



The Blyth Valley
Team Ministry

Praying through Holy Week 2021



These prayers can be used throughout Holy Week to help you reflect on how the events in the Passion story affect our own faith and lives.

A Prayer about Betrayal

There are people we like,
and those we do not,
but the difficult situations arise
when those we love turn against us
for no logical reason.

We are hurt and angry at such betrayal,
when someone who has shared our lives
should now use that knowledge against us.

It is a broken relationship, Lord,
almost impossible to repair.

That you should share bread and wine
at the same table as Judas,
knowing the secrets of his heart.
That you could share your love,
knowing what was to follow
on the road to Calvary,
defies our human understanding.

And yet, Lord this is the road
you would have us follow,
the road that leads to the cross,
the road that only makes sense ,
when seen through your eyes.
The road of sacrificial love .

A Prayer about Weakness

How often when weary
do we sigh 'The spirit is willing,
but the body is weak.'

How often when in prayer
are thoughts distracted by
sounds or circumstance,
or prayers diverted
by trivial concerns.

Baggage carried with us
rather than left at your feet.

How often do we find ourselves
apologising to you,
for our abbreviated prayer life.

And yet you draw us still
to be in your presence,
as you did the disciples at Gethsemene.

You want us to share in your life,
to play our part.

You told your disciples to watch and pray,
so that they might not fall into temptation.

Do you ask the same of us
and do we also fail you
each time we whisper
'The spirit is willing,
but the body is weak'?

Grant us the strength, Lord,
of body and of spirit,
to offer you the sacrifice
of our lives.

A prayer about Frailty

When the going gets tough
the tough get going.
It is easy to say 'No'
to take the easy way out.
Easy to play safe,
and live to fight another day.
Like Peter, who loved you
with such a passion, Lord,
filled with such energy,
so impetuous,
ready to speak first,
and ask questions later.
Except when asked
if he was with you, Lord.
Except when his faith
was seriously challenged,
when the road to the cross
became dangerous.
You knew Peter,
knew the calibre of the man
and what would happen
before the cock crowed twice.
But it didn't stop you choosing him,
the rock upon which
your Church would be built.
There is comfort for us, Lord,
in Peter's frailty,
reassurance that your love
and confidence extends
to both strong and frail,
as you look to our potential,
and in your love forget
our momentary weakness.

Prayers for Good Friday

Lamb of God, you shed for me
Your life upon a blood stained tree,
Your life for mine, love re-defined,
An offering, a ransom, release.
You gave so much, O Lamb of God.

Just as I am, I come

The doubts I have, the pain I feel,
When at your feet I humbly kneel,
You take it all, both great and
small,
Give freedom, forgiveness and
peace.
I have the choice, O Lamb of God.

Just as I am, I come

Lamb of God, I hear your voice,
And hearing know I have a choice
To make a start, within my heart,
A willingness, to journey by faith.
You ask no more, O Lamb of God.

Just as I am, I come

By waters still, through fire and
storm,
Your love continues to transform,
And with that call, you welcome
all,
No barriers now, no limits, just
grace.
No more excuses Lamb of God.

Just as I am, I come

In the darker moments,
when clouds gather
and the heaviness we feel
seems overwhelming,
remind us of your love,
carrying the weight
of so much in that cross,
embracing the world
with arms outstretched
that we might know
freedom from the chains
which now constrain us.
Bring us to your light,
release our burdens
and from despair bring hope.

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

May this declaration
resound not only in these walls
but touch the lives
of all we meet
and forever be
the truth of which we speak.

Your love,
once sown within a garden,
tended for your own people,
neglected and rejected,
now spreads its sweet perfume
in this place
and wherever it is shown.

Halleluia!
Jesus is risen!
He is risen indeed!

From the darkness of the grave
Blood poured out, a crown of thorns
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

From the triumph that is won
Over the power and fear of death
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

Walking from the empty tomb
Opening wide the gates of life
Christ the Lord is risen to-day

ALL: Alleluia!

Lord of life
You defeated death
To show that we can rise
From all that binds us to the world
Pride, envy, anger, fear
The debt of sin that holds us here
Christ the Lord is risen to-day
ALL: Alleluia!

Lord of life
You defeated death
To demonstrate a love that is
Beyond our understanding
That reaches out even to me
Saving Grace to all who hear
Christ the Lord is risen to-day
ALL: Alleluia!

Lord of life
We pray for all who bring your word of life
As a light to those in darkness
For those who bring your word of peace
To those enslaved by fear
For those who bring your word of love
To those in need of comfort
Lord of love and Lord of peace
Lord of resurrection life
Be known
Through our lives
and through your power
Christ the Lord is risen to-day
ALL: Alleluia!

Rejoice!

The stone is rolled away,
grave clothes neatly folded,
no more the smell of death,
behold the empty tomb!
Halleluia! (He is risen!)

Rejoice!

Scripture has been fulfilled,
the sting of death is gone,
the victory has been won,
behold the risen Christ!
Halleluia! (He is risen!)

Rejoice!

The curtain's torn in two,
our God invites us in,
Christ's sacrifice enough
to wash away our sins!
Halleluia! (He is risen!)