

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH

Pray each day/week, for a group of our churches.

Pray that their joy in walking with the Lord may be seen in their strengths.



Our Circuit churches are:

Bradfield Methodist Church
Tilehurst Methodist Church
Wesley Methodist Church

Burnt Hill Methodist Church
Emmanuel Methodist Church
Whitley Methodist Church

Trinity Church, Earley
Christ Church, Woodley

Caversham Methodist Church
Woodley Airfield Church

Oakley Methodist Church
Oakridge Methodist Church
Kempshott Methodist Church
Trinity Methodist Church

St. Andrews Methodist Church
Old Basing Methodist Church
Christ Church, Chineham

Tadley Methodist Church
Silchester Methodist Church
Burghfield Common Methodist Church

Tadley Common Methodist Church
Mortimer Methodist Church

Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you.'
Love brings Hope, Hope gives us more personal Peace,
Peace has its own Joy.
Love does so many things- Love overcomes.
With hope and peaceful joy in our hearts from our Lord Jesus,
we can't help but Love.

Marion Wales written for The Light of Advent 2017

**Here is a creative prayer suggestion from
The Methodist Church, Prayer Cards, Creative Prayer for All.**

Take a large sheet of paper and write 'God' in the middle.
Doodle the names of people you want to pray for or images which represent them.
When you have finished write 'Amen' at the bottom of the page.

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Prayers December 2022 to February 2023

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH (see Nehemiah 8: 8-10)



*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known
way."*

From a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957) and quoted by King George VI Christmas 1939.

A prayer as we Dwell in the Word

Loving God,
Although our destination is not yet clear,
May we trust in your graceful promises;
Though we are uncertain of ourselves,
May we be rooted in your loving regard;
Though our attention is inclined to wander,
May we hear the things you are saying;
Though we often neglect your influence,
May we be convicted of your power to change,
In Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Dwelling in the Word text: Philippians 4: 4-9 NRSV

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

A prayer of dedication:

*In all things-
the affections of my heart-
the efforts of my body,
the fruits of my thinking,
and the longings of my spirit
I offer myself to you.*

A prayer based on Zephaniah 3:17

Gracious God,
We rest in your presence.
You are with us and within us.
You are our Saviour and Friend.
We share your delight
In all you have created.
We wonder at your joy
And gladness at our response to you.
May we know your loving embrace
Calming our fears.
May we know your joyful energy
Reviving our lives.
For we ask this in Jesus' name,
Amen

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

Zephaniah 3:17 NRSV