

# PRAYER IN THE HOME

TRINITY 7: SUNDAY 26 JULY

THIS WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING IS AT 7PM ON SUNDAY 26 JULY.  
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## GATHERING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

Praise God! For the Lord our God the almighty reigns!  
**Let us rejoice and be glad and give him the glory**

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COLLECT** for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## PSALM 119.129-136

<sup>129</sup> Your decrees are wonderful;  
therefore my soul keeps them.  
<sup>130</sup> **The unfolding of your words gives light;  
it imparts understanding to the simple.**  
<sup>131</sup> With open mouth I pant,  
because I long for your commandments.  
<sup>132</sup> **Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
as is your custom towards those who love your name.**  
<sup>133</sup> Keep my steps steady according to your promise,  
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.  
<sup>134</sup> **Redeem me from human oppression,  
that I may keep your precepts.**  
<sup>135</sup> Make your face shine upon your servant,  
and teach me your statutes.  
<sup>136</sup> **My eyes shed streams of tears  
because your law is not kept.**

**BIBLE READING** Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

<sup>31</sup> Jesus put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

<sup>33</sup> He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

<sup>44</sup> 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup> 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup> 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

**SERMON** Susan Wright: <https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

1. Read the passage again. Which of the parables catches your attention?
2. Think about the parable for a few minutes. Ask God to show you what gift he has for you.
3. What is the gift God has for you from his word today? You might want to discuss what you've discovered with someone else, or write it down or just thank God.

## INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we thank you for the beauty and diversity of our world. We are sorry for the damage being done to your Creation: please help us to be responsible stewards and do our part in caring for our planet.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we pray for the worship and witness of your Church, local, national and international. Today, we pray especially about the practical issues of health and safety as church buildings continue to open for public services.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we pray for wisdom and integrity for world leaders, that they may use their gifts well and work together for the good of all nations.

We ask for a spirit of generosity, that the richer countries of the world will support those who are poor in this time of pandemic.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we thank you for advances in medical knowledge, for both new treatments and the hope of vaccines for coronavirus: we pray that you will speed the work of the scientists and ask for good collaboration between them.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we pray for comfort and healing to all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

*We take a few moments to name anyone known to us who needs our prayers today.....*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lord bless you and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you  
and give you peace.