

WHEN I PRAY

When I pray I talk with my God like a friend.
(When I pray I talk with my God like a friend).
Every day I talk with my God like a friend.
(Every day I talk with my God like a friend).
Of my life and plans, my troubles and fears,
Of my joys and hopes and I know God hears.
Like a friend who's always near.

When I pray I go to the room of my heart.
(When I pray I go to the room of my heart).
Every day I go to the room of my heart.
(Every day I go to the room of my heart).
When I wake in the morning or late at night,
In the deepest cave or the highest height
When I'm there I talk with you.

And when I am lonely
When the world is stony I talk
I talk with you, with you my dear God.

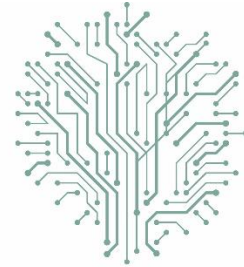
When I pray I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth.
(When I pray I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth).
Every day I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth.
(Every day I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth).
For the seas and rivers for the hills and plains,
For the fruit and fish and the fields of grain.
What a feast for me and you.

And when I am lonely
When the world is stony I talk
I talk with you, with you my dear God.

When I pray I talk with my God like a friend.
Mmm Mmm mm mm

By Peter Kearney

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SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 18:1-8
Consistency of Relationship

Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others.

Lighting of Christ Candle

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come, let us meditate on the word of God.

For God's word holds wisdom and truth.

Come let us allow the Spirit to speak into our lives

For God's Spirit is active and present.

Come let us walk the ways of Christ.

For it is in Jesus that we find our way.

(pause for a moments silent reflection)

Come let us pray.

Come, Spirit of God, fill this time of worship with the fullness of your presence.

Open our ears to hear your word

And our eyes to see your works.

May we taste the sweetness of your mercy.

May we experience your presence in all our senses as we open our hearts to the gentle touch of your compassion. Amen.

Song:

When I Pray by Peter Kearney

<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/99-when-i-pray>

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

The Word around the Bush

Luke 18:1-8

18Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

- What kind of relationship do you with God?
- What is the nature of the relationship your church has with God? (Is God perceived as judge, a parent, as ambivalent..)
- What one action can you or your church take in response to the Word today?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still. If your mind begins to fill with too many concerns, picture them drifting away.

Prayers for Others and Creation

Eternal Presence, Constant Love, may we know that your desire is for us to know you in our lives. That we would know the vastness of your love, mercy and compassion.

That we could share the immensity of your grace with others. That we could stand as those who embody the life we have been called to in Christ.

And we bring to our prayer at this time.

For creation.

For the world.

For this country

For the community

For your Church

For ourselves.

Song for Reflection:

Living Icon by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/living-icon-single>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Embody the rule of love that is written in your heart, offering the sweetness of God's mercy to all you meet.

The grace of God, the love of Christ and the presence of the Spirit be with us all.

(some prayers have been adapted from Words for Worship: MediaCom)