

# PRAYERS FOR THIS SEASON

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The President and Moderators have prepared a weekly cycle of prayers for use by congregations and in people's personal devotions, as a way of connecting Uniting Church members. as we pray each day for one another and the life of the Australian community. We hope these prayers nurture and encourage you.

## Sunday Prayer

Dr Deidre Palmer – President of the Uniting Church in Australia

Gracious and loving God,  
You call us to love you with our whole being,  
and to love our neighbours as ourselves.  
At this time of upheaval and distress for nations and people across our  
world, may your love hold us together.  
May your love be the lens through which we see  
each other and your world.  
Lord Jesus Christ, you are present with us,  
as one who knows our suffering,  
bring comfort and peace to all those who are grieving  
the loss of loved ones, work, connection and hope for the future.  
May we embody your compassion  
– responding to the suffering of our neighbours, our families,  
our friends, and strangers with generosity.

Life-giving Spirit,  
you weave us together as the Body of Christ,  
strengthen our life together, even though we are physically separated.  
Nurture us in faith and discipleship,  
that we may bear witness through our living,  
to your abundant grace and liberating hope for all people,  
and the whole creation.

Through Christ our Life and Hope, we pray. Amen.

## Monday Prayer

Rev Steve Francis, Moderator of the Synod of Western Australia

Holy and loving God, the Psalmist reminds us that  
"You are our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble".  
Lord God we feel deeply that our world is in trouble  
with the spread of the coronavirus.  
Eternal God, we recognise a sense of fear and anxiety about the future.  
We ask that we calmly place our faith in you  
and increase our love for our neighbour.  
We believe you care deeply about all those  
who are affected by this pandemic.  
In these troubling times teach us how to be  
agents of peace and carriers of compassion.  
We pray for all who are on the front line of this battle;  
our medical teams, health professionals and their patients.  
Grant, we pray safety and healing.  
We pray for our political leaders,  
national and state that you would give them wisdom and insight.  
We pray for all who have lost loved ones to this virus,  
grant them comfort and courage.  
We pray for all who have lost their jobs or their businesses,  
grant them the help they need.  
We pray for all Australians that you will help us  
to replace fear with faith, despair with hope and hoarding with kindness.  
Please bring out the best in us  
as we face the challenge of these days,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Tuesday Prayer

Rev Thresi Mauboy Wohangara, Northern Synod

Lord Almighty, our Rabbi  
While we live in the midst of uncertainty  
because of the heavy struggles we face during this CoVID-19 pandemic,  
You come and greet us in Your way.  
Many prayers have been offered to You  
- together and individually.  
The Churches of God all over the world  
have put aside their differences to unite and call your name.  
O God, have mercy upon us according to your loyal love.  
Erase our transgressions according to Your great grace!  
Do not cast us away from you,  
and do not take your Holy spirit from us!  
We do not have the power to avoid what happens,  
and no power to obey,  
except with the help of God the Most High and the Most Great!  
O' Saviour do not let us get lost.  
Guide us through this period of struggle.  
For all governments in the world,  
give them the heart to understand when creating policies  
related to the economy, to security,  
and to the health and welfare of their peoples.  
God also help the doctors and medical workers who are  
working hard to help all those who are sick.  
Instil in their hearts the heart of a compassionate servant  
who is ready to serve and give help to those in need.  
Give them health and strength, and protect them and their families.  
Finally, help all of us to respect and obey  
all appeals made by the government –  
while faithfully and truly trusting in the Lord God, whom we worship.  
Let us trust God is present as a helper and redeemer of His people.  
He is always within reach.  
He is never far away.  
He is close.  
He is with us.  
He cares.  
He heals.  
He restores.  
He redeems. Let it be thy will, forever. Amen

## Wednesday Prayer

Rev David Baker, Moderator of the Synod of Queensland

Loving God, you are revealed in Jesus Christ,  
in whom you became one with us.  
Remind us of Your solidarity with us in all the vagaries of our lives.  
Strengthen our confidence in You  
so that we may act with wisdom and grace;  
Assuage our fears, that we may be strength and hope for others.  
We lift up to you all those responsible for decision-making  
regarding this pandemic.  
Lead them by your Spirit.  
We pray for those who are vulnerable and marginalised;  
for those whose lives have been profoundly disrupted;  
that through this crisis, our societies may especially care for them.  
We pray for those who are grieving the loss of people they loved;  
We pray for our time in isolation; may we truly love one another.  
Above all we thank you for the rich heritage we enjoy in this country;  
may we act as those who are aware  
of the future we are building for others.

Amen.

## Thursday Prayer

Rev Simon Hansford, Moderator of the Synod of NSW and the ACT

God of the wilderness,  
In the muteness of isolation,  
your Spirit whispers a gentle presence;  
In the brokenness of separation,  
your embrace is hope and life;  
When all appears at be at risk -  
our community, our life, our future,  
you are present, bearing us to life again.  
You are before us,  
beside and behind us.  
We trust in you.  
All in Christ, we pray. Amen.

## Friday Prayer

Rev Denise Liersch, Moderator of the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania

God of compassion, God-with-us,  
be with us in these times of uncertainty.  
Break into our lives,  
rekindle our hope  
and breathe love into our communities,  
that we might find new ways  
of supporting and upholding one another,  
bearing witness to your inclusive love  
of family, friend, neighbour and stranger alike.  
May our love for those most vulnerable in our community  
become a beacon of hope for all.  
In faith, hope and love, in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## Saturday Prayer

Mr Bronte Wilson, Moderator of the UCA Synod of South Australia

O God, you are our certainty in a time of uncertainty.  
We find ourselves at home, feeling confused and anxious.  
We watch the world shut down around us,  
bringing grief and fear.  
We seek your comfort, and your peace.  
In our separation, may we find connection,  
with you and with each other.  
Remind us that even when we cannot gather,  
we are your people, the body of Christ together.  
May we take up your call to be the church in your world, caring for the  
vulnerable, feeding the hungry, showing love and compassion and  
kindness to those around us.  
To you be all glory, O God, we pray.  
Amen

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