

Guidelines for submitting prayers to the 2019 United Reformed Church Prayer handbook

General information:

The 2019 United Reformed Church Prayer Handbook has the theme 'Seasons of the Spirit', inviting the whole church to explore the variety of spiritual resources in the Psalms, the 'prayer handbook' of the Church and of Judaism. Writers are encouraged to reflect on the dynamics of praise and lament in the lectionary Psalms in particular; however, prayers on any lectionary reading will be considered. In reflecting on the power of prayer in the Psalms, the editors hope this year's prayers will convey both the honesty of lament and the echoing praise that resounds in the Book of Psalms. What is God saying to the United Reformed Church this year through scripture? What will our words be in return?

1. Submitted prayers should relate to the one of the set lectionary readings (see separate document) which include some of the best-known Bible passages. Please include the Biblical reference(s) and date your prayer relates to; (e.g. 6 January 2019, Epiphany, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14). As we publish two prayers for every Sunday, please consider submitting two prayers for the Sundays you choose, using different readings.
2. Prayers should not exceed 30 lines, each line a maximum of 50 characters (ensuring you include punctuation, spacing, and any desired indentations in the character count). Shorter prayers are welcome.
3. Prayers must not be idiosyncratic and should be suitable for use in a wide variety of settings.
4. Prayers must not be written in rhyme.
5. Please do not submit more than four prayers for consideration.
6. We welcome prayers from children and young people.
7. If your prayer relates to a country (other than the UK) or issue please include a short information paragraph detailing the specific needs that have prompted your prayer – and please remember it must be relevant for use within 2019.
8. When submitting prayers, please include your full postal address, your full name and how you would like to be described (e.g. Jane Jones, local preacher, Townton).
9. If we publish your prayer in the Prayer Handbook we will send you a complimentary copy of the prayer handbook; no fee will be paid.

Copyright

All prayers submitted must be your copyright. They can have been used or published elsewhere, provided you have retained copyright. Unless otherwise agreed, your prayer will become shared copyright with the United Reformed Church. Extracts from the Prayer Handbook may be used on the URC website and in other online media; by submitting a prayer it is assumed you agree to this additional use. If you do not wish to have your prayers used in these ways, please let the editors know.

If you use phrases from another source within your prayer, please indicate that you have done so and give the source, even if it is out of copyright: plagiarism is theft.

Editing the prayers

Please note that it will not be possible to include all prayers submitted in the prayer handbook. **Please also note that we reserve the right to edit your prayers but the editorial team will liaise with the author to ensure that the author is content with any suggested changes.** You have the option to withdraw your prayer for publication if you do not approve the suggested changes.

Submitting your prayers

Deadline for submissions: 4 December 2017

We would prefer to receive prayers by email to: phb@urc.org.uk with the words 'Submitted prayer' in the subject field.

If posting: Please send to: The editors, The Prayer Handbook, The Communications Department, United Reformed Church House, 86 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9RT. Please keep a copy of your prayer for your records; we are unable to return prayers.

If you have any queries, please contact us by emailing email phb@urc.org.uk including the words 'PHB query' in the subject field.

Updated 9 October 2017

Lectionary readings for 2019

Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 2019 [Isaiah 60:1-6](#) [Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14](#) [Ephesians 3:1-12](#) [Matthew 2:1-12](#)

Baptism of the Lord

January 13, 2019
First Sunday after the Epiphany [Isaiah 43:1-7](#) [Psalm 29](#) [Acts 8:14-17](#) [Luke 3:15-17, 21-22](#)

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 20, 2019 [Isaiah 62:1-5](#) [Psalm 36:5-10](#) [1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#) [John 2:1-11](#)

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 27, 2019 [Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10](#) [Psalm 19](#) [1 Corinthians 12:12-31a](#) [Luke 4:14-21](#)

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 3, 2019 [Jeremiah 1:4-10](#) [Psalm 71:1-6](#) [1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#) [Luke 4:21-30](#)

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 10, 2019 [Isaiah 6:1-8, \(9-13\)](#) [Psalm 138](#) [1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#) [Luke 5:1-11](#)

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 17, 2019 [Jeremiah 17:5-10](#) [Psalm 1](#) [1 Corinthians 15:12-20](#) [Luke 6:17-26](#)

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 24, 2019 [Genesis 45:3-11, 15](#) [Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40](#) [1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50](#) [Luke 6:27-38](#)

Transfiguration Sunday

March 3, 2019
(Last Sunday before Lent) [Exodus 34:29-35](#) [Psalm 99](#) [2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2](#) [Luke 9:28-36, \(37-43a\)](#)

Ash

Wednesday

March 6, 2019 [Joel 2:1-2, 12-17](#)
or [Psalm 51:1-17](#) [2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10](#) [Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21](#)
[Isaiah 58:1-12](#)

