

A Prayer for Contradictions

This is a place of contradictions
Here we have love and we have loss
Here there is pain and there is grace
Here the people know hope and fear
And through all of these things,
The Father calls to each one: know my voice,
know my grace, know my hope, know my love.

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Prayer for Presence

Father God, glorious creator and mighty Lord,
who sent Jesus that you might know our humanity,
Show us your presence in the hours that have past
Stand beside us in this moment of your reality,
Call on us to walk with you as this day continues,
And let us see the world the way you see it,
So we might serve as Jesus would serve
in the power of your gift – the Holy Spirit.
We pray to you, our faithful God. Amen.

Call for protection

Draw us in to your arms,
Protect us from harm
Lift our eyes to see the horizon you place before us today
Keep our hearts in the orbit of your own
Keep our spirits in harmony with your own
Let us wear your peace across our shoulders through these hours
And hold us in your power. Amen

Triune Request

Heavenly Father, mighty God, stand with us
Christ Jesus, Prince of Peace, sit beside us
Holy Spirit, wonderful counsellor, surround us

Each Day a Gift

Almighty Father, you are the creator
and each new day is your gift to the world.
Help us hear the heart cries of those who speak to us today,
Help us season our words with wisdom, too,
so that we might reflect the will and glory of Jesus,
proclaiming your kingdom in this broken world.
And now may your Spirit be our light and shield,
As we walk the path of the new day before us. Amen.

Covid-19 Prayer of Mission

Father, in these strangeness of these days, you will not stop working
Lord Jesus, in these moments of isolation, you will not be silent
Holy Spirit, in these times of distance, you have not stepped away from us
God in community, God of relationship, breathe your love
into all of who we are, what we are and where we are – here and now.
Show us the signposts of your mission to the world around us
so that we may be what you call us to be.
May we be the body of Christ in the world that belongs to Christ. Amen.

Facing Today

Father God,
As we face today, we know we may feel at times like a busy railway station,
Full of to and fro, movement and bustling
And in other times, we may feel like a dusty, deserted wilderness town,
Lifeless, hollow and forsaken.
Show us, through the day, that we are not alone.

Lord Jesus,
As we face today, we know we may feel at times like a tower of steel and glass,
Proud of our goodness and achievements, full of pride and satisfaction
And in other times, we may feel like an abandoned, derelict outpost shack,
Helpless, useless and broken.
Show us, through the day, that our identity is made complete in you.

Holy Spirit,
As we face today, we know we may feel like the internet,
Full of information, answers and opinions to share with the world
And in other times, we may feel like an ancient landline telephone,
Crackly, hard to hear and disregarded.
Show us, through the day, that you always hear our voices.
Bless us, we pray, with wisdom, humility and compassion.
For your glory and the sake of your kingdom
Amen.

Prayer for creation

Dear God, I know that the world isn't just mine
and there are lots of us who share it.
Help me to be good doing what I can to care for
the land, the sea, the trees and the wildlife.
Help us all to remember that we don't own the world,
but we are like caretakers and guardians.
And help us make good choices, to stand up for what's right.
Because what you made is good. **Amen.**

Morning blessing

May you know the Lord as your strength today,
May you claim his words of eternal life and trust him,
May you believe in him and seek his help with your unbelief
And may you know his grace that has saved you.

Afternoon blessing

May you find peace in knowing God,
Joy in service his people, freedom in bringing Him praise,
And may you know the endless fondness of His love
In this hour and every hour

Evening pause

The sun sets on the day – seen or unseen
But the light of the world is never put out;
Jesus, our brother and king, is never overcome,
Our beacon for the journey on shines brightly,
And so we go into the evening confident of his presence with us
and resolved to keep following him,
as apprentices to our mighty and tender master.

Evening blessing

From the lighthouse to the hillsides,
video calls to text messages
and noise to quietness,
you have surrounded us this day.
Under your loving gaze, Lord Jesus,
we reflect on the day that is past,
and pray for the light and guidance of your Spirit

Night blessing

Loving God,
King of life and bringer of light,
who creates and goes on creating,
In this time of night, do not slumber or sleep,
but watch over us quieten our minds and still our hearts.
Speak and help us hear you, in mighty and tender tones –
talk with us, as with a friend,
that we may learn your voice and follow you,
in quietness and trust.
This we ask you as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Openings for worship

Leader: Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear;

Together: **he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.**

Hosea 6:3

Leader: Commit everything you do to the Lord.

Trust him, and he will help you.

Together: **He will make your innocence radiate like the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun.**

Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for him to act.

Psalms 37:5-7

Leader: By day the Lord directs his love,

Together: **at night his song is with me – a prayer to the God of my life.**

Psalms 42:8

Leader: My soul yearns for you in the night;

in the morning my spirit longs for you.

Together: **When your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness.**

Isaiah 26:9

Collect for confidence

Our God, Father of all humanity,

For whom nothing is too difficult and whose love is unfailing,

Arm us with strength; guard us with peace

and open our eyes to the reality of your Spirit's power with us

So we may walk with confidence

in the light and protection of your presence

and grow in the grace & knowledge

of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit.

Together: **We pray that your fruit would be in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, & self-control.**

Blessing for bedtime

No matter how cold the night, the Father is still present

No matter how black the darkness, Jesus is still the light

No matter how empty the space until the dawn,

the Spirit dwells in it

May this amazing God, Father Son & Holy Spirit, bless us now. Amen.

Collect for local mission

Lord Jesus,
Our king, our rescuer and our brother
Shine on us with your light
Breathe over us with your life
Weave into us your love
So we might walk with you through the streets and lanes of this community
And join in with the work you are already doing
In the power of the Holy Spirit
and for the glory of the Father we pray.

Blessing for disciples

(from Luke 10:25-28)

Living Lord Jesus: Master and brother, teacher and friend,

**You call us to follow You daily,
and to love you with all that we are.**

By your Holy Spirit we pray...

redirect our desire

so that our hearts beat for you

remind us of our identity

so that our souls are at home in you

keep us steadfast and obedient

so that our strength brings us back to you

renew our imagination

so that our minds would be always directed to you.

And in all these ways, make us your disciples.

**We pray in the name of the Father,
who gives love and compassion beyond measure. Amen.**

Confession

God, whose ways are as hidden as footsteps upon the waters

and as apparent as the sun shining in its noonday glory;

help us to see where we have reflected your radiance

and where we have obscured it

through fear, indifference or deliberate sin.

Grant us forgiveness for our failings

and so strengthen all goodness in us by your grace

that we might shine as lights

in a dark and unjust world,

to your praise and glory. Amen.

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