

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Prayers
June to August 2024

Being open to God

Revealing gifts we didn't know we had

Read Exodus 4:10-17

Do you talk to God like Moses did?

Would it help to write that conversation down like a dialogue?

Are you like Aaron or Moses?

Is there someone whose gifts complement yours?

Prayer for the New Circuit

We pray for the new Berkshire Hampshire Borders Circuit which we will be a part of from this September. We pray for those who will have a leadership role, the Circuit Leadership Team, for Ministers, Circuit Stewards, Lay Employees, Church Stewards.

We pray for the local churches and their congregations, for Andover; Bradfield; Burghfield Common; Caversham; Christ Church Chineham; Christ Church Woodley; Church of the Living Stream; Emmanuel; Hungerford; Kingsclere; Mortimer; Newbury; Oakley; Oakridge; Old Basing; Silchester; St. Andrew's / Trinity; Tadley Common; Tadley Main Road; Thatcham; Tilehurst; Trinity, Lower Earley; Wesley and Whitchurch.

Guide us as we join together, help us to encourage and inspire each other; excite us by signs of growth; lift us when we see only signs of decline; open our eyes to potential areas of local mission; help us to recognise the gifts you have given us and see your gifts in others; give us the grace to work together in mission.

Lord of our lives,
lead us forward as your people
in the places where we are.
Amen.



This prayer outline recaps on the themes we have travelled through this year and uses our hands to help us to pray.

Become conscious of your breathing,
Place your hands on your lap,
Know yourself held in the loving gaze of God,
Breathe.

Put your hands up to your eyes,
As you gaze back at God,
With loveand breathe.

Put your hands up to your ears,
As you listen to God speaking to you,
Through your deepest desires,
Breathe.

Stretch your hands out in front of you,
Imagine putting your hand into the hand of Jesus,
Stepping out into the unknown,
Breathe.

Cup your hands in your lap.
Be open to receive as for the first time
The gifts within that God is revealing to you.
Breathe.

Thank God for the journey so far and all you have received.



A prayer as we Dwell in the Word

Loving God,
Although our destination is not yet clear,
May we trust in your graceful promises;
Though we are uncertain of ourselves,
May we be rooted in your loving regard;
Though our attention is inclined to wander,
May we hear the things you are saying;
Though we often neglect your influence,
May we be convicted of your power to change,
In Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Dwelling in the Word text: 1Corinthians 12: 4-7, 11-13 (CEV)

⁴There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. ⁵There are different ways to serve the same Lord, ⁶and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do. ⁷The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others.

¹¹But it is the Spirit who does all this and decides which gifts to give to each of us.

One body with many parts

¹²The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. ¹³Some of us are Jews, and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves, and others are free. But God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the body of Christ. Now we each drink from that same Spirit.

Ask God to reveal to you the gifts God has given you for the benefit of all.

All praise to our redeeming Lord,
who joins us by his grace,
and bids us, each to each restored,
together seek his face.

He bids us build each other up;
and gathered into one,
to our high calling's glorious hope,
we hand in hand go on.

The gift which he on one bestows
we all delight to prove;
the grace through every vessel flows,
in purest streams of love.

Even now we think and speak the same,
and cordially agree;
concentered all, through Jesus' name,
in perfect harmony.

We all partake the joy of one,
the common peace we feel,
a peace to sensual minds unknown,
a joy unspeakable.

And if our fellowship below
in Jesus be so sweet,
What height of rapture shall we know
When round his throne we meet.

Charles Wesley 1707 - 1788