

## **Sowing for the future shape of Europe**

Lord we're pressing in together to seek Your heart and mind for the future of this country. Look with mercy on these isles that You have had such joy in fashioning; for we have reached a place that requires Your active intervention to bridge the gap and to enable us to move beyond the present impasse and to make some new initiative possible – intrinsically still as part of Europe and yet somewhat separate in our status and our trading, but without this doing permanent damage to our relating. (or to the good relationships we have built up over the years)

So far as we best understand this complicated situation, we pray that You will inspire hearts and minds to bring some fresh initiative to birth, so that no bad tempered crash occurs that leaves trailing wires and dangerous sparks just waiting to flare into bitter and resentful conflagration in the years ahead. Spare us from slow or swift descent into major or minor disagreements such as the ugly scallop wars we have glimpsed with France, and from the seething tensions in the riveted region of Catalonia, for these have such power to destabilise the very fabric of the West. Lord, we deserve no better, yet we pray to You for mercy.

Send forth warrior angels once more to create pathways for the Kingdom on European soil. May extremes of neither left nor right drive the process into quicksands of dispute nor permit rabid spearthrusts of hate-driven parties to emerge and plunge us back into the years of tears and turmoil.

Enable Britain to disengage with safety - and then to reengage through agreements that cover every sphere of life, from industry to universities and medical placements, right through the centres of financial dealing, and from farming to tourism to enable Your work to proceed.

Lead in such a way that much that is yet of You may emerge from this separation and lead to the maximum blessing possible we pray, as we sow now for the future relationships far beyond European soil to the power blocks beyond. Above all may You have Your way for the Kingdom of God.

For Your path leads through the sea,  
Your way through the mighty waters,  
Lead your people like a flock,  
even though Your footprints are not always easy to perceive,  
Your ways, o God, are holy.  
You are the God who performs miracles;  
display your power among the peoples.  
With your mighty arm redeem Your people.  
(From Psalm 77: 13:16, 20)