

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer Order of Service

The Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer takes place on the first Monday in November – this year on 2 November. Here is a Suggested Order of Service to help you celebrate the Day of Prayer alongside Baptist sisters and brothers all over the world.

With thanks to the Revd Pam Searle for producing the suggested Order of Service.

A powerpoint version and a prayer guide are also available.



BAPTIST WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER

Coming back to my Father

This year's Day of Prayer may be different from your usual gathering. You may be holding your meeting over the internet, or you may be able to gather as a small group in a house or church building. You may be celebrating the Day of Prayer individually, perhaps agreeing with your group to all pray at the same time in your own houses.

Whatever your situation, please feel free to use the following materials, prepared by the Revd Pam Searle, to join with our sisters and brothers in celebrating the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer this year. A Powerpoint is also available, together with a Prayer Guide from our sisters around the world.

Where to send your Offering

Please send your offering to:

Hilary Treavis, Baptist Union of Great Britain, Baptist House, PO Box 44, 129 Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8RT.

Please make cheques payable to 'The Baptist Union of Great Britain'.

Or you can pay by bank transfer using these details:-

Baptist Union of GB Home Mission Fund

Sort Code: 40-19-35

Account: 41083635

Please use reference: BWWD

If you would like an acknowledgement of your offering, please indicate this, and provide an email address where possible or SAE as this cuts down on administration and postage costs.

All offerings will be collated and sent to the European Baptist Women's Union for onward transmission to the Baptist World Alliance Women's Department.

Welcome

Online

Once everyone has joined into the zoom or electronic service, help attendees to feel welcome and relaxed by getting everyone to introduce themselves from their homes or their places of worship.

Gathering

If in a church/home setting have music playing in the background and spend a few minutes greeting each other.

Then the leader welcomes the congregation to the service with these words:

Leader

Our celebratory service this year is based on coming back to the Fathers' arms. We pray that Jesus will be at the heart of our service today and that He will hold us tenderly and will strengthen us and all Baptist women participating in this international event. We pray for women and young ladies who have lost their way from the Father's embrace and have and are experiencing forms of injustice in our communities that God would use this time to heal their wounds and will equip us to speak up into the injustice and make a difference in their lives.

Call to worship

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!
1 John 3:1

Lord I come to you (The power of your love)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIMagHNj3mg>

Prayers

Loving Father

There are times when, no matter how I call you seem distant and silent.

When I simply cannot hear your voice

Give me courage for those times

To pray unceasingly, to cry out to you never ending.

Help me Jesus to understand your silence and that it is in those times I am becoming less so that you can become more.

Help me father to know your quiet still voice

Remind me Holy Spirit of the times you have spoken unmistakably to me and to others for me.

And let those times keep and sustain me until I hear your voice again.

Amen

Leader: Loving God
We come to you voiceless
Ashamed
Filled with pride
Looking backwards

Response: Help us Father to look forwards
Help us Father to say sorry for not speaking up
Forgive us Father we did not know what we were doing

Leader: Father we have not listened for your voice
We have not been patient
We have taken our lives into our own hands
We have gone our separate way,

Response: Father clear our minds so we only hear you
Give us strength to wait for you
Take our lives and your will be done
Have your way Lord

Leader: The LORD said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by. 'Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper"
(1 Kings 19:11-12, NIV)

Leader: The Lord gave Elijah clear instruction, to stand on the mountain in His presence, but He didn't come in the ways Elijah (or we) would have expected: in a gust of wind, or the tremors of an earthquake or even the burning heat of a fire. He came and continues to come to us in a gentle whisper.

Songs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS6tQYJVO80>

My life is in your hands

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EgYBXYFYSxc>

All things are possible

Poem

It's hard to return
You might not accept me
It's hard to return
You might laugh at me
It's hard to return
You might reject me
Come back to me child
I will never forsake you
Come back to me child
I will always love you
Come back to me child
I delight in you

Prayer

Gracious God you came to us in fulfilment of your promises
Your every word wrapped in a child
You loved me so much that you gave up everything for me
Breaking down every barrier
I lost you for a little while
I'm sorry I turned away
I was alone, I come back to you Lord so that I might share your love and eternity
I come back to you Lord so that I might become one with you.
Teach me strength Lord help me accept your mercy and to embrace your blessing Lord
I know that you love me and I want to serve you Lord this day and everyday through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

Song

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gKsPMR00_Y

Worthy is the lamb

Scripture reading

Luke 15:11-32
The Prodigal Son

Sermon/Talk

Coming back to my Father

Song and Prayer Time

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVfzxazTQNM>

Agnus Dei

During Agnus Dei, ladies are invited to pray in pairs, for each other, and for the requests in the prayer guide

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVfzxazTQNM>

Lord I need you

During this song, the Leader invites ladies to come forward or kneel if they feel led to do so. If ladies choose to give testimony be open for that

Offering

Prayer for offering

Coming to the Father for Nourishment

You may like to celebrate Communion at this point in the service, if that is appropriate for your group.

Prayer

Great and wonderful God.

We thank you for the blessing you have showered over us

You have blessed us with so much love and given us so much.

We have met with you in an amazing and powerful way.

Thank you Father for your promises which are more precious than we could ever hope or imagine.

Help us Lord to continue to receive your nourishment in word and serve you in our renewed relationship with you.

Amen

Blessing

All

Lord God,

we rejoice in our returning back to you in your greatness and power,

your kindness, gentleness and love,

your mercy and justice.

Leader

Equip us by your Holy Spirit

to be continually guided by you in our thoughts,

and words and deeds,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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