

Sample Prayer for Prayer Concerns

This is a sample prayer to use when offering the prayers of others during this time. It has many sections, you may choose to pray through all of them or you may choose use a couple each time you offer prayers. It is important that you at least include the section for individual prayers and the section offering prayers of gratitude each and every time. There are suggestions of prayers to include, but these are simply suggestions to prompt creativity around what could be included. When praying for individuals by name, unless they are public figures, it is preferable to use only first names in order to protect their privacy. Feel free to edit or change the prayer or use it as a jumping off point to write your own.

Wondrous and Amazing God, Loving Creator, you are the source of our being. It was you who formed us, named us, and first loved us with a love that is beyond even our imagination. On our best days and on our worst days, you claim us as your own and treasure us like an adoring parent treasures their child. You know our needs and our prayers even before we utter them, and yet we find comfort in knowing that we can bring our hearts and our lives into your presence and express ourselves with whatever words and whatever ways we can use. It is an honor and a privilege to not only bring our own needs but the needs and desires of others to you.

Through Christ, you embodied love in this world so that all might now of your compassion, your peace and your presence.

And so we pray for the wider world.

...those around the world who are living in fear of this virus

...those suffering due to natural disaster

...those who struggle under the weight of poverty, hunger and the injustice that keeps them from having enough.

...*[insert names and situations that need prayer]*

And we pray for our community...

...for those who have no home or lack access to suitable housing

...for those who are experiencing financial insecurity

...for the first responders, the grocery workers, the delivery people, the mail carriers, etc. whose work and risk allows us to have access to food, supplies, and medical care.

...for those who do not have access to health coverage because of job loss or because they cannot afford it.

...for those who fear seeking medical care due to income, health status, legal status, or gender identity.

...for those who fear wearing protective gear because of the color of their skin.

...*[insert names, people and situations that are in need of prayer]*

Scripture reminds us to pray for our leaders and all leaders. And so we pray for...

...the leaders of our nation and all nations, that they may hear your still speaking voice and know your wisdom and your guidance.

...all faith leaders as they seek to serve your people and continue to connect others to you. Continue to care for them so they may care for so many. Provide them the strength, courage and peace to sustain them in this difficult time.

...*[insert names or groups of other types of leaders]*

As siblings in Christ and part of the whole human family, we pray for those who are in our lives, for those who we know and for those who we do not know and may never meet.

We pray for the needs of individuals and families...

...*[list any names or prayers brought to you that have not already been named, particularly individual names (preferably use first names only to protect privacy).]*

We have brought our prayers and our concerns before you. There are so many and at time they feel so heavy. We thank you for the opportunity to lay them down, to place them in your care and to rest. In the midst of strange and difficult times, it often seems hard to find joy and rest. And yet we know that you continue to move in this world and in our lives, offering us glimmers of hope, joyful surprises and energizing moments of goodness, mercy and compassion. In the midst of challenging times, we want to give you thanks for the celebrations that continue to happen in our lives, the places where we experience your presence in tangible ways, the faces that remind us of Christ's spirit is still present in those around us.

Hear our prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving.

...*[list any names, situations or stories that have brought you or others peace, joy, encouragement or happiness]*

Mighty One, we pray all of these things and we lift our hearts to you because we know that you hear us, that you answer us, and that you love each of us and all we have held in your presence this day with a boundless and endless love.

We pray this through Christ, your presence in the flesh and the great healer of the world and all who are in it. Amen.