First Sunday

in Lent [Deuteronomy 26:1-11](#) [Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16](#) [Romans 10:8b-13](#) [Luke 4:1-13](#)
March 10, 2019

Second

Sunday in Lent [Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18](#) [Psalm 27](#) [Philippians 3:17-4:1](#) [Luke 13:31-35](#)
March 17, 2019 **or** [Luke 9:28-36, \(37-43a\)](#)

Third

Sunday in Lent [Isaiah 55:1-9](#) [Psalm 63:1-8](#) [1 Corinthians 10:1-13](#) [Luke 13:1-9](#)
March 24, 2019

Fourth

Sunday in Lent [Joshua 5:9-12](#) [Psalm 32](#) [2 Corinthians 5:16-21](#) [Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32](#)
March 31, 2019

Fifth Sunday

in Lent [Isaiah 43:16-21](#) [Psalm 126](#) [Philippians 3:4b-14](#) [John 12:1-8](#)
April 7, 2019

Liturgy of the Passion

April 14, 2019 [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#) [Psalm 31:9-16](#) [Philippians 2:5-11](#) [Luke 22:14-23:56](#)
Sixth Sunday in Lent **or** [Luke 23:1-49](#)

Monday of Holy

Week [Isaiah 42:1-9](#) [Psalm 36:5-11](#) [Hebrews 9:11-15](#) [John 12:1-11](#)
April 15, 2019

Tuesday of Holy

Week [Isaiah 49:1-7](#) [Psalm 71:1-14](#) [1 Corinthians 1:18-31](#) [John 12:20-36](#)
April 16, 2019

Wednesday of Holy

Week

April 17, 2019

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12:1-3 John 13:21-32

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 2019

Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

April 19, 2019

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42
or
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Holy Saturday

April 20, 2019

Job 14:1-14 Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16 1 Peter 4:1-8 Matthew 27:57-66
or
Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24 John 19:38-42

Resurrection of the

Lord

April 21, 2019

Easter Day

*Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 John 20:1-18
or
Isaiah 65:17-25 Acts 10:34-43 or Luke 24:1-12

Second Sunday of

Easter

April 28, 2019

*Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31
or
Psalm 150

Third Sunday of

Easter

May 5, 2019

*Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

Fourth Sunday of

Easter

May 12, 2019

*Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30

Fifth Sunday of

Easter

May 19, 2019

*Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148 Revelation 21:1-6 John 13:31-35

<u>Sixth Sunday of Easter</u> May 26, 2019	<u>*Acts 16:9-15</u>	<u>Psalm 67</u>	<u>Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5</u>	<u>John 14:23-29</u> or <u>John 5:1-9</u>
<u>Ascension of the Lord</u> May 30, 2019	<u>*Acts 1:1-11</u>	or <u>Psalm 93</u>	<u>Ephesians 1:15-23</u>	<u>Luke 24:44-53</u>
<u>Seventh Sunday of Easter</u> June 2, 2019	<u>*Acts 16:16-34</u>	<u>Psalm 97</u>	<u>Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21</u>	<u>John 17:20-26</u>
<u>Day of Pentecost</u> June 9, 2019	<u>*Acts 2:1-21</u> or <u>Genesis 11:1-9</u>	<u>Psalm 104:24-34, 35b</u>	<u>Romans 8:14-17</u> or <u>Acts 2:1-21</u>	<u>John 14:8-17, (25-27)</u>
<u>Trinity Sunday</u> June 16, 2019 <i>First Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<u>Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31</u> <u>Psalm 8</u>		<u>Romans 5:1-5</u>	<u>John 16:12-15</u>
<u>Proper 7 (12)</u> Second Sunday after Pentecost June 23, 2019	<u>1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a</u> <u>Psalm 42 and 43</u>	<u>Isaiah 65:1-9</u> <u>Psalm 22:19-28</u>	<u>Galatians 3:23-29</u>	<u>Luke 8:26-39</u>
<u>Proper 8 (13)</u> Third Sunday after Pentecost June 30, 2019	<u>2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14</u> <u>Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20</u>	<u>1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21</u> <u>Psalm 16</u>	<u>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</u>	<u>Luke 9:51-62</u>
<u>Proper 9 (14)</u> Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 7, 2019	<u>2 Kings 5:1-14</u> <u>Psalm 30</u>	<u>Isaiah 66:10-14</u> <u>Psalm 66:1-9</u>	<u>Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16</u>	<u>Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</u>
<u>Proper 10 (15)</u> Fifth Sunday after Pentecost July 14, 2019	<u>Amos 7:7-17</u> <u>Psalm 82</u>	<u>Deuteronomy 30:9-14</u> <u>Psalm 25:1-10</u>	<u>Colossians 1:1-14</u>	<u>Luke 10:25-37</u>

Proper 11 (16)

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 21, 2019

[Amos 8:1-12](#)

[Genesis 18:1-10a](#)

[Colossians 1:15-28](#)

