

Let us pray each and every day.

Let us pray as a way to say that we don't believe that life is somehow meaningless, feeling-less, healing-less.

And you're welcome, whatever you're dealing with.

But what if there is a great big unless?

Just waiting for a fearless few to leave behind the pew.

Talk to the folks in the checkout queue. Who knew?

They are ready to listen anew. To hope along with you.

So open up and listen out.

It's time to get out and about.

God's calling you out and about.

God's already out and about.

This is not about standing on the corner to shout or sandwich boards or hordes of people flooding in on Sunday. It's about having a fun day.

Celebrate together. Whatever the weather.

Welcome the stranger.

Not because you wish to change her, but simply discover she's an angel.

So open the doors.

Because it's been too long since we opened the doors.

The hinges are rusty, but the people are thirsty oh, so thirsty for the Spirit of God.

It's not so big or so scary.

We can all pray. We can all say 'hi' to the guy next door. Because it's where the story starts.

So open your hearts and take the good news out and about.

Poem by Tim Baker, Out and About Team, The Methodist Church

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word

What a glory He sheds on our way!

While we do His good will, He abides with us still

And with all who will trust and obey

Trust and obey, for there's no other way

To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey

John Henry Sammis

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Prayers

September to November 2022

As a Circuit made up of churches big & small, in towns and in rural areas; we, as churches and as individuals, are led on our Christian journey by the Holy Spirit.

Pray this prayer, each day/week, for a group of our churches:

**Adventurous God,
you call us to be creative and willing to take risks in our vision; courageous in our decision-making; and unafraid of failure.**

**As we hold [*names of churches*] before you,
we ask that your Holy Spirit direct and encourage your people,
giving them confidence in your faithfulness,
and discernment of your purposes for them.
In the name of Christ, Amen.**

Our Circuit churches are:

Bradfield Methodist Church
Tilehurst Methodist Church
Wesley Methodist Church

Trinity Church, Earley
Christ Church, Woodley

Oakley Methodist Church
Oakridge Methodist Church
Kempshott Methodist Church
Trinity Methodist Church

Tadley Methodist Church
Silchester Methodist Church
Burghfield Common Methodist Church

Burnt Hill Methodist Church
Emmanuel Methodist Church
Whitley Methodist Church

Caversham Methodist Church
Woodley Airfield Church

St. Andrews Methodist Church
Old Basing Methodist Church
Christ Church, Chineham

Tadley Common Methodist Church
Mortimer Methodist Church



Prayer of St. Brendan the Navigator (484-577 A.D.)

Help me to journey beyond the familiar
and into the unknown.

Give me the faith to leave old ways
and break fresh ground with You.

Christ of the mysteries, I trust You
to be stronger than each storm within me.

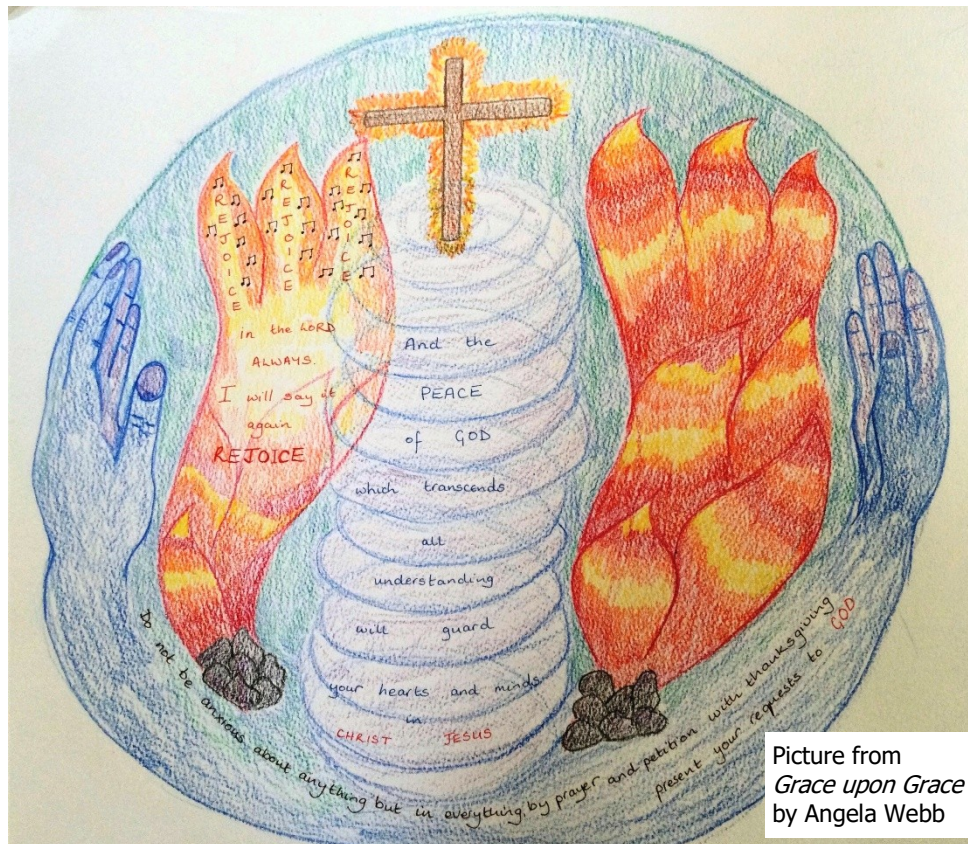
I will trust in the darkness and know
that my times, even now, are in Your hand.

Tune my spirit to the music of heaven,
and somehow, make my obedience count for You.

AMEN.

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.



Picture from
Grace upon Grace
by Angela Webb

Dwelling in the Word text: Philippians 4: 4-9 NRSV

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.