

Some prayers of Blessing:

On our heads and our houses the blessing of God;
on our coming and our going, the peace of God;
in our life and our believing, the love of God;
at our end and our beginning, the arms of God to welcome us
and bring us home

(John Bell)

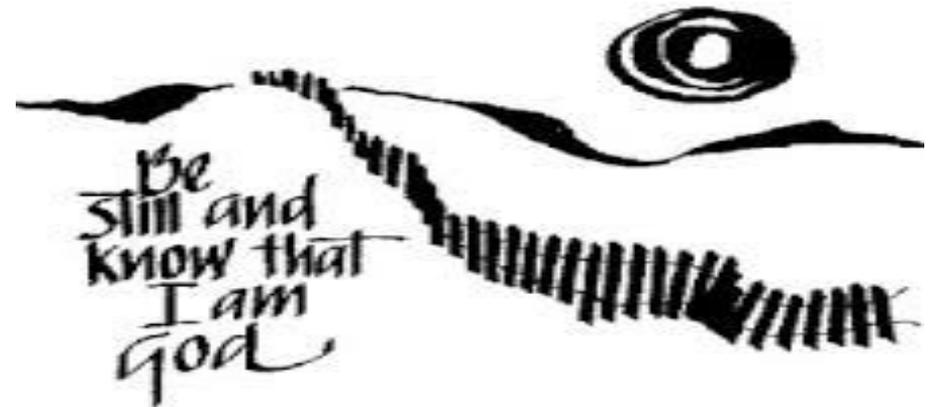
Bless to us, O God, the road that is before us,
Bless to us, O God, the friends who are around us,
Bless to us, O God, your love which is within us,
Bless to us, O God, the light that leads us home.

(Ruth Burgess)

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and
minds in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon
you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up the light of his countenance
upon you and give you peace, now and always.

Worship & Prayer Resources for use in the home



The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end.
they are new every morning, great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3: 22- 23

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in
trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea . . .

Psalm 46: 1 - 2

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you.

All things pass away: God never changes,
patience obtains all things.

Those who have God find they lack nothing.

God alone suffices.

Teresa of Avila

Gathering our hearts and thoughts in worship

The Lord our Redeemer is with us

God of our days and years, we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ so that our lives may glorify you.

The Collect for Ash Wednesday as a prayer of preparation:

**Holy God, our lives are laid open before you:
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death of your Son
bring us healing and make us whole
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I have called to you, Lord.
Let your ears be open to my voice.
My hope is in God's word.

If you recorded all our sins who could come before you?
My hope is in God's word.

There is forgiveness with you: therefore you shall be feared.
My hope is in God's word.

with us. Help us to look to you for the signs of your goodness and love towards us. Amen.

A prayer of St Benedict:

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God:

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name that is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled your people to yourself. As we follow his example may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger.

A prayer remembering God is with us:

Lord God, you are always with me. You are with me in the day and in the night. You are with me when I'm happy and when I'm sad. You are with me when I'm healthy and when I'm ill. You are with me when I'm peaceful and when I'm anxious. Today I am feeling because . . .

Help me to remember that you love me and are with me in everything today. Amen.

A prayer adapted from Alexander Carmichael

I am giving you worship with all my life, I am giving you obedience with all my power, I am giving you praise with all my strength, I am giving you honour with all my speech. I am giving you love with all my heart, I am giving you affection with all my sense, I am giving you being with all my mind, I am giving you my soul, O most high God. Praise to the Father, Praise to the Son, Praise to the Spirit, The Three in One.

A prayer for the world:

God of love and hope, You made the world and care for creation. But the world feels strange right now. The news is full of stories of Coronavirus. Many people are anxious because of it. Many people are anxious they might get ill. Many people are anxious about family and friends. Be with them in their worries and help them to find some peace. We pray for the doctors, nurses and scientists who are working to discover the right medicines to give hope to those who are ill. We pray for all those anxious about their livelihoods and businesses and about how to make ends meet. Thank you that even in these strange and worrying times, you are

My soul is longing for the Lord, more than those who watch for daybreak
My hope is in God's word.

O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy.
My hope is in God's word.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
My hope is in God's word.

Readings to use for encouragement and reflection:

Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Psalm 46: Be still, and know that I am God.

Psalm 91: He shall cover you with his wings

Psalm 139: O Lord, you have searched me out and known me

Isaiah 43 (esp vv.1-7) : Do not fear, for I am with you

John 14 : Do not let your hearts be troubled

Use the Bible Discovery Method to help you think about these readings:

What does this reading tell us about God?

What does it tell us about ourselves and our world?

What might I do as result of reading this word?

You may also like to access BBC Daily Worship & Sunday Services.

Premier Christian Radio is another resource: MW 1305, 1332, 1413, 1566 or DAB nationally and on-line.

The following churches live stream services on-line: All Hallows by the Tower; Buckingham Parish Church; Canvey Island Church, St. James Church, Clitheroe Search the Church of England Guidance on Covid 19 for more resources.

Why not set yourself the challenge of reading through the whole of one of the Gospels during this period? Mark's Gospel is a good place to start.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Amen. Lord have mercy.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
Lord have mercy.

Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.
Christ have mercy.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within
me. Lord have mercy.

May almighty God who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring
us his pardon and peace, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayers

A prayer about the Coronavirus outbreak:

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.

For those in isolation:

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in
isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety;
be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who
suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

For our society and those who are worried:

Loving Jesus, you are compassionate to those in need and heal the
sick in body and mind. Look kindly on those who are fearful at this
time. Help us to put away all thoughts and actions that separate us
in spirit from you and one another. Give us grace to live our lives
confident in your promise that you are with us always. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour,

and to care for those in need as if we are caring for you. In this
time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to care for
the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for
your name's sake. Amen.

For those who are ill:

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care, those
who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe. Comfort and heal
them, and restore them to health and strength, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

For hospital staff and medical researchers:

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are
caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many
will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A prayer from one who is ill or isolated:

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know you are with me,
help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for when we can't get to church:

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'.
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for
others and for myself, and keep me in your care. Amen.

Prayer from St Patrick's breastplate:

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me,
Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet,
Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me,