

Vision hymn

Vision hymn for Year 1: Prayerful

Transform, O Christ, your people assembled in this place;
our longing to be prayerful is gathering depth and pace:
just as those first disciples, we too make our request -
'Teach us to pray, Lord Jesus, and lead us on our quest.'

We glimpse you in the gospels before the break of day,
alone there in the shadows and making time to pray:
inspired by your example, give us the grace to dare
to deepen our discipleship through deepening times of prayer.

Who knows how this will change us? What challenges await?
Who knows where prayer might lead us? What love might come from hate?
So light the fire within us, stir us afresh to pray;
we're frail but long for faithfulness: transform us, Christ, today!

We long for peace and plenty where all we see is war;
we long to feed the hungry, to change the global law
which keeps the poor from thriving and elevates the rich;
we long for holy justice: teach us to pray for this.

We long to heal the forests, protect the suffering seas,
to halt the melting ice-caps, increase the hum of bees;
we know our need for wisdom (so close to the abyss),
for unity, humility: teach us to pray for this.

Transform, O Christ, your people assembled in this place,
attune us to your presence, still us in your embrace:
then grace us as we listen, hearts opening until,
with boldness and with vision, we're nerved to do your will.

Susanna Gunner
November 2021

*N.B. Can be sung to any of the tunes used for O Jesus I have promised
e.g. Wolvercote, Thornbury or Hatherop Castle*