



United in Prayer

A Supplement to Morning & Evening Prayer at Home

Be still,
for God is in this place.
Don't rush off;
cherish the moment,
a precious moment,
a time to be enjoyed.

Find fulfilment in the busy-ness of life,
but also in each moment as it comes.

Be still.
Don't rush off...
God is in this place

Be still and know that I am God *Psalm 46: 10*

Wait on God in stillness, O my soul *Psalm 62: 5*

Praise

Father God, our Creator,
Ever present with us,
Ever faithful in your love and care for us...
We offer you our thanks and praise.

Jesus, Son of God,
Our Lord and Saviour,
You lived on earth and died and rose again for us...
We offer you our thanks and praise.

Holy Spirit, Breath of God,
You are our strength and inspiration,
You transform our lives...
We offer you our thanks and praise.

Opening Prayer

In the beginning, O God,
you shaped my soul and set its weave.
You formed my body
and gave it breath.
Renew me this day
in the image of your love.
O great God, grant me your light.
O great God, grant me your grace.
O great God, grant me your joy this day
and let me be made pure
in the well of your health.

J Philip Newell: Celtic Prayers

Confession

*We ask forgiveness for our own sins and for the sin of
the world*

For the times when we have been selfish, greedy or
dishonest...

Father, forgive us

For our failure to recognise you and respond to
your calling...

Father, forgive us

For our lack of respect for others and our prejudice
towards those who are different...

Father, forgive us

For the mess we are making of your wonderful world –
through pollution and exploitation of the earth's
resources...

Father, forgive us

Father, help us to remember the life and example of our
Lord Jesus Christ and to follow in his footsteps. May we and
all your children learn to care for the world and to
live in love and peace with all. Amen

Holy God,
Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal,
Have mercy upon us

A Creed

I believe in God,
The source of all life
And ground of our being,

Who comes to us in Jesus Christ,
Word made flesh,
Our loving Saviour,

Whose Spirit is within us and around us,
Breath of life,
Our strength and inspiration.

I believe in God,
In whom we live and move and have our being,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Health & Sickness

Lord of all life, make us aware of your presence,
whatever our condition.

In times of health may we be thankful,
living each day to the full, in your service.

In times of sickness, when we sometimes feel far from
you, make yourself known to us through the love and
skill of those around us.

We remember any who are sick,
especially those who have no-one else to pray for them,
and any whom we know and love.

For those who will get better, we pray for a full and
speedy recovery.

For those approaching the end of this mortal life
we pray for a calm end and a painless death,
as they come into your nearer presence.

We thank you each day for the gift of health,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Healer. Amen

Listening & Speaking

Do we always remember to listen before we speak?

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips

Psalm 141: 3

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening

1 Samuel 3: 9

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer

Psalm 19: 14

Prayers of Dedication

Eternal light, shine into our hearts,
eternal goodness, deliver us from evil,
eternal power, be our support,
eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance,
eternal pity, have mercy upon us;
that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength
we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite
mercy to your holy presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Alcuin of York (804)

Eternal God,
the light of the minds that know you,
the joy of the hearts that love you,
and the strength of the wills that serve you:
grant us so to know you
that we may truly love you,

so to love you that we may truly serve you,
whose service is perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

after Augustine of Hippo (430)

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you
for all the benefits that you have won for us,
for all the pains and insults that you have borne for us.
Most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen

after Richard of Chichester (1253)

Closing Prayers

God before me, God behind me,
God above me, God beneath me,
I on your path, O God,
You, O God, on my way.
In the twisting of the road,
In the currents of the river,
Be with me by day,
Be with me by night.
Be with me by day and by night. Amen

J Philip Newell: Celtic Prayers

I am giving you worship with all my life,
O most high and holy God.

From Carmina Gadelica

Forth in thy name, O Lord I go,
My daily labour to pursue,
Thee, only thee, resolved to know,
In all I think or speak or do.

Charles Wesley

Are you there, Lord?

How do we know that God is with us when we pray?

If we believe in God at all we believe that he is everywhere – not just when we pray but whatever we are doing and wherever we are. However, we feel his presence particularly when we pray.

We are in the company of countless others when we pray – Christians and members of other religions throughout the world. We have the example of people of the Old Testament, the early church, the Christian saints and above all, Jesus himself.

Our experience may be subjective, but so are many other things in life – our love for husband or wife, the beauty we see in nature, our knowledge of right and wrong. We cannot prove that God is with us – we just know it in our hearts.

Remember: prayer shapes us, not God!