for World Mission \(cwmission.org\)](https://www.cwmission.org)

JOINT PUBLIC ISSUES TEAM

*The Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church
working together for peace and justice.*



Joint Public Issues Team Conference

11 June 2022 in London or online

Check out all of the details
and book your tickets at

www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/conference

JOINT PUBLIC ISSUES TEAM - Special dates in June

5th June

Environment Sunday / World Environment Day / Pentecost

See the international website [World Environment Day](http://WorldEnvironmentDay.org)

12th June

Tax Justice Sunday

20th – 26th June

Refugee Week

26th June

International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

The Beckly Lecture 2022

Britain: Global Power or Good Neighbour?

with Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng

Monday 27th June 8:00pm to 9:30pm

A fringe event of The Methodist Conference,
at Telford International Centre

Also livestreamed online

Register to attend at bit.ly/Beckly2022



The GREEN Page

100% URC Synod Eco Commitment



Eco Synod was developed in partnership with the United Reformed Church as a tool for Synods to encourage local churches to engage in wider creation care through Eco Church as well as to demonstrate this commitment at Synod level. We're delighted that all 12 Synods (in England and Wales) have now registered as part of this denominational award scheme. The award encourages Synod-level change and complements the local church-level engagement with Eco Church. We anticipate that registered Synods will follow suit of URC West Midlands Synod, the first to achieve a Bronze Eco Synod Award in 2021.

It is great news that there are a growing number of URC churches participating in Eco Church with almost 300 churches, including those in Local Ecumenical Partnerships, registered by the end of 2021. 93 of these have achieved bronze awards and 38 have achieved silver awards. Three churches have achieved gold awards, with St John's Marsh Green as the first URC church to do so in 2019, followed by Tavistock URC and Emmanuel Church in Bungay (a URC and Methodist LEP) in 2021.

Some inspiring recent examples include Cores End URC who achieved their bronze award in March 2022 and have exciting plans to turn their field into a wildlife area. Beulah URC, who achieved their silver award in August 2021, have been working actively with their MP, participated in The Climate Coalition's 'Show The Love' campaign and grow vegetables on their church land with their junior church. We're also really encouraged by the inspirational leadership from the URC Youth Assembly, which A Rocha UK recently acknowledged in a letter of endorsement when they met for their 2022 annual conference.

Lissy Webb (A Rocha News May 2022)

NB The National Synod of Scotland supports Eco Congregation (a parallel organisation in Scotland)

Our own Environmental Audit

Thank you to all who have taken part in this at both churches. Ali Wheeler from Cores End will now be compiling the results. Please continue to share your experiences of trying to live a planet-friendly life, with its blessings and challenges. The more ideas, encouragement and inspiration we can share, the better.

Next Work Party on the Cores End Meadow and Grounds

Our next work parties are on Saturday 4 June and 9 July (10 – 11.30 am). For more information contact Terry Hinks.

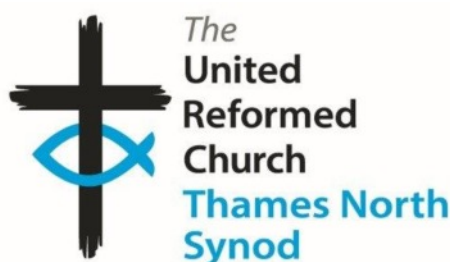
Wycombe and Marlow Area Joint Eco Church Group

This group is developing through the work of Mike Hill (a retired Methodist minister now worshipping at Hughenden Parish Church and involved in the Wycombe Deanery) and Terry Hinks. It has held two meetings, bringing together reps of local Eco churches for information and support. If you would like to get involved please contact Terry. Mike's newsletter included the following two items: *(on the next page)*

Hope in God's World is a helpful report and study guide on Christian Discipleship in the Context of Climate Change. 3rd Edition was updated for 2020. You can download from <https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/19573/hope-in-gods-future-1120.pdf> or you can buy a paper copy from Methodist Publishing for £2.50

BBOWT (Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust) News is always full of inspirational notes about local wildlife. A recent edition focussed on swallows and swifts etc. A "free handy guide" can be found at <https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/Swifts%2C%20swallows%20%26%20%20martins.pdf>

