

Central Methodist Church

Letchworth Garden City



Prayer in the morning

Gathering

O Lord, open our lips.

And we shall declare your praise.

New every morning is your love,¹
great God of light,
and you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us the desire to serve you,
to live peacefully with our neighbours,
and to devote each day to your Son,
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord.

Amen

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn

Break thou the bread of life

<https://youtu.be/mPGiVA731IM>



Listening and responding to God's word

1st reading: Isaiah 55.1-5

Talk one

Hymn

His love endures forever

<https://youtu.be/ks86XIVKaB8>

2nd reading: Mark 6.35-44

Talk two

Hymn

I will offer up my life

<https://youtu.be/5tYEo0DXclE>

A poem by Jean Wise

You fed 5000, Lord?

I panic with feeding 10 people on a Sunday.

And that is after weeks planning, shopping, stewing over details.
The multiplications of loaves and fishes – what a miracle to ponder.

My eyes keep falling though, on the phrase “broken pieces.”

You tenderly gathered these leftovers,
these unused fragments together

– to be drawn upon later I am sure.

You do the same with our brokenness too.

Presently the hurts, mistakes, cruel words pile up – of little benefit.

Yet I firmly believe, Lord,
you fold them into your heart for future purpose.

I don't know how. I don't know when.

But you will work a miracle again with my broken pieces.

I am amazed at this miracle –
one that appears in all four gospels –
that demonstrates your resourcefulness.

How can I ever doubt that you won't supply my needs?

If you call me to your work,
you will provide for whatever you ask me to do.

I bring to you my meagre offering –
small, insignificant like five loaves and two tiny sardines –
and you create a feast beyond imagination.

Your touch takes my impossible inadequacies
and transforms them into far-reaching possibilities.

My human eyes only see obstacles where you see opportunity.

Impossible to us, achievable to you.

Only with you.

Only with your touch.

A miracle.

*Intercessions are offered
Silence may be kept.*

Loving God,²

**Build us up as your people
as we work and pray together.**

Refresh our vision of your love.

**Open our eyes to new possibilities
of mission in our community.**

**Use our gifts and talents ,
as we respond to our neighbours.**

**Give us patience and understanding
with one another and with ourselves.**

**Help us to follow Christ and serve you
in our daily lives.**

For Jesus' sake. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Amen.

The Conclusion

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

<https://youtu.be/oq9vcQqI93U>

May the beauty of God³
be reflected in your eyes,
the love of God
be reflected in your hands,
the wisdom of God
be reflected in your words,
and the knowledge of God
flow from your heart,
that all might see,
and seeing, believe

**Lord our God,
as with all creation
we offer you the life of this new day,
give us grace to love and serve you
to the praise of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



This is your world I step upon,⁴
the air I breathe,
the food I eat.

This is your world I step upon,
the sounds I hear,
the people I meet.

This is your world I step upon,
your footsteps ,
where I place my feet.

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¹ Rev. Daniel McLain Hixon

² <http://www.broughmethodistchurch.org.uk/page16.htm>

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