

## **Prayers 28<sup>th</sup> August Coldharbour**

This morning we are going to use these hearts to pray with to help focus our thoughts and desires on the will of God - for our world and our lives.

If you don't have one just wave at me and we can get you one.

Let us hold them in our hands as God holds his world.

Father, you created this world and all the creatures in it. We thank you for the beauty that surrounds us, the animals that live with us. We are a global community, connected through your world – through the air that we breath and the earth that we walk on. Give us all a desire to nurture and care for your world that you entrusted to us and forgive us for our selfishness in squandering its resources.

Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our prayer**

As we cradle this heart in our hands we are reminded of your extravagant love for your people – for all your people. Our heart breaks with yours at the injustices we witness all around us; for families torn apart by war, famine, and oppressive regimes. Comfort them father, today let them experience the peace of your presence.

Give us eyes to see the needs around us day to day and galvanise our hearts to give of ourselves generously and sacrificially whether with our time, our money our friendship or our loving presence. Help us to be your hands and feet in our communities.

Lord in your mercy

### **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the broken hearted. Those grieving the loss of a loved one, those grieving the loss of a job or the loss of a relationship. We pray for all those who will find today

long and lonely. In a moment of stillness we name in our hearts those we know personally who need your comfort, your presence and your healing touch. We picture them restored and whole and offer them up to you.

You may wish to write the names on your heart to take home with you.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

As we hold our hearts we thank you for the loving communities that we are a part of. We thank you for our churches – for St. Marys Holmbury, St. John the evangelist Wotton, St. James' Abinger and Christ Church, Coldharbour. Inspire our ministers, David, Martha, Hugh, Virginia and Hilary. Give them your vision and wisdom, your love and compassion to continue to work to see your kingdom come in these villages. Help us all to serve you with joy, trusting with faith in your will for our lives.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Finally, we offer you our heart.

Father, we offer ourselves to you, to build with and do with as you will. Relieve us of the bondage of self that we may better do your will. Take away our difficulties that victory over them may bear witness to those we would help of your power, your love and your way of life. May we always do your will.

Merciful Father

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**