

Introduction:

This pattern of prayer was written on 10 June 2018, in response to God's call to pray together – to pray that he would reveal himself to us.

This is our focus in prayer for the summer. The use of 'us' and 'we' helps us keep our focus on the call to pray together. Some will be more at home with written prayers than others, and God will hear our prayers no matter how we pray.

Encouraging this approach is not about limiting our prayers. It is, however, a way in which we can pray in unity and show that we are determined to pray with one voice. The prayers that we have written together have a focus on a desire for God to reveal himself.

We want to hear God's voice, to understand what he's telling us, and then to act on it. Let's pray that God will reveal himself to us.

How to use:

This pattern for prayer can be used in less than five minutes. Sections marked in <> brackets can be included as appropriate. If using this pattern in a group situation, sections marked with an asterisk * can be spoken together.

Attentiveness

Light a candle or hold a pebble or go to a place as a focus in this time with God.

Opening bible verses

*I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.*

*Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.*

Psalm 116:1-2

or

Be still and know that I am God.

Psalm 46:10

or

*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.*

Psalm 19:1

Declaration of Faith*

We believe and trust
in God the Father Almighty.

We believe and trust
in Jesus Christ His Son.

We believe and trust
in the Holy Spirit.

We believe and trust in the Three in One.

or

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

**<A prayer of confession
might be included here>**

The Lord's Prayer*

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.

<Bible reading(s) might be included here>

A bible reading plan might be used here,
such as the following sample...

Day 1: Psalm 27 & Hebrews 4:14-16

Day 2: Joshua 1 & Acts 2:36-47

Day 3: Proverbs 3:13-26 & Matthew 5

Day 4: Psalm 46 & 1 John 2:3-11

Day 5: Exodus 33:12-17 & John 13:34-35

Day 6: Psalm 19 & John 1:1-14

Day 7: Isaiah 42:1-9 & Colossians 3:1-17

**<Prayers for God to reveal himself
might be included here>**

One of the prayers written together is used here.

Option 1*

Almighty & gracious God,
who extends his mercy to all people,
You are our creator Father
and we thank you for your faithfulness.
We come with humble, sorry
and repentant hearts,
to seek your will and direction
for our part in your work in our community.
Give us listening ears, open hearts and minds,
and the strength to do your will
in the power of your Holy Spirit,
so that your will and not ours
shall be manifest,
and your Son Jesus will be glorified.
Through the precious blood of Jesus
we pray. Amen.

Option 2*

Eternal Father, our great God,
We praise you as our sovereign Lord.
You have known us
from the foundation of the world.
Gentle, creator God, holding our hand,
ever-present, loving, almighty, all-powerful:
help us to be more aware of your presence;
and reveal your plans
for this church and community.
Open the eyes of our hearts
and show us the path to take.
Protect us – and keep our eyes on Jesus.
Let us see Watchet and the surrounding areas
saved and going on with God.
Revive us again, O Lord.
Build Your Kingdom here.
Enable us, by the power of your Holy Spirit.
In the name of Jesus
and for the glory of the Father.
And all the people said: Amen.

Option 3*

Our Father in heaven, King of the universe;
all powerful one, all caring and loving,
we worship You.
We collectively pray that you will lead us
by your Holy Spirit, that we will know your will,
that you will give us peace of mind,
and the confidence to be bold.
We want to hear from you, so we can open
our hearts and minds to serve you,
as your ambassadors in this place.
Our desire is to share you with
the community here, and to see lives
transformed by Your power within us;
that you will be glorified.
Thank you – we know you hear our prayers,
and all this we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of commitment

(as call & response, where used in a group)

May your renewing Spirit help us to be
makers of peace, pursuers of justice
and lovers of mercy.

**We set out on this day to love and serve
as children of our heavenly Father.**

**This is who we are
and this is how we choose to live. Amen.**

**<Prayers for others and the community
might be included here>**

Blessing*

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

