



Children's National.

Prayers in the Christian Tradition



Chaplaincy Services
Office of InterFaith Pastoral and Spiritual Care

A Psalm of David

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.



Short prayer for healing



Lord of Heaven,
I rest underneath your mighty wings of love.
I dwell within your gentle heart.
I know there is healing in your touch.
Through the sufferings of Christ I can ask for
restoration
And trust in your goodness.
You are my Lord, my Saviour,
My healer and my friend.
I dwell within your gentle embrace.
Amen.

(a short Christian prayer for healing from www.lords-prayer-words.com)

Make Me Over, New Again

David Redding in *If I Could Pray Again*

O God, who made me once,
Make me over new again.
Save me today
With more of the same light,
One more degree of glory.

...

And I, who cannot pray,
By Your presence could learn
To put one word in front of another
For my feet to follow.

O God,
I do not know what I want,
But You know.
I do not know where I am,
but I know where You are;
Show me the way.

...

O God, I tremble to think
How little I have to show
For my faith
Since youth;

...

Step into my life, my world, Now --

...

Make my future bright
With fresh Goodness and refreshing faith.

A Parent's Prayer for Their Children

Heavenly Father,
Help me to trust you to look after my children,
A piece of my heart is with them always.
You have watched over them from their first moments.
You created them so perfectly.
They are such a gift.
Help me to love and care for them.
Cover my mistakes with forgiveness and grace.
Lead us as a family to build our relationships
Upon the foundation of your hope and truth.
Amen.

(a short prayer for parents from www.lords-prayer-words.com)

A Prayer for the Protection of Children (a prayer suitable for parent or carer to pray for their children)

Almighty father in heaven,
I ask for your strong arms of protection
To be around our children.
That they may be held safely
Within your love.
Fill their days and nights with hope and joy
Fill their hearts and minds
With you truth and light.
We trust in you.
Amen.

(a short prayer of protection from www.lords-prayer-words.com)

A HYMN

1. *O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.*
2. *Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.*
3. *Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.*
4. *A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.*
5. *Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away.
They fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.*
6. *O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.*

Isaac Watts

DRAW ME TO YOUR HEART JOYCE RUPP, FROM *PRAYERS TO SOPHIA*

*Wise and Faithful Guid,
keep my spirit entwined with your.
Teach me about the poor and the pained.
Fill me with your mercy and compassion.
Help me to find your peace in my troubled moments.
Let love be the response I give to those who oppose me.
Constantly draw me toward all that is good.*

*Urge me to give my best to those who need it.
Lean me to learn from my discouragement and struggles.
Be the light I need to find my way in the darkness.
Fill my hollowness and emptiness with your love.*

*Most of all, continue to dwell within me
because your gracious presence is all I ever need.
it is enough to bring me through the deepest canyons
and the darkest crevices of my life.*

*Divine Companion,
draw me to your heart where wisdom resides
and daily let me choose to follow in your way.*

Reflect on what it is you might need
from and wise and faithful guide.



God speaks to each of us as he makes us,
then walks with us silently out of the night.

These are the words we dimly hear:

You, sent out beyond your recall,
go to the limits of your longing.
Embody me.

Flare up like a flame
and make big shadows I can move in.

Let everything happen to you: beauty and terror.
Just keep going. No feeling is final.
Don't let yourself lose me.

Nearby is the country they call life.
You will know it by its seriousness.

Give me your hand.

Rainer Maria Rilke, Rilke's Book of Hours (Love Poems to God)

"Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)" by HILLSONG

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep My faith will stand

(chorus) And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand
Will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

Chorus

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior
Oh, Jesus, you're my God!

I will call upon Your name
Keep my eyes above the waves
My soul will rest in Your embrace
I am Yours and You are mine

Thanksgiving Prayer
from the Iona Community

Thanks be to you, God, awesomely distant,
Thanks for the searing of shooting stars,
the colors of the planets in the night sky,
the space and power beyond our perceiving
that sparkles the sky of our lives with your caring.

Thanks be to you, God, uncomfortably close,
giving life to dead dry things
-the dance of pure stillness,
the beat of our hearts,
is your doing.

Thanks be to you, God, known in
a body
who blessed as he lived,
who raised up our life
to be gathered as one,
reaching out for the kingdom.



Resources provided by the Office of InterFaith
Pastoral and Spiritual Care. Please call 202-476-3321
for more information/resources. If you are in the hospital
and would like a chaplain to visit you, please call
202-476-3070 and ask to have a chaplain paged.