Space for Grace

Come and join us in silent prayer and fellowship.

We share readings, poems and prayers.

We pray for our community, the world and our own petitions.

We gain peace, a profound warmth, a boundless strength and a strong sense of belonging.

Here are a selection of the readings, poems and prayers we share

A modern version of the prayer of Jesus from the Anglican Church of New Zealand.

Eternal Spirit,

Earth-maker, Pain- bearer, Life giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving god, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us,

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for

Amen.

ever.

From Julian of Norwich

Revelations of Divine Love

"God loved us before he made us; and his love has never diminished and never shall".

"And in this Vision, he showed me a little thing, the size of a hazelnut, lying in the palm of my hand, and to my mind's eye it was as round as any ball. I looked at it and thought, "What can this be?" And the answer came to me, "It is all that is made." I wondered how it could last, for it was so small I thought it might suddenly disappear. And the answer in my mind was, "It lasts and will last for ever, because God loves it; and in the same way everything exists through the love of God."

In this little thing I saw three attributes.

God made it.
God loves it.
God Cares for it.

"All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well"

God, of thy goodness, give me thyself;
For Thou are enough for me,
And I can ask for nothing less
that can be full honour to Thee.
And if I ask anything that is less, ever Shall I be in want
For only in Thee Have I all

Indifference

By G. A Studdart Kennedy

When Jesus came to Golgotha they hanged him on a tree,

They drove great nails through hands and feet and made a Calvary;

They crowned him with a crown of thorns, red were his wounds and deep,

For those were crude and cruel days and human flesh was cheap.

When Jesus came to Birmingham, they simply passed him by,

They never hurt a hair of him, they only let him die; For men had grown more tender, and they would not give him pain;

They only just passed down the street, and left him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do",

And still it rained the wintry rain that drenched him through and through;

The crowds went home and left the streets without a soul to see,

And Jesus crouched against a wall and cried for Calvary.

Psalm 104

God the Creator and Provider

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty,

wrapped in light as with a garment.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent,

you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot,

you ride on the wings of the wind,

⁴you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills,

¹¹ giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.

¹² By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

¹³ From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

¹⁴ You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people to use,

to bring forth food from the earth,

and wine to gladden the human heart,

oil to make the face shine,

and bread to strengthen the human heart.

²⁴O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

³⁰ When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

³¹ May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his workswho looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

³³ I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

³⁴ May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

³⁵ Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more.

Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!



Circle Prayer

Circle us Lord
Circle the poor with your justice
Circle the violent with your peace
Circle the broken with your wholeness,
Circle us Lord
Circle us with the wonder of your love
With the beauty of your creating
With the glory of your presence,
Circle us Lord
One in three, three in one
Circle us with the joy of your abiding.

The Prayer of St. Columba

Be a bright flame before me, O God
A guiding star above me.
Be a smooth path below me,
A kindly shepherd behind me
today, tonight and for ever.
Alone with none but you, my God
I journey on my way;
What need I fear when you are near,
O Lord of night and day?
More secure am I within your hand
than if a multitude did round me stand.
Amen.

Love

By George Herbert

LOVE bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back, Guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack

From my first entrance in,

Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning

If I lack'd anything.

'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here:'

Love said, 'You shall be he.'

'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,

I cannot look on Thee.'

Love took my hand and smiling did reply,

'Who made the eyes but I?'

'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame Go where it doth deserve.'

'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the blame?'
'My dear, then I will serve.'

'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'
So I did sit and eat.

Psalm 116

I love the Lord, who listened to my voice in supplication,

Who turned an ear to me on the day I called ...

Return, my soul, to your rest;

The Lord has been very good to you.

For my soul has been freed from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I shall walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

<u>Psalm 46</u>

Be Still and know that I am God.

We hope you have enjoyed reading this small selection of prayers, poems and scripture that we have shared over the past year at our Space 4 Grace meetings. We always start and finish with something chosen by the leader for the day and sit in silent prayer for 20 minutes in the middle.

Some words that have been used to describe our meetings:-"Uplifting, peaceful, reassuring, beautiful, quiet, centering".

We meet fortnightly on a Wednesday evening at 6.30pm.

Come and join us ...