

<p style="text-align: center;">Prayers & Worship Resources <i>For gatherings, mission trips, liturgies</i></p>

Planning for the Future

by Avery Brooke from "Plain Prayers for a Complicated World"

Help us, Lord, to look at the past and present so that we may better plan for the future, and to face our strengths and weaknesses with honesty and wisdom. Help us to be open to your guidance as we discuss and plan for the future, and grant us both generous imagination and practical plans.

An Evening Prayer

by Avery Brooke

Father, I have much to be grateful for tonight, and I thank you, I have much to regret and I ask your forgiveness. But even as I ask your forgiveness I know that I receive it, and a deep peace fills my heart. Help me to sleep well tonight and to wake ready for that daily, yet greatest gifts, a fresh start.

"On Foot" Blessing

Celtic Daily Prayer

Bless to me, O Lord,
the earth beneath my feet;
bless to me, O Lord,
the path I tread:
my walk this day with the Father,
my walk this day with Christ,
my walk this day with the Spirit.

For Times of Change

by The Rev. Linda C. Smith-Criddle from "Women's Uncommon Prayers"

Assist us, Lord, in living hopefully into the future. In the face of change, help us to set unnecessary fears aside and to recognize our potential for creative response. Help us to develop a reasonable optimism when confronted by "the new" and to guard against our own defensiveness. Be with us as we remember and celebrate former times, and keep us from unreasonable yearning for them, which takes us from the work you have set before us in our time. All this we ask in the name of your Child, our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Listening

by Ms. Helen Barron from "Women's Uncommon Prayers"

To hear – really hear – amid the noise

To risk being open to another perspective amid the impacted certainties

To be able to listen to impassioned pleas while owning the cries that come from our own hearts.

To hear an argument that does not resonate, disagree, if that be our call, without demeaning the bearer of the words.

Amid the colliding words injured by the words injuring with our words:

Help us to hear your Words. Amen.

A Blessing on Someone's Journey

Celtic Daily Prayer

I bless you, (Name),

in the name of the Father, the Son and the Sacred Spirit.

May you drink deeply
from God's cup of joy.

May the night bring you quiet.

and when you come

to the Father's palace

may his door be open

and the welcome warm.

Prayer for Mission

From the "Book of Uncommon Prayer"

God, your children are hungry. They're lonely. They're cold. Don't let us walk by them on the other side of the road, God. We get so caught up in our own lives and our own so-called "problems" that we forget there are people who sleep in the streets. Open our eyes. Light a fire under us so that we can do all Jesus told us we should do. Help us give a hand up and not a hand out. Help us show the world we are your children. Help us show the world that the church is more than building with brick and stained glass.

Church is a warm blanket, a hot meal, a listening ear. When we offer ourselves to those in need, Lord, we offer ourselves to you. Amen.

Prayers from the Heart

adapted from "Sacred Heart University Prayer Book"

God of wisdom, bless these Confirmands

Whose hearts you have fashioned

For beauty and grace.

Bless those who love them

And those who have guided them

To this holy time and place.

Call them to discovery,

To seek their truest self,

To fall in love with wisdom

And claim her as their wealth.

Send them forth in knowledge,

Your teachings be their guide.

Watch over them,

Protect them,

Walk softly by their side. Amen.

Christ Has No Body

From Teresa of Avila, 17th Century

Christ has no body on earth but yours;
yours are the only hands with which he can do his work,
yours are the only feet with which he can go about the world,
yours are the only eyes through which his compassion can shine forth upon a troubled world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Prayer of a Confirmation Teacher / Mentor

from "Daybook for New Voices"

God – Con-firm my foundation.

As I begin this confirmation program as a teacher (mentor) –

Help me to share my excitement about the Bible,
my depth of spirituality and

real examples of how it sustains me,

(in fact, God, help me to be a little more spiritual
while these young people are watching me),

my knowledge about Church history,

my pride in our denomination,

my openness to our neighbors in world religions,

and my grappling with my own ethical decisions

and the decisions that young people make.

As they are learning, guide me to learn something new.

As they growing, stretch my roots and bud-tips;

When they wrestle with questions,

evaporate the easy answers on my lips,

and, whether I have taught these concepts

ten, twenty, forty years, or this year is for the first time . . .

bring me with enthusiasm and humility to

God's holy power-point presentation . . .

The con-firmation of our faith. Amen.

Confirmation Blessing

adapted from "Sacred Heart University Prayer Book"

May God give you strength

And a virtuous heart,

So that in time of trial

You will find yourself armed with treasures you can use.

May God give you faith,

So that in all that you do,

You know firmly and with conviction

Who made you, and why,

And for what purpose.

May God give you peace, a lasting peace

That dwells in your heart

And enables you to comprehend

The breadth and length,

The height and depth of Christ's love for you. Amen.

My Prayer for You

Celtic Daily Prayer

May the Father of Life pour out His grace on you;
may you feel His hand in everything you do
and be strengthened by the things he brings you through:
this is my prayer for you.

May the Son of God be Lord in all your ways;
may he Shepherd you the length in all your days,
and in your heart may He receive the praise:
this is my prayer for you.

And despite how simple it may sound,
I pray that His grace will abound
and motivate everything you do;
and may the fullness of His love be shared through you.

May His Spirit comfort you, and make you strong,
may He discipline you gently when you're wrong,
and in your heart may He give you a song:
this is my prayer for you.

May Jesus be Lord in all your ways,
may He Shepherd you the length of all your days,
and in your heart may He receive the praise:
this is my prayer for you, my prayer for you.