



# Westville Methodist Church

Sunday, 18 October 2020

## Preparation for Worship

*As you prepare to worship, let the following song help set the scene for you and draw you closer to God. [How great is our God](#)*

## A Prayer for God's Presence

Lord, we thank you for our gathering for worship.

Thank you that you know each of us by name no matter where we are or how we worship. We say that we are dependant on you and desire to trust in you completely.

As we surrender ourselves in adoration we ask that by your Holy Spirit you would inspire us today.

Come fill our lives with your love,

Fill our conversations with your grace and truth,

Fill this meeting with your presence.

We ask this to bring you glory and praise.

**Amen.**

(Based on this [prayer](#).)

**Song** [The Power of your Love](#)

(Click or tap the link to listen)

## Prayer of Thanks

Thank you, Lord, for your care for all creation.

You watch over the sun, whose rays warm us,  
you order the moon, whose light silvers the night,  
even wind and waves are in your hands.

The seasons follow your guidance,

and we give thanks for farmers and their harvests;  
for crops and grains, for dairy produce and proteins;  
for fields sprouting with new growth and ground resting as

fallow.

Even as crops are collected and stored,  
we are mindful that sometimes food is hard to produce;  
the rains didn't come, plants didn't grow,  
or floods or cold have blighted the harvest.

Open our hearts to share nature's bounty  
with all fellow citizens who are in need.

Thank you for your care for us,  
for the way you bring people into our lives to love us.

Thank you for families, for friends, for our church community,  
offering love and support.

You know that we care for each other,  
yet we confess that we love imperfectly, sometimes grudgingly,  
sometimes only half-heartedly.

Give us the courage to apologize when apologies are necessary,  
and to do our best, modelling ourselves on Jesus Christ,  
who gave his whole life in loving service to others.

Knowing your care for us,  
we are confident as we lift up those we love who are grieving,  
or who face health challenges of various kinds.

We all long for safety, especially in times like these.  
Where there is violence, we need your peace,  
where there is instability, your calming presence,  
where there is hatred, your abundant love, and  
where there is suspicion and fear, your assurance.

God of great gifts, we long for a harvest of righteousness;  
equip us as your church to be agents of your kingdom,  
ambassadors of hope, even in such a time as this.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

(From [Leading Worship](#))

## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Bible Reading** [Matthew 22:15 - 22](#) (Click/tap the link for the reading)

**Message** [It's A Trap!](#) (Click/tap on the link to listen)

**Song** [How Great Thou Art](#) (Click/tap on title to go to song)

*In services at the church we take up an offering. In this virtual setting you're invited to dedicate the offering you've made or perhaps would like to make. If you'd like to know more or contribute today please click, [Giving](#) or see details below. Thank you.*

## Prayer of Intercession

In awe and wonder, O Lord, we look to you and all you've made.  
In unfathomably distant stars and in the perceptible nearness  
of thunder storms we see your power and majesty displayed.  
Therefore we come humbly, asking for wisdom as we pray for

needs in the complex world around us.

We pray for the places where this earth continues to be exploited or damaged by human activity, and its creatures misused or abused. We pray for people who carry heavy burdens of oppression, people who still lack basic freedom. We especially pray for those areas where war and conflict continues to rage and sow its destructive effect.

***Holy God, holy and strong – hear our prayer.***

God of all power, you said, "Let there be light", and there was light. In Jesus, the Christ, that light came into the world, light which no darkness can quench. Let your light shine . . .

We pray for friends, family and strangers alike who feel themselves trapped in darkness, whatever the source of that sense. We lift to you those who are held in the grasp of pain, physical, emotional or any other, people perhaps close to losing all hope. We embrace in prayer those who find themselves rejected, marginalised or outcast, who feel disconnected for whatever reason. We gently offer to you those who walk in grief, who remember a now-lost loved one, place or time. Grant your healing illumination to us all.

***Holy God, holy and strong – hear our prayer.***

God of life, when you exhaled your Spirit upon your creation what you'd made was imbued with life itself. Thank you Holy Spirit for your gift of renewal and refreshment and for talents and abilities to declare your wonder.

We pray for your Church, for her leaders and the multiplicity of ministries of your people. Continue to call out leaders, inspire the faithful and give strength and endurance to all who reach out to others in love in so many different ways. We bear up particularly those faithful followers who find themselves under

threat of persecution and in fear of losing their lives. Keep your church vigilant, available and willing to serve the least among us, bringing your life into common places.

***Holy God, holy and strong – hear our prayer.***

And now, Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One in Three and Three in One, Bind us together in unity and love.

We pray that as we go about our daily lives amidst our delights, disappointments, unexpected events, change, sorrows and celebrations, we will discover multiple aspects of the Trinity at work in us helping us to find reasons for hope and joy.

These prayers are offered in the mighty and matchless name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus who is Christ.

**Amen.**

*You're welcome to offer additional, personal prayers at this time or to simply be still for a moment before concluding this worship time.*

**Song** [Way Maker](#)

(Click/tap on title to go to song)

**Benediction**

Go into your week knowing you are  
loved perfectly,  
saved eternally,  
and empowered as a disciple of Jesus  
to share God's love with everyone you meet.

**Amen.**

(~ Carol Penner)

*Take some time to "wind down" as you listen to the song and conclude this worship in reflection: [King of My Heart](#) (Click/tap on title to listen)*

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## Westville Methodist Church

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*Compiled from original material and several online resources.*

### Church Bank details:

A/C NAME: Westville Methodist Church

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