



DAILY RHYTHM OF PRAYER

Dear friends,

What a week it has been coming to terms with the situation that our nation, and other nations across the world find ourselves in. One of our most important responses to make as a church is to pray. We can't gather physically to pray but we can all still commit to praying together. Remember, a praying church is a powerful church, and we have a faithful God who hears us when we pray (see Jeremiah 29.12 and 1 John 5.14).

I would love it if our whole church family would commit to praying regularly for the world, our nation, for those in need, and for one another. This document offers a simple daily rhythm of prayer to use over the coming weeks. There is a main theme for prayer, some readings and a prayer to use for yourself. Let me also encourage you to remember to praise God through all of this. In this document use what's helpful, discard what isn't, but most importantly of all, let's pray! In fact let's take hold of what the Apostle Paul said and run with it:

'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)

With every blessing,

David Owens

Readings and Prayers

Sunday

Isaiah 40 v.21-31

John 10 v.1-15

Pray for those we know who are anxious and worried

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.

Monday

Psalms 46

Mark 4 v.35-41

Pray for those who are ill and self-isolating

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

Amen.

Tuesday

Psalm 121

John 11 v.38-44

Pray 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.

Wednesday

Psalm 23

John 14 v.15-27

Pray for those who are particularly vulnerable

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.

Thursday

Psalm 61
Luke 24 v.36-53

Pray for our Government

We pray, good Lord, for those who are guiding our nation at this time,
and shaping national policies,
that they may make wise decisions for the good of all,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Friday

Habakkuk 3 v.17-19
Matthew 11 v.28-30

Pray for the church (in Chesterfield and across the world)

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs

For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Shape us by your Holy Spirit.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Saturday

Psalm 41

Matthew 14 v.22-33

Pray for ourselves that we would grow closer to God

O God,

help me to trust you,

help me to know that you are with me,

help me to believe that nothing can separate me

from your love

revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Service of daily prayer

www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer