



Hour of **PRAYER**

**14
09
26**

2-3PM

**Guilds across
Scotland uniting in
prayer**



Let's Pray

Martin Luther said, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." Prayer is a two-way conversation where we talk but more importantly, we listen. The Guild might change but worship, prayer and action will always be at the heart of everything we do.

At the beginning of Guild Week, we want to invite all Guild members and friends to share in an hour of prayer for the future of the Guild, on Monday 14th September. You might want to meet as a Guilds Together group, a Guild branch or in your own home. What better way to start Guild Week than with prayer for the Guild.

Wherever you might meet, and whoever you are with, you might want to think about setting the scene for this time of prayer. Perhaps an open Bible at Acts 27:23 with our motto; lighting a candle, a sign that our prayers offered in faith will come into the light of God; some suitable background music; prayer quotes or an appropriate reading.

We have provided some possible readings, hymns and prayers. These are only suggestions. Do whatever suits you best.

For with God nothing will be impossible. (Luke 1:37) **So, let's pray together!**

Adoration



Readings: Psalm 8, Psalm 145 : 1 – 5, Matthew 22:37, Philippians 2: 10,

Hymns: CH4 512 "To God be the glory", CH4 154 "O Lord my God", MP 242 Thou art worthy, MP 151 Majesty worship His Majesty, CH4 458 At the name of Jesus, The Lord's my shepherd (version of choice)

Prayer

A. Lord Jesus help us to fix our eyes on you as we enter into your awesome presence. Remove all distractions from our minds as we give this hour in our day over to you. We praise and glorify your name, O Lord our God, not because of what you do but because of who you are - Our heavenly Father who loves us all unconditionally and cares about the smallest details of our lives. Nothing compares to your power and your glory. We just need to look around us, to appreciate your goodness, your majesty in all creation. You deserve the very best we can offer you. Whose we are and whom we serve!

B. Jesus, our light and cornerstone, we come to you as we are, whether we are experiencing good times or bad. Make us the person you want us to be for you are our constant companion and guide. Hear us as we pray and make us alert to hear your answer and follow the path you have chosen for us. We praise you for your goodness and guidance which we know will be with us till the end of our days.

C. This prayer is a reading from Revelation 4:8-11 with a spoken response in bold.

King of Glory, enthroned in heavenly places, majestic, mysterious, beyond imagination. You are of all time and all places.

We worship and adore you, for you alone are worthy.

Sovereign Lord, we give you honour and praise for you have created all things and sustain all things, and within that vast creation we are a chosen people, called by name.

We worship and adore you, for you alone are worthy.

God of power, we rejoice in your presence today, for sin and death have been conquered through the sacrifice of Jesus, and we can call you “Abba, Father”.

We worship and adore you, for you alone are worthy.

Jesus, the radiance of your presence illumines each day bringing us love, joy and, peace. You give us acceptance and hope, sharing your purpose for the world with us.

We worship and adore you, for you alone are worthy.

To you Father, Son and Holy Spirit be all glory and praise. Amen.



CONFESSION

Readings: Proverbs 28: 13, 1 John 1: 9, Psalm 51 : 1 - 12, 2 Chronicles 7 : 14 - 16, Psalm 32; 1 John 1: 5-10

Hymns: CH4 97 O God you search me, Ch4 641 Seek ye first, CH4 197 As we are gathered Jesus is here., CH4 553 Just as I am, CH4 555 Amazing Grace

Prayer

A. Loving Father, we are sorry that we have not always followed your will. Forgive us when we have been silent and should have spoken, or we have spoken when we should have been silent. Forgive us when we have not listened to you and chosen our own path against your advice. You told us that no man comes to the Father except through you, so show us your mercy and forgive us our human frailty.

B. Father in heaven, you have known us before birth and appointed us to serve you. Forgive us for our lack of faith in your great power. Give us grace to understand the world we cannot see. Remember us in your mercy and forgive us for not fully using the talents you have given us. As we come before you, may the cleansing, redeeming power of God renew our minds and change our hearts so that as forgiven people, we might forgive those who have wronged us. Fan into fresh power the flame which once burned strong within our hearts for you. And lead us into a closer walk with you.

