



'Worship at home' September 18th 2022



We come to worship God
who hears the prayers and cries
of our hearts and responds in love.

Light a candle as you affirm
the love and presence of Christ, with you always.

Opening

We come to read God's Word

We come to pray

We come to experience comfort

**We come to experience
challenge**

We come to know cost

We come to know joy

We come to worship God

Amen!

SEEK, O SEEK THE LORD

WHILE HE IS NEAR;

TRUST HIM,

SPEAK TO HIM IN PRAYER,

AND HE WILL HEAR.

- James Phillip McAuley

*IS PRAYER YOUR STEERING
WHEEL OR YOUR SPARE TYRE?*

- Corrie ten Boom

Prayer forms the basis of our relationship with God, bringing us into deeper communion with the mysterious One who holds us in love.

Reflect on when and how you pray...

1 Timothy 2:1-7

The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. This is the

way our Saviour God wants us to live. He wants not only us but everyone saved, you know, everyone to get to know the truth we've learned: that there's one God and only one, and one Priest-Mediator between God and us - Jesus, who offered himself in 1

exchange for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free. Eventually the news is going to get out. This and this only has been my appointed

work: getting this news to those who have never heard of God, and explaining how it works by simple faith and plain truth. *The Message Bible*

How often is it that the first thing you do each day is pray? Many of us aim to pray as we go to sleep at night, and first thing when we wake. It is good practice to regularly spend time in devotions, reading and prayer. However, we should not pray first thing in the morning to get it over with, so we can then get on with the rest of our day. Rather, first of all, at any time, in any situation, any decision, any interaction, before we speak or act, we turn to God.

As we grow in our relationship with God, whose Spirit indwells and empowers us every moment of the day, we come to realise that prayer is an attitude; a way of living every moment of the day in the awareness of God's love and grace. Prayer is about continuously seeking God's guidance, having a spirit of thankfulness, and placing all situations and people before God.

*PRAYER SHOULD NOT
BE REGARDED AS A
DUTY WHICH MUST
BE PERFORMED,
BUT RATHER AS A
PRIVILEGE TO BE
ENJOYED.*

- E.M. Bounds

Have you ever not known what to pray?

Do you sometimes feel you cannot find the right words?

*LIKEWISE THE SPIRIT HELPS US
IN OUR WEAKNESS;
FOR WE DO NOT KNOW
HOW TO PRAY AS WE OUGHT,
BUT THAT VERY SPIRIT
INTERCEDES WITH SIGHS
TOO DEEP FOR WORDS.*

- Romans 8:26

God does not need us to be eloquent in our prayers to hear the desires of our hearts. Nor does God need us to fix the situation or offer solutions. Prayer is not about performance, but about surrender and trust. Sometimes we find our words just get in the way. 2

WHY MUST PEOPLE KNEEL DOWN TO PRAY?

*IF I REALLY WANTED TO PRAY, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'D DO.
I'D GO OUT INTO A GREAT BIG FIELD ALL ALONE OR IN THE DEEP,
DEEP WOODS AND I'D LOOK UP INTO THE SKY –
UP, UP, UP INTO THAT LOVELY BLUE SKY
THAT LOOKS AS IF THERE WAS NO END TO IT'S BLUENESS.
AND THEN I'D JUST FEEL A PRAYER.*

- L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables

*REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY
CONTINUALLY, GIVE THANKS
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES;
FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR
YOU IN CHRIST JESUS.*

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

So often we find that the more we pray, the more we sense a need to pray. And the more we sense a need to pray, the more we want to pray! Prayer becomes not a duty to be performed, but an attitude which shapes who we are and how we respond.

Pray for

- that for which you are thankful
- your friends and family
- your faith community
- leaders and those in authority
- King Charles, the Royal family, and those in mourning for the late Queen
- the needs of those around you
- peace for our world
- yourself

*PRAYER DOES NOT CHANGE GOD,
BUT IT CHANGES THE ONE WHO PRAYS.*

- Soren Kierkegaard

*I URGE, THEN,
FIRST OF ALL, THAT
PETITIONS, PRAYERS,
INTERCESSION AND
THANKSGIVING BE
MADE FOR ALL
PEOPLE – FOR KINGS
AND ALL THOSE IN
AUTHORITY, THAT
WE MAY LIVE
PEACEFUL AND
QUIET LIVES IN
ALL GODLINESS
AND HOLINESS.*

- 1 Timothy 2:1 NIV

In response to a request from his disciples to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1), Jesus gave a model for prayer. This is a short, simple prayer that has become the prayer that identifies and unifies Christians. There are no fancy words, no intellectual theological concepts, simply an honesty that places ourselves at God's disposal, and invites God's action in our lives and in our world. It is a prayer that commits us to action, to justice, and to walking with God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

*OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME;
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD,
FORGIVE US OUR SINS
AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.
SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL,
AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL;
FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER, AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS,
NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN!*

Closing

May you know
the saving love of God,
as shown in Christ Jesus,
that you may come
to knowledge of the truth;
May the Holy Spirit dwell in you,
that you might live your life
immersed in prayer,
in love, and in grace.
Amen!

*THE FIRST THING
I WANT YOU TO DO
IS PRAY.
PRAY EVERY WAY
YOU KNOW HOW,
FOR EVERYONE
YOU KNOW.*

*- 1 Timothy 2:1
The Message Bible*