



# PRAYER DURING THE DAY FOR AUGUST 2021

*Text in **bold** may be said by all, if saying it with others.*

O God, make speed to save us. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**  
Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;  
**let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.**

*Psalm 143.7*

## PRAISE

*A hymn, song, poem, freeform praise or*

But haven't we always known?  
The shimmer of trees, the shaking of flames  
every cloud lined with something  
clean water sings  
right to the belly  
scouring us with its purity  
it too is awash with diamonds

“so small that trillions could rest  
on the head of a pin”

It is not unwise then to say  
that the air is hung close with diamonds  
that we breathe diamond

our lungs hoarding, exchanging  
our blood sowing them rich and thick  
along every course it takes  
Does this explain  
why some of us are so hard  
why some of us shine  
why we are all precious

that we are awash in creation  
spumed with diamonds  
shot through with beauty  
that survived the death of stars

*\* quotation found in a newspaper clipping on the subject*

*Mayne Ellis*

## THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 119 over 2 weeks

*Each psalm or group of psalms may end with*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is  
now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

<i>Day</i>	<i>Week 1</i>	<i>Week 2</i>
Monday	V 1-16	V 97-112
Tuesday	V 17-32	V 113-128
Wednesday	V 33-48	V 129-144
Thursday	V 49-64	V145-160
Friday	V 65-80	V 161-168
Saturday	V 81-96	V 169-176

## READINGS

*Monday*

Oppression turns the wise into fools; a bribe corrupts the heart. The end of something is better than its beginning. Patience is better than arrogance. Don't be too quick to get angry because anger lives in the fool's heart. Don't ask, "How is it that the former days were better than these?" because it isn't wise to ask this. Wisdom is as good as[a] an inheritance— an advantage for those who see the sun.

*Tuesday*

If you judge those who do these kinds of things while you do the same things yourself, think about this: Do you believe that you will escape God's judgment? Or do you have contempt for the riches of God's generosity, tolerance, and patience? Don't you realize that God's kindness is supposed to lead you to change your heart and life? You are storing up wrath for yourself because of your stubbornness and your heart that refuses to change. God's just judgment will be revealed on the day of wrath.

*Romans 2. 3-5*

*Wednesday*

In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethsaida. It had five covered porches, and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there. A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I don't have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I'm trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

*John 5. 2-9*

*Thursday*

Then the Lord said, "I've clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I've heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. I've come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that's full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. Now the Israelites' cries of injustice have reached me. I've seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. So get going. I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

*Exodus 3. 7-10*

*Friday*

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! He is the compassionate Father and God of all comfort. He's the one who comforts us in all our trouble so that we can comfort other people who are in every kind of trouble. We offer the same comfort that we ourselves received from God. That is because we receive so much comfort through Christ in the same way that we share so many of Christ's sufferings. So if we have trouble, it is to bring you comfort and salvation. If we are comforted, it is to bring you comfort from the experience of endurance while you go through the same sufferings that we also suffer. Our hope for you is certain, because we know that as you are partners in suffering, so also you are partners in comfort.

*2 Corinthians 1. 3-7*

*Saturday*

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you've hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have shown them to babies. Indeed, Father, this brings you happiness. "My Father has handed all things over to me. No one knows the Son except the Father. And nobody knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Put on my yoke, and

learn from me. I'm gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light."

*Matthew 11. 25-30*

#### RESPONSE

*Silence, study, reading, or song. Then these words:*

The Spirit of God who raised Christ Jesus from the dead, **gives life to the people of God.**

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, **but made himself nothing.**

Taking the form of a slave, **he was born in human likeness.**

He humbled himself and was obedient to death, **even the death of the cross.**

Therefore God has raised him on high, **and given him the name above every name:**

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim **that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

#### PRAYERS

*Let your prayers be guided by these concerns, and may your heart be led to even more:*

God the Father, your will for all people is wellbeing and redemption; God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly; God the Holy Spirit, you make our lives the shrine of your presence;

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Lord, grant your grace to all who are ill or wounded.

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to all who seek your guidance, and to all who are forlorn, frustrated, impatient, or miserable, a knowledge of your will and an awareness of your presence;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to a graceful rhythm;

**Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Bless all who serve with the suffering, granting them sense and competence, empathy and fortitude; **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to the dying peace and a holy death, and uphold by the beauty and solace of your Holy Spirit those who are grieving; **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken by power of evil and sin, in our lives, in our neighborhoods, and throughout the world; **Hear us, O Lord of life.**

You are the Lord who does wonders: You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life: **and in your light we see light.**

Hear us, O Lord of life: **Heal us, and make us whole.**

In the power of the Holy Trinity, One God Almighty, in whom we live and move and have our being. **Amen.**

*One of the following collects concludes the prayers.*

God of all mercy, may this time be a space of discovery, where the possibilities that sleep in the sand of our souls can emerge to deepen and refine our vision for all that is Yet to come. May this be a time of courage where healing and growth are loved, where dignity and forgiveness prevail. A space where patience is prized and the destination is never lost, though the journey can be difficult and slow. May we have the heart to see that no one arrives without a gift and no one leaves without a blessing. To the honor and glory of your Name, now and forever. **Amen.**

Merciful Lord, sometimes it seems like we can't help but lose our way again and again. Our hearts long to follow you, but you know the way of the human heart. You know how in our misguided longings we veer off our journeying to you, and begin to chart our own ways by false stars and distorted visions. Forgive us. Forgive us for all the times we are tempted by the hints of light instead of remaining steered by the assurance of your Light. In the name of the true light of the world, Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

Compassionate God, help us to find our way again. Turn us back towards the road spotted with your other pilgrims, wayfarers, and repentant servants. Remind us that your Way is the way of returning. Guide us by your Spirit and by your Light. Help us remember the gifts of our minds, our hearts, and our bodies that we would use them to honor the directives and the invitations you lay upon us. In the leading presence of the Spirit of God we pray. **Amen.**

Benevolent God, help us to trust your ways over our ways. Remind us of your faithfulness as you forgive us our short memory. In your immeasurable love, grace, mercy, and wisdom, do not let us go, regardless of how often we lose our way. Place your wounded hands upon our broken hearts and turn us towards you. This we pray in the presence of the Lord of Light, Lord of Life, and Lord of Resurrection. **Amen.**

*THE LORD'S PRAYER is said in whatever language is closest to your heart*

THE CONCLUSION

Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;

**let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.**

*This follows the outline of Prayer During the Day from CoE  
Prayers are adapted from 'A Litany of Healing' Enriching our Worship 2.  
Collect 1 adapted from John ODonohue, 2-4 adapted from Enuma Okoro*