

Prayer for Peace

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.
Let peace fill our lives, our world, our universe.
Peace, peace, peace. **Amen**

Prayers of the Community

God of power and promise,
You gather and scatter your people to the ends of the earth;
But wherever we go, we are never beyond the reach of your love.
Gather us together now with all your people
as we share in the common prayer.
May they not fail you
Nor we fail them. **Amen**

Prayer from Carlisle Cathedral

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Silence

Closing responses
In work and worship

God is with us

Gathered and scattered

God is with us

Now and always

God is with us

Worshipping and Praying: An Introduction

The Church of England has suspended its regular public Church services in the light of Government guidance.

This is to try and contain and delay the spread of the corona virus (COVID-19). But this does not mean that Churches are closing. Instead the challenge for local churches is to adapt during this time and to do things differently.

So, we are encouraging everyone to find ways to pray at home, and if it is safe to do so they are welcome to come to open churches for prayer while of course maintaining social distancing and good hygiene practices.

Please take away this sheet for your own use at home or wherever you like to pray.

Praying alone

- This is a guide, a template but not rigid
- There are prayers we can simply read but we can supplement it with other prayers and spiritual readings
- It can be used by one person or by a group where 1 person leads
- Remember in the Link there are daily prayer suggestions alongside the list of daily Bible readings
- Prayer is all about habit
- Find a regular time that works for you and try to stick with it
- Don't be put off if it feels like a struggle to begin with
- Don't worry if it feels strange practice makes normal
- Finally, what really matters is that while services are halted we continue to pray and worship

Iona Community Prayers

The Iona Community has been in existence for more than 50 years, welcoming folk to its centres on Iona, Mull, and in Glasgow – to share its daily life of prayer, work, creativity, song and storytelling, and all the challenges and joys of our world.

Morning Prayer (Based on Iona Community Prayers)

The world belongs to God
The earth and all its people
How good and how lovely it is
To live together in Unity
Love and faith come together
Justice and peace join hands
If Christ's disciples keep silent
These stones would shout aloud

Confession

Loving God, Maker of all
Have mercy on us/me
Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor
Have mercy on us/me
Holy Spirit, Breath of life
Have mercy on us/me
Let us in silence admit our frailty and confess our failings

Silence

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:
To the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world
May God forgive us
May God renew us
And the Spirit enable us to grow in love
Amen

Before God with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness
To the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others and the life of the world.
May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the spirit enable you to grow in love.
Amen

Move among us, O God; give us life
Let your people rejoice in you
Make our hearts clean within us:
Renew us in mind and spirit
Give us again the joy of your help
With your Spirit of freedom sustain us.

Bible Reading

At the end:
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

We believe...

With the whole church
We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
With people everywhere
We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that wrong.
With all creation
We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen