

***And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown". And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way". So, I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.***  
***"The Gate of the Year" by Minnie Haskins***

Let us give God thanks that Rev Michael McMullin has agreed to be our next minister. We pray for him and his wife, Janna, as they prepare to move here.

We thank God for all the blessings of the Christmas season and for opportunities of outreach to our community remembering His Presence with us at the carol services, the care homes and in the Wellmeadow.

Loving God, we continue to remember the ongoing work of reaching the young people of our town. We pray especially for the possibility of a Youth Group meeting in our Hall under the auspices of Scripture Union-Connect. We remember this venture and give thanks for all the volunteers who have agreed to help.

Let us pray for the successful installation of the AV system. May this be of enormous benefit in all we do.

Merciful Father, In so many areas of our lives we need to make change and this is not easy because what worked for us in the past does not always work successfully now. We pray for our leaders and politicians that you will give them courage and wisdom to do what is right always guided by Christian principles.

Loving Jesus, You came down to such a world as this with all its war, conflict and grief. Forgive when dreadful situations are tackled in the wrong way. We acknowledge you are the all powerful God and that all the help we need is with you.

***Lord, make us instruments of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy  
for your mercy and for your truth's sake.  
A prayer of St Francis***

**Prayer @ Ten takes place each Sunday in the Meeting Room**  
**All welcome**