

PRAYER WEEK

6th - 13th Feb 2022

Praying to God as Master Craftsman

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph 2:10

Our focus during our week of prayer will be on **God as Master Craftsman**. Each day there will be opportunities to come together for prayer (as well as a prayer room to use at the Hub (9 am – 5 pm Mon-Fri) and prompts and resources to encourage you in personal prayer too.

On Sunday 6th February we will **launch our prayer week** with worship, learning from the example of Paul at prayer (10.15 am) and Jesus at prayer (6.30 pm).

On Monday 7th February we will celebrate the **Master Craftsman at work in creation**. At 12.30 – 1.20 pm we will meet by the Water Mill on the Rye (just opposite Trinity URC) for a Prayer Walk.

On Tuesday 8th February we will lament, confess and reflect over the **Master Craftsman's fallen creation** and will meet on Zoom at 2 pm – 2.45 pm for a guided time of prayer.

On Wednesday 9th February we will celebrate the way our **Master Craftsman restores** his fallen creation through His Son and will meet for an afternoon service at 2 - 3 pm with communion.

On Thursday 10th February we will celebrate how the **Master Craftsman equips us** to be part of his restorative work. We will meet on zoom at 8 pm – 8.45 pm to offer ourselves to him.

On Friday 11th February our Youth will **Respond in prayer to the Master Craftsman** from 7.30 – 9.00 pm as part of their Chill evening.

On Saturday 12th February 9-10 am we will **Relate together with our Master Craftsman** over a prayer breakfast with Danish pastries @ Hub.

On Sunday 13th February 10.15 am our youth Salt and Light groups will enjoy a Prayer Walk around the Rye during the morning service.

Sunday – Launch of prayer week

Please prepare yourself for this special week of prayer by considering the following:

1. How will you engage in prayer during 6th – 13th Feb? Attending times of prayer physically or on zoom and/or allocating time for personal prayer.
2. What can you reduce to make time to pray – Gaming? A meal? TV? Social Media/Internet? etc
3. Where to pray at home – bedroom, kitchen, garden, car, loft....?
4. How can you develop your prayer life during this week of prayer?
 - o Prayer walking
 - o Praying out loud, on zoom, at a prayer time
 - o Sitting in silence or using a prayer tool e.g. www.pray-as-you-go.org
 - o Writing down prayers or keeping a prayer journal
 - o Offering to pray over the phone for a friend
 - o Fasting from a meal or from internet in order to give time to pray

Preparation

Decide where you will spend this time in uninterrupted prayer

You will need: Bible, Notebook, Pen, Coffee or tea

Tell other members of your household that you'll be praying and ask them not to disturb you if at all possible!

Detailed prayer guidance will be themed each day and will follow the following format (with ideas to specifically engage children on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday noted in ***bold italics***):

1 Adoration and thanksgiving of God

2 Confession, repentance and receiving forgiveness

3 Prayer for yourself, others, Union Baptist and wider matters

4 An opportunity to explore the theme further.

Monday – Creation (Prayer walk 12.30 -1.20 pm from the Mill, The Rye)



As we look at the amazing world that God has made we can see that he is a master craftsman. Spend a few minutes looking at the sky 'The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands' Ps 19:1.

Now look at something much smaller, a leaf, your finger or eye, even a drop of water now spend time **thanking God for the wonder and glory of his creation.**

You are part of God's creation. **Confess** if you have not used the creative gifts that God has given you. Repent of actions that have damaged God's creation. Could you respond positively to your confession by acting creatively in some way today as an acted out prayer? E.g. Leave a kind unexpected note for someone, ***Make a cake or buy a coffee for someone, send a card, phone someone out of the blue, re-start a creative hobby as a response to your creator God.***

You could try:

Exploring the greatness of God - www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrsIpfEGRDA

Read - [Psalm 104:10-18](#)

Sing - How great thou art www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cc0QVWzCv9k

Sing - So will I www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfVd5x9W1Xc

Tuesday – The Fall of God’s good creation (Zoom prayer 2.00 – 2.45 pm)



Give thanks for what you learned and enjoyed about God’s good creation yesterday and **worship** him for who he is using Psalm 103 or sing one of the songs from yesterday. Reflect on the impact of the fall on God’s master creation: separating us from God, damaging human relationships, making work really hard (Gen 3) and bringing death and destruction to the whole of creation. Reflect on recent news reports that reveal God’s **damaged creation and lament and repent** both personally and for our nation and world.

