

**100<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration service of the  
Battle of the Somme**

**Ulster Memorial Tower, Thiepval, France  
Friday 1st July 2016**

**Prayer by Right Reverend Dr. Frank Sellar,  
Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

We unite our hearts together in prayer, let us pray.

Gracious Lord and Loving Heavenly Father,  
On this most solemn day of commemoration and remembrance of terrible human loss, we thank You for these reassuring and comforting words of Christ Jesus that "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you".

We bless You that You are not unfeeling concerning our human condition, but rather experienced Yourself the sacrificial death of Your only Son to a cruel death upon the Cross, so that we who deserved nothing but loss, might instead receive the freedom of life everlasting.

Remind us please then, not only of our human fragility, but also of Your great redeeming love.

'So be it Lord, thy throne shall never  
Like earth's proud empires pass away:  
Thy Kingdom stands and grows for ever,  
Till all thy creatures own thy sway'.

And together we say the prayer Jesus gave His disciples:

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.