[Luke 10:38-42](#)

[Psalms 52](#)

[Psalms 15](#)

Proper 12 (17)

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 28, 2019

[Hosea 1:2-10](#)

[Genesis 18:20-32](#)

[Colossians 2:6-15, \(16-19\)](#)

[Luke 11:1-13](#)

[Psalms 85](#)

[Psalms 138](#)

Proper 13 (18)

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
August 4, 2019

[Hosea 11:1-11](#)

[Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23](#)

[Colossians 3:1-11](#)

[Luke 12:13-21](#)

[Psalms 107:1-9, 43](#)

[Psalms 49:1-12](#)

Proper 14 (19)

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 11, 2019

[Isaiah 1:1, 10-20](#)

[Genesis 15:1-6](#)

[Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16](#)

[Luke 12:32-40](#)

[Psalms 50:1-8, 22-23](#)

[Psalms 33:12-22](#)

Proper 15 (20)

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 18, 2019

[Isaiah 5:1-7](#)

[Jeremiah 23:23-29](#)

[Hebrews 11:29-12:2](#)

[Luke 12:49-56](#)

[Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19](#)

[Psalms 82](#)

Proper 16 (21)

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2019

[Jeremiah 1:4-10](#)

[Isaiah 58:9b-14](#)

[Hebrews 12:18-29](#)

[Luke 13:10-17](#)

[Psalms 71:1-6](#)

[Psalms 103:1-8](#)

[Sirach 10:12-18](#)

Proper 17 (22)

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
September 1, 2019

[Jeremiah 2:4-13](#)

or
[Proverbs 25:6-7](#)

[Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16](#)

[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

[Psalms 81:1, 10-16](#)

[Psalms 112](#)

Proper 18 (23)

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 8, 2019

[Jeremiah 18:1-11](#)

[Deuteronomy 30:15-20](#)

[Philemon 1:1-21](#)

[Luke 14:25-33](#)

[Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18](#)

[Psalms 1](#)

Proper 19 (24)

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 15, 2019

[Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28](#)

[Exodus 32:7-14](#)

[1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)

[Luke 15:1-10](#)

[Psalms 14](#)

[Psalms 51:1-10](#)

Proper 20 (25)

Fifteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
September 22, 2019

[Jeremiah 8:18-9:1](#)

[Amos 8:4-7](#)

[Psalms 79:1-9](#)

[Psalms 113](#)

[1 Timothy 2:1-7](#)

[Luke 16:1-13](#)

Proper 21 (26)

Sixteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
September 29, 2019

[Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15](#)

[Amos 6:1a, 4-7](#)

[Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16](#)

[Psalms 146](#)

[1 Timothy 6:6-19](#)

[Luke 16:19-31](#)

Proper 22 (27)

Seventeenth Sunday after
Pentecost
October 6, 2019

[Lamentations 1:1-6](#)

[Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-](#)

[Lamentations 3:19-26](#)

[4](#)

or

[Psalms 137](#)

[Psalms 37:1-9](#)

[2 Timothy 1:1-14](#)

[Luke 17:5-10](#)

Proper 23 (28)

Eighteenth Sunday after
Pentecost
October 13, 2019

[Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7](#)

[2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c](#)

[Psalms 66:1-12](#)

[Psalms 111](#)

[2 Timothy 2:8-15](#)

[Luke 17:11-19](#)

Proper 24 (29)

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 20, 2019

[Jeremiah 31:27-34](#)

[Genesis 32:22-31](#)

[Psalms 119:97-104](#)

[Psalms 121](#)

[2 Timothy 3:14-4:5](#)

[Luke 18:1-8](#)

Proper 25 (30)

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 27, 2019

[Joel 2:23-32](#)

[Sirach 35:12-17](#)

[Psalms 65](#)

or

[Jeremiah 14:7-10,](#)

[19-22](#)

[Psalms 84:1-7](#)

[2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18](#)

[Lk 18:9-14](#)

All Saints Day

November 1, 2019

[Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18](#)

[Psalms 149](#)

[Ephesians 1:11-23](#)

[Luke 6:20-31](#)

Proper 26 (31)

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2019

(If All Saints not observed on this day)

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm 119:137-144

Psalm 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Proper 27 (32)

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2019

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21

Job 19:23-27a

Psalm 17:1-9

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38

or

Psalm 98

Proper 28 (33)

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2019

Isaiah 65:17-25

Malachi 4:1-2a

Isaiah 12 **

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

Reign of Christ - Proper 29 (34)

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 24, 2019

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 1:68-79 **

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2019

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2019

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm 146:5-10

or
Luke 1:46b-55

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Day

December 25, 2019

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14

St Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

[First Sunday after Christmas](#)

[Day](#)

December 29, 2019

[Isaiah 63:7-9](#) [Psalm 148](#)

Heb 2:10-18

[Matthew 2:13-23](#)

ends

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