

Prayer of Fellowship

From Psalm 52:8 Like a green olive tree in the House of God "Prayer Handbook 2013" p.75

1. With roots in the soil

Of past generations

We worship you,

Living, loving God.

2. Through layers of soil

At times fertile, at other times depleted,

We reach for experience and

Sustenance from saints of old.

3. And in our own time, we offer to you, fresh shoots and new ideas

Borne upon branches shaped and gnarled by life,

And pray our worship shall be to you fruitful, sweet and rich. Amen

Prayer of Approach *Adapted from Roots 5 May 2019*

Sometimes it is hard to come to worship.

Perhaps things are not going so well.

Tiredness has crept up on us.

Busyness has drained us of energy.

Frustration has robbed us of patience.

But however we feel and whatever we have done,

God knows and understands us. He offers us a fresh start.

So Lord, here we are. Welcome us and reassure us. Amen

Prayer of Praise *Adapted from Prayerbook 2019 p.60*

Praise be to the breath of life,

Blowing with hope,

Blast of energy,

Stirring presence.

Praise be to God the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Prayer of Thanksgiving *Adapted from Roots 23 June 2019*

Gracious God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

We bring You our gratitude, our praise, our thanks –

For the gift of the Holy Spirit, our constant companion

In times of joy and times of disappointment,

Even waiting patiently by us, when we despair.

For you make one out of many- all are welcome.

You colour diversity with unity; You bring blessing through baptism;

You clothe innocence with love; You transform stigma with tenderness;

If we LISTEN– we can hear You calling us by name

And confirming our place in your family. **Amen**

Prayer of Confession *Adapted from Roots 9 June 2019*

Forgive us Lord, when as individuals or a church or as a nation

We limit your love and the healing work of your Holy Spirit.

We confess that our grasp of your Pentecost gift is weak.

Give us confidence in your promise.

May our faith be unbounded so that we become agents of reconciliation,

Rippling out of our homes into the community & into every corner of the world,

Reflecting your glory. Amen

Personal Reflection

Lord, do not let us be seduced by those things which would divert us
From our true destiny- to reflect your wisdom in our actions in your world.

Lord, help us to create a space within us, where your light can reside,

And shine out, softening our attitudes to those around us

And illuminating the opportunities of the moment.

Help us to realise that we are part of a great cycle of creation-

Of birth, life and then gathering back into the whole. **Amen**

Prayers of Intercession for -

1. All who lack confidence *Adapted from Roots 9 June 2019*

We pray, Holy Spirit, that your presence is felt by all who lack self-confidence:

For parents struggling to meet the needs of their families....

For children struggling with school life....

For teachers struggling to meet the demands of their working day....

For young people who feel misunderstood.....

For carers trying to support and comfort their vulnerable relatives or clients....

For those becoming frail through age or illness facing diminishing strength....

For those losing their identity because of dementia....

For all people struggling to be whom they truly are.

Add your energy into the fear, the frustration and worry

So they can see life in perspective and see a pathway ahead. **Amen**

2. Suffering people *Adapted from Roots 2 June 2019*

Lord, bring your light into the dark, suffering places of our world:

Into overcrowded prisons,

Into refugee camps,

Into city streets,

Into places of substance abuse and physical violence –

Where children have been robbed of their childhood

And where women and men have been abused.

Bring your ministry of healing and its resources to give hope. **Amen**

3. The broken places *Roots 19 May 2019*

Pause on each line for 10 seconds to name your personal places

We pray:

For countries where there are deep political divisions, *PAUSE*

For places where there is religious persecution, *PAUSE*

For towns and cities where gang warfare brings fear, *PAUSE*

For communities where there is racial discrimination, *PAUSE*

For social groups for whom there is inequality, *PAUSE*

For homes where there is dissension and unhappiness, *PAUSE*

For churches who face divisions and dilemmas. *PAUSE*

May your Holy Spirit bring healing. Amen

4. For our Armed Forces on 75th Anniversary of D-Day Landings *by Germaine Copeland*

...The conflicts our armed forces are facing are life-and-death situations.

Thank You for the military officers and commanders who lean not unto their own understanding but acknowledge You in all their ways.

Give them Your wisdom as they lead the men and women under their command, and help them make decisions in conformity with Your will. ...**Amen**

5. Lord, we pray for those in our Church congregation who are unwell.

We name in our hearts those we know who are suffering,

Those, who are convalescent and others awaiting medical treatment.

Lord, bring them healing and hope.

Help us to show practical friendship when possible.

We pray for those who mourn.

Lord, bring them your comfort and our friendship. **Amen**

Reflection time – on what we have just prayed about and particularly for Pentecost, when we commit ourselves afresh to live our days joyfully with dependence on the loving Holy Spirit, confident in the promise of hope for the future which takes away all fear.

Time to add your own prayers for the Church and the Community.

Closing Prayer *Adapted from Rejoice and Sing #474 "Servant Song"*

We are pilgrims on a journey,

And companions on the road;

We are here to help each other

Walk the mile and bear the load. Amen

Prayer Fellowship



To guide prayer at home for the work of our Church & the life of our community

Come and Pray in The Well at 8p.m. 19th June 2019

Number 70

St John's URC Northwood