

For gwuc wiki

Vestry, Prayers of the People, Acknowledgement of Country and First Peoples

The UCA Assembly website has useful resources for Acknowledgement of Country which can be used as an opening in Prayers of the People and on other occasions.

For ideas see

<https://ucaassembly.recollect.net.au/nodes/view/242?keywords=Covenanting&highlights=Wyljb3ZlbnFudGluZyJd&lsk=d683e521b69b148e94e0caf3fa811486>

Example:

Prayers of the People: 25th December 2022 8:30am

[text in red is from the sources below].

Let us bring our prayers before God.

After I say

Lord, in your mercy, please respond with
Lord hear our prayer.

As we look upon the hills and valleys, the wilderness and the dry land (Isaiah)
we see the love poured out upon your creation by those
who cared for this land # from time immemorial.

Like the first peoples, may we answer the call God places on us to care for
Creation.

We pray for our farmers, scientists, young people and governments
And all who are working overtime
to arrest the destruction of our wildlife, landscapes and eco-systems.

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

As we celebrate Jesus' birth

We pray for children who are struggling,
those who are being neglected or bullied,
Others who are caught between cultures.

Open our hearts and minds and let us hear

The generous invitation from the Uluru Statement of the Heart:
the call for a Voice for the first peoples.

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

As we celebrate Jesus' birthday
release us from the shallowness of consumerism

so that we may know the freedom
of those who are satisfied with simple things. ##

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

We pray for students who are looking to the future after Year 12;
We pray for families and those without families.
We pray for parents who are experiencing conflict in their relationship;
we pray for those in our community who cannot afford Christmas.
We pray for all who are newly arrived in Victoria:
for international students, seasonal workers and refugees.
May we act with you merciful Lord
As your Spirit builds bridges of hope, hospitality and understanding.

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

As always Loving God, we bring before you the needs of those whose names
have been written in our Prayer Request. ###

We pray for

Lord in your infinite mercy
Hear our prayer

We remember those in aged care, those whose minds are as good as gold
and those whose minds have faded; we pray for those who have lived a long time;
we pray for carers, cleaners, cooks and chaplains, for receptionists, therapists and
visitors.

and in silence we pray for those known to us who need your healing touch. ...####

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

The vision of God's justice and abundance is beyond our imagination
yet we see women's rights being violently suppressed;
we see countries being destroyed by war, governments terrorizing their own
people.

Yet Jesus has already defeated the powers and principalities of this world:

And so in the face of destruction, courage,
suffering and despair we pray again

May "Your kindom come."

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

As part of a world wide web of denominations and churches,
we pray for our sister church the GMIM Riedel congregation in Indonesia

and their minister Rev Dr Daniel Sompe.
And from the Presbytery prayer calendar we pray for
the Victorian Council of Churches Emergency Services Chaplains.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Beyond our dreams there are other dreams
Beyond our visions there are other visions,
Other languages, other faith communities:
But the oceans and the skies, the fish and the birds
a shared history and a common future,
Call us together
in a powerful testament to the One Creator.
Through the Holy Spirit empower all who seek to follow Your way:
We remember Alanee and Joel in Lorne,
We pray for our Glen Waverley ministry team: for Neil, for Di, Jemma and Joanne
and for Rev Hoon You who will join our team in February.

Give each of us strength, courage, endurance and wisdom to play our small part.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Let us join together in The Lord's prayer.

Amen

SOURCES

From UCA Assembly website:

*As we look upon the hills and valleys, we see
the love poured out upon this Land by those
who have cared for this Land since time
beyond measure...*

(https://ucaassembly.recollect.net.au/nodes/search/?keywords=Acknowledgement+of+country&submit_idx=Go; p 2:3)

I used this previous Christmas: not sure where I got it.

and #### from Ross Mackinnon's advice on Prayers of the People on the GWUC wiki.

Glyn Howells, Wurundjeri Country, 30 December 2022