News from Thames North Synod

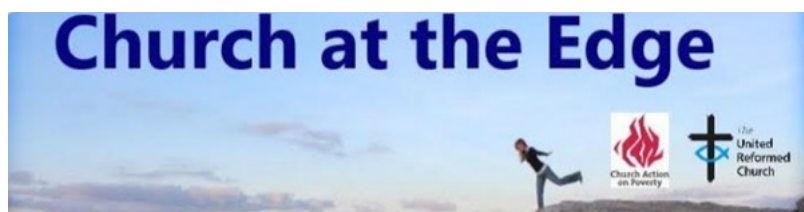


SYNOD EXECUTIVE

Currently Thames North Synod has 4 vacancies on the Synod Executive. If you wish to make any nominations or if you are aware of anyone who is interested, please let the Moderator's P.A. know (modpa@urcthamesnorth.org.uk). We are looking for a good spread across the LAGs as well as a spread of ages, gender, ethnicity and balance between ministers and elders. It would be helpful amongst that number to have people with Mission, Finance or Human Resources experience to complement the skills already on the Executive. The Executive meets five times a year on Saturday mornings, currently online. The Moderator would be happy to discuss further with anyone who wants more information. Nominations need to be submitted by Friday 10 June 2022.

IMAGINE CHURCH ENVISIONING DAY

This will take place on Saturday 5 November, so please keep that day free and come along and also consider whether your congregation could be part of the group of ten to participate in our exciting two year London Institute of Contemporary Christianity learning hub that will commence early in 2023. More information for Eddie Boon disc.enab@urcthamesnorth.org.uk



If you are a busy activist, a passionate disciple, a minister, and/or engaged in community ministry (however you might choose to interpret that term), and need a space to meet with others, to be inspired and to be open and honest about current difficulties, and to seek support from each other in living through these challenging times, then please sign up for the third series of monthly Zoom sessions, brought to you by Church Action on Poverty and the URC's 'New Reality Same Mission' group (CRCW, Church & Society, Children's & Youth, Walking the Way).

Sign up to receive further information and reminders for each session here <https://forms.gle/9kdPpVtQgy1PRqiu9>

Our next session on **Thursday 9 June 1.30 pm** will be led by **Eunice Attwood**, Church at the Margins Coordinator for the Methodist Church in conversation with an inspiring local leader, exploring what it means to be a Church at the Margins in practice.



The Platinum Jubilee School of Cookery



1 pint milk
10g butter
110g breadcrumbs
50g sugar
Grated rind of 1 small lemon
2 eggs
3 tbsp jam



Pre-heat oven 180 degrees C.
Butter a 1.5 pint dish.
Heat milk to boiling then remove from heat.
Stir in butter, breadcrumbs, 25g sugar and lemon rind.
Leave for 20 minutes to swell.
Separate eggs.
Beat yolks and add to cooled mixture.
Pour into dish.
Bake for 30 (ish) minutes until set.
Melt jam and spread over the top.
Beat the egg whites until stiff then add 25g sugar in.
Spoon the egg whites over the jam.
Sprinkle with more sugar!
Bake for 10-15 more minutes until golden-brown.

Thanks to Ann Wilkinson for finding this Delia Smith recipe

Picture (1/2) Page



Two Anns from Cores End litter picking



Another tree for the Cores End Meadow, donated and planted by Susan Atkinson

Please continue to send in your photos to photos@trinity-urc.org.uk

Prayer Page



Prayer for World Environment Day (5 June)

God of life,
we praise you for the beauty of creation,
its richness and variety;
yet, through greed and ignorance,
we scar your world with plastic waste
and throw so much away.
Make us more like Jesus,
treading gently on our common home,
and breathe your Spirit on us,
that we may care more deeply for your Earth.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rt Revd Graham Usher (Bishop of Norwich and Lead Bishop on the Environment)

Prayer for the Queen (Platinum Jubilee)

Let us continue in prayer.
God of Creation
Designer of sameness and diversity,
Evolver of time and eternity,
we give you thanks and praise.
Today we especially pray for Queen Elizabeth.
In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love, joy and peace
as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her God,
and in devoted service to the people of these islands,
and those of the Commonwealth.
Illuminate her path that she may walk in your way,
now and all the days of her life.
This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.



(URC Order of Service to mark the 70th anniversary of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen)

We pray for:

- all the people of Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory who suffer - Jewish, Christian, and Muslim, Israeli and Palestinian - all those who have been victims of violence, who are bereaved, who are isolated by checkpoints and the separation barrier, who are in prison, and all those who live in fear.
- organisations that work for peace and reconciliation in the region - that they may have the strength to continue their work.
- Christian Aid partner PARC (recently renamed the Palestinian Agricultural Development Association), for their amazing rural development work with farmers in the West Bank and in the Gozo Strip.
- Hamdan and Suadahmed Abdellatif and their three sons and twin daughters, who are dependent on their land for income now Hamdan is no longer a teacher.
- PARC who have worked with Hamdan to help him build a water reservoir that has transformed the way he collects water. He is now able to use it to water his crops, which he sells at market.

[Commitment for Life]