

Tuesday 21st April 2020 24/7 prayer

MEDICAL PROFESSION, CARERS & KEY WORKERS

You will need 10-12 pieces of paper in 9cm squares, pencils and a roasting dish or similar full of water.

PAUSE [5 mins]

Let peace surround you as you sit or kneel quietly. Let the worries of your life fall away from you. You are God's child. He loves you and cares for you. He is here with you now and always.

Listen. [Gabriel's oboe](#) by Morricone

REJOICE [10 mins]

Read aloud {responsively if you are a group} Psalm 136 vs 1-10

Sing. My guardian / Do not be afraid (signed version is at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sBnoPLS_2I)

ASK [35 mins]

- For all those caring for patients with Covid-19 in hospitals, communities and surgeries we pray that they will receive adequate protective equipment and that God will guard their health.
- Protection for those most exposed to viral load because of their jobs e.g. doctors, nurses, physios, healthcare assistants and pharmacists. Pray that those drafted into unfamiliar jobs because of the crisis will adapt quickly and make good working relationships. Thank God for the sacrificial impulse of those already retired but returning to the fray.
- Ask God to calm their fears, energise and bear them up to work compassionately, efficiently and safely during long shifts. For their managers ask clarity of thought as they cope with the logistics of patient needs and staff hours. For those working in countries where healthcare is poor or absent {Claire Bedford in Chad}.
- Ask God, our healer, to dispel the irritations and personal differences that are

part of the human condition especially at times of stress. By his spirit enable them to work confidently and graciously in teams, encouraging each other and their patients.

- Pray that God pushes away any debilitating sense of failure and guards their hearts and minds when patients die, both at the time and beyond the critical weeks ahead. For those who don't know God, ask glimpses of grace, in the words and deeds of others and a sense of his love for them. Pray that chaplains are inspired and enabled to bring your hope and peace to patients, staff and their families.
- Pray for protection for the people to whom these and other workers return home and that they be blessed with patience and understanding, especially when there is more to do at home. Ask for those who are alone good friends who can help with practical tasks and support.
- There are many who are working to keep the rhythms and necessities of our lives going in transport, retail, farming, government, funeral tasks, teaching, waste management and other areas. As with the medical staff, many have lost colleagues and family to the virus. Ask that God will bring comfort to them.
- We see God's image in so many people and we thank Him for the volunteers distributing and providing food to the deprived, contacting the vulnerable, helping neighbours and the NHS. Ask God to bless and inspire these people now and beyond these days. Pray that God pours out his spirit on Christian leaders as they communicate the good news of the gospel to this turbulent world, at this time and in the aftermath of coronavirus.
- Pray for the scientists working in God's creation to find a vaccine, tests and a cure for this virus. May they work with the gifts God has given them, in a spirit of co-operation not competition, sharing knowledge and discoveries. Give them clarity and perseverance and a growing sense of wonder amidst the frustrations that leads them to seek the creator of the universe.

Music - [Oh Lord hear my prayer-Taize](#)

While the music plays write the names of any of those prayed for that you know- or those not mentioned- on the paper squares. Fold the corners of the squares into the middle to make a loose envelope and press along the creases. Put the papers, folded sides up, on the surface of the water in the dish. As they unfold release the names and prayers to God who loves us.

YIELD [10 mins]

Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed. [Psalm 57:1]

May your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need. Help us, God our Saviour, for the glory of your name. [Psalm 79:8]

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us. [2 Corinthians 1:10]

Jehovah Rapha, God who heals, we pray for all these things. Would you rise above this present darkness as the Sun of Righteousness with healing in your wings. May this be our prayer -

Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for You. [Jeremiah 32:17]

**BE STILL- For Your presence here, for the opportunity to pray
For the promise of peace
For the beauty of the world, the kindness of people
For those whom we love and love us
We thank you and release into Your hands all we have
prayed this past hour.**

Listen: [Agnus Dei by Karl Jenkins from 'The Armed Man.'](#)

Don't forget to share both prayer requests and anything that you felt the Lord speaking to you during your prayer hour (this could be a verse or scripture passage, a picture, a strong word or a strong sense of something, or something else!) You can share on our dedicated 24/7 email address:

24-7prayer@uptonvale.org.uk

Thank you!