

We bring before you those who struggle with poverty, hunger, and a lack of resources. We pray for your provision, both physical and spiritual, for those who are in need. We ask that you open doors of opportunity, provide for their families, and meet their needs according to your riches in glory. We remember those affected by natural disasters and economic hardship.

We pray for protection from temptation and evil influences. We ask for your strength to resist the allure of sin and to walk in righteousness. We pray for those who are vulnerable to exploitation, addiction, and harmful relationships that they may find your deliverance and healing.

Lord, you taught us to be persistent in prayer, like the friend who relentlessly knocked on his neighbour's door until his request was granted. We ask for that same boldness and perseverance as we pray for others. Help us to be persistent in our asking, seeking, and knocking, knowing that you are a faithful and loving God.

Lord, we thank you for the privilege of prayer and for the assurance that you hear us. We commit these requests to you, trusting in your love, your power, and your faithfulness. In Jesus' name, we pray.

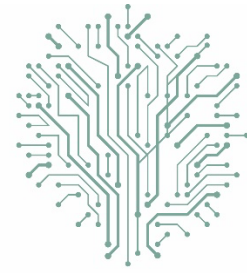
Amen.

Closing Responses & Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Go forth knowing that you are children of a loving Father who hears your prayers. May you be persistent in your asking, diligent in your seeking, and confident in your knocking. May you receive the good gifts He has promised, especially the gift of the Holy Spirit, to empower you for service and to guide you in truth. May His peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, now and forevermore.

Amen.

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SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 11: 1-13
The Lord's Prayer

Welcome

Welcome and greet your congregation and/or faith community.

Lighting the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle to remind ourselves of God's grace, which serves as the illuminating light of the world.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of these lands and waters where we meet, the _____ Nation (of the _____ peoples).

We pay our respects to their elders, past and present, and to all descendants of this/these nations who have cared for this place since creation.

We also honour all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples here today.

Stuart McMillan

Assembly Consultant Covenanting Assembly Resourcing Unit

Music for Reflection

Suggested song:

The Lords Prayer
by [Ade Carr](#)

Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Word around the Bush

Luke 11: 1-13

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Lord's Prayer

11 He was praying in a particular place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

For we forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

Perseverance in Prayer

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,' ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for ^[e] a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit ^[f] to those who ask him!"

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- How does Jesus' teaching on prayer in this passage reflect his own prayer life and relationship with the Father?
- How does the parable of the friend at midnight illustrate the importance of persistence in prayer?
- What is the significance of Jesus teaching his disciples the Lord's Prayer in this passage?
- What encouragement or challenge do you take away from this passage regarding your own prayer life and faith journey?

Silence

Please take a moment to find a comfortable position and prepare yourself for five minutes of complete silence. Gently close your eyes and allow yourself to relax, while remaining fully present and aware of your surroundings.

Prayers of Confession and For Others

Merciful God, we come before you recognising your perfect holiness and our deep need for your grace. Like the disciples who asked Jesus to teach them to pray, we acknowledge our inadequacy and seek your guidance in confessing our sins. We know that without your forgiveness, we are lost, but with you, there is always hope and renewal.

Cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Please help us to turn away from our sins and live lives that are pleasing to you. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may be empowered to live as faithful disciples, seeking your kingdom and glorifying your name.

Lord Jesus, we come before you today mindful of your teaching on prayer, as recorded in Luke's Gospel. We, too, desire to grow in our prayer lives, particularly in our ability to pray for others.

We lift our world to you, Lord. We pray that your name would be revered and honoured in every nation, in every heart. We pray for the leaders of our country that they may seek your wisdom and guidance in their governance.