

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Forgive our foolish ways, when mankind goes to war there are no winners only hurt that ripples through families and friends causing heartache and pain. Let us hope that in an uncertain world peace will return and pain is lessened.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers

Today we remember those lives lost in the two world wars and other conflicts since. in particular, villagers who fought for King and Country. The bravery of Elizabeth Everrit who paid the ultimate prize rescuing the American airman here in Ashdon – we will remember them.

We give thanks for the people who paid the ultimate price and for those who returned home but their lives were changed through either physical or mental injury. We pray also for their families and particularly their Mothers.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers

In my own family, Great Uncle William Rogers of Morley Park, Heage of 2nd batallion Sherwood Forresters was killed in Belgium in August 1915 aged 23. His name is recorded on the Menim Gate as no known grave and St Luke's, Heage. Emma, his Mother never got over her loss and I suspect there were many mothers in her position.

We pray for the men and women involved in current conflicts, particularly we remember our friends in the Ukraine and elsewhere.

We pray that peace, however imperfect is returned and that the elderly, frail and young children can live their lives free of conflict and fear.

We remember that forgiveness is key to peace and hope that with your help we can have forgiveness as part of the journey to peace.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers

We pray for the Diocese of Saffron Walden, Jeremy our Rural Dean and his ministry team. We pray for our sister church of St Botolphs, Ashdon Baptists Church and the ministry of Bren.

We pray for our community here in Ashdon and that you will help ,heal and strengthen the sick. The bereaved thinking of friends and family of Michael Webb at this time.

We pray for the children of Ashdon Primary School who will pay their tributes at the War Memorial tomorrow led by Rev. Bren.

Merciful Father accept the prayers for the sake of your son and our Saviour Lord Jesus Christ. Amen