Pray for the broken places in our town – drug selling and addiction (Police and Mike Birmingham as Chaplain to the Police), landlords who don’t look after their tenants (Rent Deposit Scheme), prostitution (Azalea), domestic abuse and relationship breakdown (Child Contact Centre) poverty and debt (CAP Job Club).

(Recognise that as we lament it is evidence of our relationship with God. Lamenting can lead to greater honesty and intimacy with God and enables us to grow in love as we participate in the pain of others).

You could try:

Song – Beauty for brokenness www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kVHKuldZyw

Read one of our mental health leaflets and pray for those who come to mind - www.unionbaptist.org.uk/help-with-mental-health

Overview the book of lamentations -

www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8GDFPdaQZQ

Song – My soul will wait Ps 62 www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4brmgdJvBc

Wednesday – Restoration (2 pm afternoon communion Service @ Union)



God, the master builder, has sent his Son, Jesus, to break the power of sin and to restore his creation. Give thanks to God for his persevering love for all that he has made. **Praise God** that through Jesus God ‘reconciles to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross’ Col 1:20.

Confess to God those areas of your life that need his reconciling work. Confess and repent of the sin that you are aware grieves the Holy Spirit. Confess any broken relationship and ask Jesus to help you to forgive and restore these relationships. Confess any way in which

you have not cared for God’s good creation and seek his strength to care for God’s world.

Pray for friends and family to find, in Jesus, their salvation and give thanks for the changes that Jesus will bring in their lives.

Pray for Scouts, Toddlers, youth and children to come to faith in Jesus.

Pray for Mark and Andrea Hotchkin in Chad with BMS:

www.bmsworldmission.org/people/andrea-and-mark-hotchkin/

You could try:

Praise God for how he has restored his creation:

3, 2, 1 The story of God - www.youtube.com/watch?v=wf94J3xGfOs

Bow down and worship - www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRfcehP0SLU

Read the account of the raising of Lazarus in [John 11:38-44](#) giving thanks that Jesus raises the dead. Then read the account of Jesus’ own resurrection in [John 20:19-23](#), giving thanks that he is the first fruits of a new creation.

Sing with actions The Lord’s Prayer - www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqQMxMwXJ7E

Thursday Equipping (Zoom prayer 8.00 -8.45 pm)



Before Jesus commenced his public ministry he was baptised, empowered by the Holy Spirit and assured of the love of God the Father [Matt 3:13-17](#).

Give thanks and praise God for: His cleansing from sin; the indwelling and empowering of the Holy Spirit who guides, gifts us and grows Christ's nature in us; celebrate being adopted into God's family and knowing his fatherly love.

Ask for God's forgiveness for failing to live in the light of His equipping. Repent of holding onto past sins. Repent of acting and serving without dependence upon the empowering of

the Holy Spirit. Repent of trying to win the love of the Father when there is nothing we can do to make God love us more.

Ask the Lord for his equipping: Ask for wisdom (James 1:5) and eagerly desire spiritual gifts so that the body of Christ may be built up (1 Cor 14).

Ask that the Body of Christ represented at Union Baptist Church will serve together for God's glory and the common good.

Ask the Lord to show how you can take your part in encouraging others and serving the Lord.

