

Prayers for Refugee Week 2024

Theme: 'Our Home'

Traditional

God and father of us all,
You create a home for us in your love,
Reconciling us to you in Christ
And enfolding us in your forgiveness and grace.
We pray, in Jesus' name,
That strengthened by that grace,
We may offer a home of love
To all who are seeking sanctuary,
And that, in your unfailing goodness,
All people may find safety, rest, and peace.

Modern

Dear Father,

This Refugee Week we want to thank you for all the people you have brought to our country and to our area as refugees. We thank you for enriching our society with their contributions in so many ways. Thank you for their skills, their talents, their work, their culture, their food, their different perspectives, experience and wisdom which they share with us in their new home. *But most of all we thank you for the people we have had the privilege of getting to know - wonderful people created in Your image - for them as individuals.*

We lament the fact that people all over the world continue to have to flee their homes. We lament the harsh way that they are often treated as they seek to find refuge elsewhere. We confess that in this country, too, they often face hostility, both at a state level and on an individual level. We pray that our government would make better policies regarding refugees, that we might have a fair, humane and compassionate system. We pray for all refugees who are suffering – both on their journey and when they reach a new place – asking for protection, justice, help and healing.

Please show us what you want each of us to do. Thank you that many organisations, churches and individuals are speaking up for refugees, taking action, praying, and offering welcome and support. Thank you for the opportunity this Refugee Week to celebrate the many different homes we come from and the way that this is now our home together. Help us to find ways of connecting and of sharing Your love. Amen