



Prayer Space no 34 November 2022

Take time to let your mind become still, keep a relaxed but expectant stillness, breathe in God's peace.

Lord we live in the middle of your remarkable creation: all around us there is evidence of your power,
your glory,
your wisdom and your love

And yet you came among us as one who serves; instead of lording it over us, you stand patiently at our door and knock.

Instead of imposing your presence on us, you wait to be invited.

So now we invite you,

Lord come to us, abide with us forever.

1 Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

2. I am the Lord who saves and heals.

I am the Lord who saves and heals.

I am the Lord who saves and heals.

3. In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

Anonymous

Based on Psalm 46:10-11

We love you Lord, knowing you first loved us.

In your humility you show us the love that puts others before our selves

the love that has given self completely away

the love that holds each one precious,

and treats each one with respect.

Mark 10 The Request of James and John

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

³⁶ "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

³⁷ They replied, "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

³⁸ "You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

³⁹ "We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Lord help us with our attitude towards others.

We ask for your guidance in the light of your teaching and to be empowered to realign our actions and thoughts where necessary.

We pray for those in positions of authority...

We pray for those who have others dependent on them...

We pray for those who live in fear because of political or personal victimisation...

those in the middle of violent situations including domestic violence and war...

we pray for those in poverty that we learn to share your generosity to us in deed and food and love.

We pray for the communities we live in, that we can share your love with true humility...

1 Let love be real, in giving and receiving,
without the need to manage and to own;
a haven free from posing and pretending,
where every weakness may be safely known.
Give me your hand, along the desert pathway,
give me your love wherever we may go.
*As God loves us, so let us love each other:
with no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

2 Let love be real, not grasping or confining,
that strange embrace that holds yet sets us free;
that helps us face the risk of truly living,
and makes us brave to be what we might be.
Give me your strength when all my words are weakness;
give me your love in spite of all you know.
*As God loves us, so let us love each other:
with no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

3 Let love be real, with no manipulation,
no secret wish to harness or control;

let us accept each other's incompleteness,
and share the joy of learning to be whole.
Give me your hope through dreams and disappointments;
give me your trust when all my failings show.
*As God loves us, so let us love each other:
with no demands, just open hands and space to grow.*

Michael Forster (b. 1946)
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Lord we are fully reliant on you for everything
and following your example of loving service may we receive your strength and will to practise
the simplicity of humility in everything we do and say everywhere we go. Amen