A Prayer for World Mental Health Day

Tender God,

Your gentle and kind-hearted love

waits for us in the darkness and shields

us from the light when it feels too overwhelming. We remember today all those who live in the depths of depression. Continue to cherish us all when we find it so difficult to cherish ourselves. Enable us to discover companions of compassion who will abide with us, as you abide in all things and in all places where the heart and mind aches for peace and a place of rest from the storm. We ask this in the name of our brother and friend, Jesus Christ. Amen

© Christopher Newell 2012

A blessing Prayer

May the Lord God Bless you each step of Life's way.

May you learn each day to open yourself to love and the blessings of love. May you find a stick to lean on when the road is hard- and not use the stick to beat yourself.

May you be blessed with life's abundance and blessed in poor days too, learning again what really matters, what lasts. May you never give in to despair or the lie that nothing can change.

May you find ways of life and walk them with courage, knowing that every step is within the heart of Christ who holds all our days in love.

© Revd Dr Christopher Jenkins

Prayers of intercession

It is suggested that a period of silence might be kept between the subject of the prayer and the bidding.

O Lord our God, for those of us whose lives are strained and stressed..... Hear our prayer and pour out your peace. For those of us whose hold on life is fragile..... Hear our prayer and pour out your peace. For those of us whose illness makes them vulnerable..... Hear our prayer and pour out your peace. For those of us whose families struggle to understand them..... Hear our prayer and pour out your peace. For families and friends.

nurses, doctors and therapists and all who seek to walk alongside the stressed and strained, the vulnerable and the fragile...... Hear our prayer **and pour out your peace**. O Lord our God, for all whose lives are in turmoil through the effects of mental illness...... Hear our prayer **and pour out your peace**. **Amen.**

©Mary Hawes

Prayer of welcome

Come and bring your hidden places Come and bring your hurting spaces Come and eat with hearts that break Come and drink, new worlds to make Come and feast, your vision spread Despair and Hope connects the fed. Jesus says, 'Come!'

© Christopher Newell 2012

Prayer for Peace

When creation is overcome by the chaos from which its springs, peace be with you. When the sweet darkness of sleep never comes, peace be with you. When the light of the day overwhelms you, peace be with you. In the broken heart and risen body of Christ, peace be with you.

© Christopher Newell 2012