C. Heavenly Father, we come before you with open hearts, knowing nothing is hidden from you. You know every critical word we've spoken, every wrong deed done. So Lord, in this moment, we confess our sins which are weighing us down, preventing us moving forward in our faith. We lay them at the foot of your cross knowing that there is no condemnation in Jesus Christ, no guilt, no shame when we truly repent. We so desire to walk in the freedom of your forgiveness. Cleanse and heal our hearts and restore your empowering Holy Spirit within us

THANKSGIVING

Readings: Psalm 138 , Psalm 150 (Both The Message), 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 & 17, Psalm 103 : 1 – 6, Proverbs 28: 13, .1 John 1: 9

Hymns: CH4 180 Give thanks, CH4 559 There is a redeemer, CH4 181 For the beauty of the earth, CH4 153 Great is thy faithfulness, CH4 175 Praise I will praise you, Lord

Prayers

A. Jesus, the giver of all good things, we owe you so much that we don't know where to begin our thanks. Thank you for providing our daily needs and our friends and family. Father, we thank you for the Guild and all that means to us. We thank you for the worship and fellowship we share and the work the Guild does in your name. Thank you for your guidance, as we plan the way ahead for the Guild; plans with you as our cornerstone and Guild members as the living stones.



B. Lord Jesus we come before you today with hearts full of gratitude. We thank you for your unconditional love for each of us. We are made in your image and yet are so different. You love our differences Lord. We thank you that you care for our family and friends and our church and community. The troubles in our world often overwhelm us but we know you hear our prayers and will answer. Nothing is impossible for you. So many things to thank you for Lord but today we acknowledge that by being your witnesses, Jesus, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we can revive our Guild and our Church for future generations.

C. Almighty God, your presence is around and within us working in unseen ways - often silent, but never absent. **We give you thanks, and praise.**

Your grace is beyond our imagining, bringing us into your family as joint-heirs with Christ our Lord. We rejoice in your loving purposes for our lives. **We give you thanks, and praise.**

Your joy and hope fill our lives, sustaining us throughout life's journey until all your promises are fulfilled in the life to come. **We give you thanks, and praise.**

SUPPLICATION

Hymns: CH4 596 Breathe on me Breath of God, CH4 536 May the mind of Christ my Saviour, CH4 268 Oh God of Bethel, CH4 550 As the deer, CH4 547 What a friend

Readings: Philippians 4: 8-9, Jeremiah 33:3, Matthew 6: 9 - 13, Ps 25: 9, 1 Peter 5: 6 - 7

You may want to pray for these specific aspects of the work of the Guild.

1. God we are all made in your image, help us to ensure our Guilds are welcoming spaces to everyone in our community and where they feel loved and accepted.
2. For the Guild Leadership Team as they seek God's guidance for the future of the Guild
3. As we prepare for mini gatherings across the country, pray that people will be moved to come and will leave encouraged and enthused about the work of the Guild.
4. That ministers and others in leadership roles within congregations will see the value of a Guild in their congregation and will support and promote the Guild locally.
5. For congregations without a Guild, that they will be open to any approach that is made to them to help establish a Guild within their congregation.
6. For the missional activities undertaken by the Guild giving thanks for local initiatives, for our project partnership scheme and for our relationships with Malawi.
7. That people will understand and appreciate the role of the Guild in tackling important issues such as FGM, HIV/Aids or supporting those struggling with mental ill health.

ADD PRAYERS FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GUILD AS APPROPRIATE



Closing Prayer:

Loving Father, your care for your world is fulfilled in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. As you have loved us, give us courage to confront injustice; offer compassion to the vulnerable and power to live lives which incarnate Jesus within the communities where we live.

Holy Spirit, inspire us to advance the Gospel, ever mindful that great and hidden things are for those who spend time with You.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose we are and whom we serve, we pray for the Church of Scotland Guild, so that our vision may always be for God's glory in all we plan and do. Grant wisdom and grace to all who make decisions which will influence and impact our future.

These prayers we offer in the strong and precious Name of Christ our Lord, Amen.

