

Prayers of Intercession

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, he will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,

Lord, may we feed the hungry, without blaming them, without patronising them, without demanding something in return

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,

Lord, may we make sure that all have water to drink, water that is not poisoned with our chemicals, polluted with our rubbish, contaminated with our waste; water that is free to all, not rationed or sold.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

I was a stranger and you invited me in,

Lord may we welcome the stranger to our home; may we welcome the stranger to our town; may we welcome the stranger to our land; may we never put up walls or barriers to keep them out, to keep Jesus out

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

I needed clothes and you clothed me,

Lord, may we clothe those who need clothing, not pay them to be naked; may we protect those who need protection, not sell them to gangs; may we give refuge to those who flee slavery, not fling them back to their oppressors

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

I was ill and you looked after me,

Lord, may we be there for the sick, not running from them in fear; may we support those who treat the sick, not freezing their wages to the bone; may we bring hope, peace and light to those facing death or bereavement

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

I was in prison and you came to visit me.

May we meet prisoners in prison; may we open our eyes and hearts to them and to their families, and to all they have touched or hurt. May we go into prisons with hope, not block them from sight in fear.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?”

The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Amen