You could try:

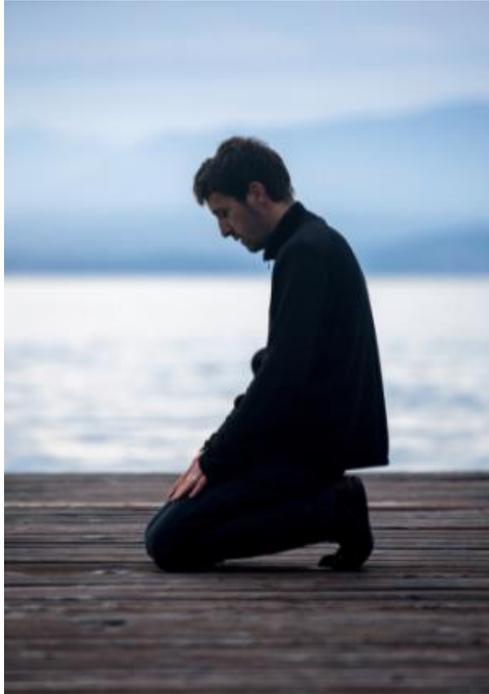
Sing: King of Kings, Majesty www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbZMMd99nM8

Pray for God to raise up children and youth leaders and deacons to lead ministries of the church

Thank God for the Network Course and pray that those attending will be more aware of their gifting and know how to use their gifts for God's glory.

Sing - Servant King www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0FSZ_iSYO8

Friday – Responding to the Master Builder (Chill prayer stations)



When people met Jesus, they went away changed. Some told everyone about Jesus [Matt 9:31](#), some gave their wealth away [Lk 19:1-10](#), and some poured perfume worth more than years' pay on His feet [John 12:3](#). **Spend time worshipping Jesus** for all that he has done in coming, teaching, healing and dying for us. How could you respond to Jesus today? Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to respond.

Confess your hardness of heart, your slowness to respond, your muted response. Ask the Lord to help you to respond aright to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Ask the Lord to show you how he has equipped you in Christ and express your desire to respond to him today, this week, this year.

Intercede for Union Baptist and the members of the church that our response will be full of love and generosity reflecting the fulness of His grace.

Pray for Philip and Rosemary Halliday in France with BMS, particularly since Philip's Father has recently died: www.bmsworldmission.org/people/philip-and-rosemary-halliday/

You could try:

Watch - www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNR6vpav2us

and pray for the job club and for Rachel Dillion, our job club manager

Sing - O Church arise: www.youtube.com/watch?v=A98YQHG8tLY

Pray for the Child Contact Centre where parents can maintain contact with their children, for Maureen Rose who has recently taken on the leadership of this ministry and for Sarah Atwell, newly appointed as Chair.

Read [Matt 28: 16-20](#) and respond in prayer.

Saturday – Relating (Join the Prayer breakfast at 9 am – 10 am @ the Hub)



Marvel and worship our Master Craftsman God who perfectly relates from eternity as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and calls us into relationship with his unity of love. Give thanks for your adoption as a son or daughter in his family and for all the promises for those who are called and believe.

Confess the poverty of our relating to our heavenly Father. Turn away from the other idols that take our time, affections and energy. Confess where you know your relationships with others are not as they should be and ask for grace to forgive and renew these relationships. Pray that Union Baptist Church will increasingly be a place

where love is seen and felt and that all ages, cultures and backgrounds are welcomed and nurtured.

Ask the Lord to help us reconnect with one another as we come out of lockdown. Pray for wisdom in knowing how to best connect with old friends and new contacts e.g. phone calls, coffee, meals, walks, meeting at church. Pray for our relating in worship as we start to re-gather together now restrictions are lifting and pray for safety.

Give thanks for the opportunity of time together at our weekend at home on the theme of 'knowing God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit' (Sat 26th Feb) and for other times to connect in home groups, prayer times and in service.

You could try:

Read - [Psalm 51](#) and turn it into your own prayer

Sing: Brother, sister let me serve you: www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JahFRDrSCs

Read [Luke 11:9-13](#) and ask God for what you need to serve him (e.g. filling of the Holy Spirit, more peace, more courage, spiritual gifts etc)

Use stones or buttons each representing a person. Put yourself in the centre and then put the other stones (representing loved ones) around you. Move the stones to signify a prayer for closer relationships and Christ's blessing on them.