

November Prayers

Space to note the people and situations you are praying for this month.

You may like to include:

Our health services, key workers and politicians

The United States of America in a time of transition.

Those without homes as the long nights draw in.

Those isolated by the pandemic and those suffering the mental, physical, financial and emotional effects of recent restrictions.

Those preparing to share the good news in new ways this Advent.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT US IN PRAYER



A Year of Prayer

November 2020

Methodist Conference has encouraged us as Methodist people to make 2020/21 a Year of Prayer. Here are some suggestions for our prayers this month.

We offer our prayers to God who is forever loving and forgiving:

*Do not **remember** the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love **remember** me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! (Psalm 25: 7 NRSVA)*

Remember, remember

For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, ¹⁰ asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹ For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— ¹² or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. (Romans 1: 9-12 NRSVA)

Paul longs to re-join the believers in Rome so that they can support one another once more. He remembers those he writes to in his prayers. As we continue to worship and pray in our homes during this pandemic year, we can empathise with Paul's thoughts. We too can pray for those we know, and like Paul we can be encouraged not to give up, but to continue to pray through this lockdown month.

Praying with Scripture



There are many passages in the bible about remembering. You may like to look some of them up.

God's promise to remember in Genesis 9: 13-17

[God said to Noah] ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' ¹⁷God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Remembering in times of distress

1 Samuel 1: 11 Hannah's prayer

Psalms 42: 4 Remembering brings the Psalmist hope in distress

Words said to Jesus on the cross

Luke 23: 42 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.'

Over the summer we introduced Lectio Divina in our prayer sheets. You might like to choose a 'remembering' passage of scripture to focus on using Lectio Divina to read, reflect, pray and pause in God's presence.

Praying Regularly

The Methodist Way of Life encourages us all to pray daily. You can of course pray in many ways, it may help to link prayer to a regular activity, something you already do every day which allows you to pause and listen to God. Some choose to pray while walking the dog. If you are in a busy family you might pray for family members as you make the school packed lunches or set their places at the meal table, or put the dirty socks in the washing machine!

There are more suggestions for praying in different ways on the Methodist Church Website Year of Prayer pages:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth/year-of-prayer/>

This month we remember our world in our prayers:

8-15 November **Inter-Faith Week**
Those of other faiths and none.

11 November **Armistice Day**
Those who serve in the armed forces, this year remembering those providing support to enable Covid-19 testing.

16-20 November **Anti-Bullying Week**
Those who suffer abuse.

21-30 November **Cancer Awareness**
In particular mouth, lung and pancreatic cancers.

In this second lockdown we remember those suffering domestic abuse. Please pass this prayer sheet on – these links may help or may help you to help others

- <https://safelives.org.uk/> suggestions and resources to help
- Refuge national help line <https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/> 24 hour free helpline 0808 2000 247

