

Telephone Service 18th Sept

Welcome

Prayer (Collect 14th after Trinity)

Almighty God, whose Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

Hymn The Lord's my Shepherd *Ps 23 from the Scottish Psalter*

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by
- 2 My soul he doth restore again, and me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake
- 3 Yea though I walk in death's dark veil, yet will I fear none ill For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes; My head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me; And in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

Reading 1Tim2:1-7

- 1 *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,*
- 2 *for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.*
- 3 *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour,*
- 4 *who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*
- 5 *For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,*
- 6 *who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,*
- 7 *for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.*

Message

What do people do in times of sorrow? Pray! Christians pray lengthy prayers; others, that one word prayer -'Help'

What do people do in times of uncertainty - Pray

What do people do in times of change, fear or trouble - Pray

Some years ago Heather gave me a T Shirt when Keep Calm was all the rage: *Keep calm, and pray on*

How appropriate for these days of conflicting emotions - of sadness at the death of our Queen, and celebration at the accession of our new Sovereign. How unsettling. What should we do?

S Paul, wrote to Timothy (a young church leader going through a time of conflict and confusion with false teaching, corrupt living, and uncertainty about the future) *Therefore (because of all this) I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence* Pray

Prayer is not to be our last resort but our first response to any situation

1st But what is PRAYER?

Prayer is a multi faceted thing. Paul describes it as *supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks*

-*thanks giving* is about gratitude and praise

-*intercession* is to ask for others

-*prayer* (proseuchas) is a 'Royal Audience' word - it's to draw near and to bow in reverence - to Christ the King

-& *supplication* is about bringing our raw emotions to God. It's root word being *to beg; to cry out in pain, to weep*

What an appropriate word thinking of our response to death and the passing of our beloved Queen

We can bring our sorrows to God in prayer. Did you know: tears are prayer?

Ps 56:8 says *God puts our tears in a mourning bottle and his book of remembrance.*

Or as the hymn says: *In every condition, in sickness or health, in poverty's vale. or abounding in wealth, He'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by his righteous, omnipotent hand*

When though the deep waters he calls thee to go, the rivers of grief shall not thee overflow; For he will be with thee in trouble to bless; and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

When we pray ... prayer changes us and things for the better -

2nd Paul talks about What to pray for; for 2 things - for Potentates & for Peace: *for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence*

Quiet and peace occurs when order comes into life - when Jesus is Lord, when leaders lead, and when *godliness and reverence* reign.

As we mourn the passing of our Queen (today and tomorrow) we rejoice in her presence in the courts of Heaven where Christ welcomes her with the words *Well done good and faithful servant, enter the joy of your Lord.*

So we pray for our new Monarch Charles, and our new Prime Minister that they would seek the common good, and lead us like our beloved Queen lead us in righteousness and reverence

God's Word says: *Pray for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence*

Song What a Friend we have *by Joseph Medicott Scriven*

1. What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.
What a privilege to carry everything to God in pray
O what peace we often forfeit, o what needless pain we bear;
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness - take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of prayer?
Jesus only is our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there

Prayers 1st **Confession**; 2nd **Intercession** 3rd **Celebration**

Using King David's Confession in Psalm 51 we pray

Wash away my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight

Christ have mercy **Christ have mercy**

Create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me

Lord have mercy **Lord have mercy**

May God the Father forgive you by the death of his Son,

and strengthen you to live his risen life in the power of his Spirit all your days **Amen**

We pray for others

- Eternal God, our heavenly Father, we bless your holy name for all you have given us in and through the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth. We thank you for her love of family and gift of friendship; for her devotion to this nation and the nations of the commonwealth; for her gracious dignity and courtesy, and for her generosity and love of life. We praise you for the courage she showed in testing times, the depth of her Christian faith, and the witness she bore to it in word and deed Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

- Father of mercies and God of comfort, give courage to the Royal Family in this time of loss and sorrow. Be their refuge and strength, O Lord, reassure them of your continuing love, and lift them from the depth of grief into the peace and light of your presence. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

- Lord God, Sovereign over all things, in your wisdom you provide for your people by your power, and watch over us all in your love. Grant to your servant Charles our king the Spirit of wisdom and discernment that being devoted to you with all his heart, he may so wisely govern that in his time we may live in safety and peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

- Bless all who mourn; guide all who are uncertain, protect all who fear; Uphold the weak; heal the sick; and strengthen the faint hearted; that, by faith in Jesus Christ our Lord who has overcome sin and death, we may find hope in this life and life in the world to come.

Grant this O Father for the sake of Jesus Christ our only mediator and advocate Amen

We celebrate

For help in times past, for comfort in times present, and for guidance in days to come, we give you our praise.

For the sure hope of the Gospel and the unchanging truth of your Holy Word, the Bible, we give you praise.

For making us, through Christ our Lord, the family of God, the Church of the redeemed and the Bride of Christ, we give you our praise

For welcoming us in prayer to your throne of mercy and promising us grace for every need, we give you praise and join our prayers together in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples throughout the world to pray

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

Hymn Make me a channel *by Sebastian Temple from the prayer of St Francis*

1. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring your love,

Where there is injury your pardon Lord, and where there's doubt true faith in you.

Ref: O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand. to be loved as to love with all my soul.

2. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness only light, and where there's sadness ever joy.

Ref: O Master, grant

- 3 Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Blessing

The peace of God that passes all understanding, keep your heart and mind in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you all always **Amen**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England.

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