

Year of Young People Prayer

Welcoming God,

You welcome all of us with your open arms. Inspire and guide us, that we may we never hinder your children from coming to you; and remember that we are all part of your family. Bring us together as a loving community for all, that we may learn from each other as we walk side by side in faith.

Loving God,

We pray for those who have come to know you, whether that relationship is new or if they have made a commitment to you and stepped out in faith; we pray that they would grow in grace and knowledge as they continue their walk with you. We pray for those far away from you. Meet them where they are and give them the courage and strength to make the right decisions, that they may come to know and experience your gracious love.

Caring and Compassionate God,

We pray and ask you to guide and protect children and young people from that which may restrict them on their journey in life and faith. We pray for the day when all children in the world can be just that: children. Be with them as they experience the dangers and injustices that are ever present in our world today.

Nurturing God,

We pray for all those who work with and support children and young people - for those of all ages who give their time, talents and love to create a place in churches and communities that can be the foundation of growth, confidence and a relationship with you.

Calling God,

You call us to follow, to serve, to welcome and to share.

We come now to answer your call, to lift our minds and voices to you, and to thank and praise you for all the children and young people in our churches, communities, country and world. We ask that you would walk alongside them and grant them courage, strength and wisdom as they face the challenges of life.

Guiding God,

As we travel through this Year of Young People and beyond, help us to come alongside children and young people to draw closer to you, to answer your call to follow, to serve, to welcome and to share together, through the Holy Spirit,

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.

(This prayer can be read by different voices. Members of the church can also be invited to develop and write their own prayer with and for young people. The prayer can be used at different times through the year)