‘Prayers that help me’

Sermon Series for May 2020

Sunday 3 May

Rev Helen Hancock’s contribution written by Michael Leunig

*God give us rain when we expect sun.  
Give us music when we expect trouble.  
Give us tears when we expect breakfast.  
Give us dreams when we expect a storm.  
Give us a stray dog when we expect congratulations.  
God play with us, turn us sideways and around.*

Amen.

Tony Geater spoke on a prayer by Jacob Astley, who was the Royalist Commander at the Battle of Edgehill in 1642 during the English Civil War:

*O Lord thou knowest how busy I must be this day.  
If I forget thee, do not forget me.*

Sunday 10 May

Dave Farris explained how F.R.O.G is his daily prayer – ‘Fully Relying on God’.

Ian Davies talked about ‘arrow prayers’ and how we can always offer a quick prayer to God, feeling confident that he knows us completely and will hear our prayer (even though he may not answer it in the way we would like!).

Sunday 17 May

Today we thought a little about collective prayers. We heard about two traditional Anglican Collects. Stuart Bachelor spoke about the Second Collect at Evening Prayer:

*O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.*

Jen Houghton spoke about the Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

*Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

If you would like to join in Daily Prayer through the Church of England website you can look here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Find more Collects here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/common-material/collects-post-communions>

Sunday 24 May

This week we thought about the ‘tsp’ way of praying including prayers of Thanks, Sorry and

Please. Lauren Godin spoke about:

Thank you for the world so sweet  
Thank for you for the food we eat  
Thank you for the birds that sing  
Thank you God for everything.

Rev Carolyn Lucas spoke about the confession prayer:

**Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore us to the joy of your salvation,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

She also talked about ‘Please’ prayers, especially sharing the difficulty around how God may respond to them.