

Christ Church Day of Prayer – Saturday 27 June, 9am – 9pm

Prayer is something that we all do at least some of the time and maybe the current situation has driven you to pray even more than normal. Christ Church are setting aside 27 June as a day of prayer to seek God and to bring before him the needs of our world, our country, our community and our church.

It is good to pray together, and there will be some opportunities to do that online through Zoom, but it will be good to know that as we pray in our individual spaces, brothers and sisters from Christ Church will be doing the same thing in their spaces.

We have split the day up into eight sections based around the Lord's prayer, this is to help - not to constrain!

- There is no pressure you can do as little or as much as you like
- You can pray silently, aloud, by writing, or any other creative way including using the colouring/doodle sheets that Cheryl has created.
- Pray on your own, as a family including children, or with others you live with. You can pray at home, out walking, at a Zoom meeting, or with a friend on the phone or socially distanced with others outside
- You could choose to do one or two longer sessions, or maybe pray for a short time every 90 mins to cover all the topics.
- Please take some time to be quiet and listen - ask God what He might want to say to us
- You might want to include a time of fasting in the day – maybe missing a meal or fasting from social media or tv for example
- You might choose to say the Lord's prayer at set intervals during the day
- Please try to join in the final Zoom session at 7.45pm

Please use the Facebook or WhatsApp groups to share blessings or words from God that you receive, or send an email to the church or phone someone. We aren't asking people to sign up as we think people may dip in or out of the day but we would love to know what you did (this isn't bragging, it's helping the leadership team!) and what you found helpful.

The timetable:

9am – 10.30am 'Our Father in Heaven' – Begin the day with praise and worship of God for who he is and for what he has done for us. Take some time to be still and to listen, ask Him to lead and guide through the day. This is also a good time to bring before our heavenly Father anything we need to say sorry for. It might also be a good time to try listening to what God might have to say.

- Spend some time listening to (and singing along with) some worship songs or read some bible passages of praise.
- Think about all the names that God uses to describe himself in his word and his different attributes that we have looked at on Sundays
- Write a list of the things you appreciate about God and the things you want to thank Him for. Post a sentence of praise or thanks on the Christ Church WhatsApp group or Facebook group if you can

Bible verses: 1 Chronicles 16:23-31; Revelation 4:8-11; Psalm 100; Nehemiah 9:5-6; Ephesians 1:3-23; Luke 1:46-55

10.30am – 12 noon 'Hallowed be your name' (on earth as it is in heaven) – Some ideas - Pray that God would be honoured and revered in our community, country and world. Pray for churches to be beacons of light in the community, pray for the outreach of churches and individuals, that many would come to know Jesus. Pray that those who have prayed for the first time in this crisis would continue to call out to Him, to seek Him and that they would find him. Pray for the outreach of Christ Church and for some specific people you would love to see become Christians.

- **Join the Zoom prayer meeting at 11-11.30am**
- Go for a walk and pray for your neighbours as you pass their houses
- Think about how you became a Christian and ask God to help you to pass the baton on

Bible verses: Philippians 2:5-11; Acts 4:23-35; Colossians 4:2-6; Luke 11:5-13; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

12 noon – 1.30pm 'Your Kingdom Come' (on earth as it is in heaven). Ask God what he might want to say to you or to us as a church. Pray for God's kingdom values to permeate the whole of society - workplaces, homes, hospitals, care homes. Pray that God would instil His Kingdom values in our church and in our own hearts and minds.

- **Join the Zoom prayer meeting at 12.30-1.00pm**
- 1 Samuel 3:7-11 – 'Speak Lord, your servant is listening' – ask God to speak and take some time to listen.
- Write down what you think God's Kingdom Values are, imagine how an organisation, business, industry, community group, or family that you know might be transformed if they adopted those values. Pray that it might happen!
- Pray for Christians you know who work in industries or live in families where they are the only follower of Jesus. Pray that they might be strengthened to live out God's kingdom in their difficult places

Bible verses: Isaiah 52:7-8; Exodus 20; Micah 6:6-8; Luke 14:15-23; Isaiah 1:16-20

1.30pm – 3.00pm ‘Your will be done’ (on earth as it is in heaven) – Pray for our own government, local government, civil servant advisors, business leaders. Pray for the leaders of other countries. Pray that decisions made would be according to God’s will and purposes. Pray for church leaders of all denominations that they would lead their churches in the ways of God according to his will and purpose.

- **Join the Zoom prayer meeting at 2.00-2.30pm**
- Pray for the appointment of a new vicar for Christ Church – that God’s will be done.
- Spend some time asking God to show you whether there is anything he wants you to let go of, or to take up, is there anything where you need to be saying ‘not my will God but yours be done’

Bible verses: Matthew 20:20-28; Proverbs 29:1-14; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Isaiah 59:1-20

3.00 – 4.30pm ‘Give us today our daily bread’ Pray for the poor, vulnerable, homeless, sick, for those affected by domestic violence. Pray for those working or volunteering with those in need. Pray for those you know who need God to provide in some way. Pray against greed and for a more equal world.

- **Join the Zoom prayer meeting at 3.30-4.00pm**
- Research a country or people group that do not have basic needs and pray about the issues you discover
- Think about what you have and how God has provided, and spend some time giving thanks
- Ask God whether there is any way he would have you be part of the answer to this prayer

Bible verses: Matthew 25:31-46; Psalm 82; Matthew 11:1-6; Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

4.30 - 6.00pm Forgive us our sins – A time to lament society’s greed, our misuse of world’s resources, our undervaluing of low paid workers and other sections of society (the mentally ill, the old, the refugee etc)

2 Chronicles 7:13-15 “When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.”

- Write a psalm of lament (see Psalm 12 for example) telling God what is wrong and asking Him to hear and to act

Bible verses: 2 Chronicles 7:13-15; Psalm 51; Psalm 12; 1 John 1:5-10; Hebrews 8:7-13

6.00pm – 7.30pm And lead us not into temptation (a time of trial) but deliver us from evil – Pray that the virus would recede, that a vaccine would be developed, for more effective treatments, and that world economies would quickly recover. Pray that as the impact of the virus recedes those who have sought God would continue to do so, and in seeking would find him. Pray for God’s protection over us as a congregation especially in this time of vacancy

Bible verses: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; 2 Corinthians 3:1-5; Isaiah 43; James 4:7-10; 1 Peter 5:6-11

7.30 - 9.00pm For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory

In this final section we ask God to work in power in and through Christ Church. We pray for the shortlisted candidates, for the PCC and ministry team, for those contributing to the online reflections, for the road map out of the restrictions to becoming the church God is calling us to be, for individuals in our church in difficult circumstances and ill health, for the ministries and organisations that use our building. Pray for Chris Chalmers as she is licensed as a curate today and starts her curacy at Holy Cross, Billesley tomorrow

Bible verses: Ephesians 3:7-21; James 5:13-18; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 17:20-26

Please join us for this final Zoom prayer meeting to finish off the day, 7.45 – 9.00pm, don't worry about large numbers, if necessary there is a way in which we can break into smaller groups to pray.