**Intercessions for the Second Sunday before Advent**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we ask in faith.

We thank you for the Ministry of your Son, and we remember particularly

today the common faith which binds us all together, and our common

mission to bring your peace to all the nations of the world. We pray for

all churches everywhere, and for all those who serve them. We pray for

the whole Anglican Communion, for the Archbishop of Canterbury, and

for all primates and bishops, particularly for Dhiloraj Canagasabey and

Keerthisiri Fernando, bishops of the Church of Ceylon, and Urmas

Viilma, Archbishop of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Estonia. We

ask your blessing for Sarah our bishop, for Richard our Archdeacon, and

for our own ministers David, Paulette and Jane.

**Lord in your mercy – hear our prayer**

We pray for the world and for all peoples. We pray for all leaders everywhere, particularly the new President and Vice President-elect of the USA as they take on the great task of re-uniting that fractured country. We thank you for all leaders who use their talents to work for solutions to the existential threats facing your world – climate change, inequality, prejudice and tyranny. Help us to recognise that we can all provide leadership in different ways, and that you expect us all to all that we can to work for good in your name, and not to rely on others to do so for us. Make us good and faithful servants to you and to our neighbours.

**Lord in your mercy – hear our prayer**

We pray for our families, friends and community. At this time of remembrance, remind us that there is nothing glorious about war, that sacrifice of any life in a good cause is still sacrifice, and that it is the peace makers rather than the warmongers who will be blessed. May we set an example to those around us of faith in your love for us, hope for your kingdom on earth, and charity to all those we know and those who we do not yet know. May we never allow others to do our thinking for us, and go along with the herd like the Gadarene swine.

**Lord in your mercy – hear our prayer**

We ask you Lord to comfort and heal all those who suffer in mind, body or spirit, and give your grace to all those who work for them. We can never pay the debt we owe to the health and care workers and all other essential workers who have saved our lives at the risk of their own, and who are now back on the real front line. We thank you for all scientists and researchers everywhere whose talents, knowledge and hard work have helped to keep us safe, and to develop the long term solutions to the health threats we face. Turn your face away from all so-called leaders who would use our fears to doubt your wisdom for their own political reasons, who talk of liberty when they mean selfishness, and who are careless of the god given gift of life. Support all those whose loved ones are in distress, and help us to give them strength and comfort

**Lord in your mercy – hear our prayer**

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ, and according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace

**And rise to glory.**

We pray with Mary

**Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.**

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**