

Ordinary Miracles



St Aidan's Uniting Church
21st July 2024

Call to Worship

God meets us in Christ,
calling us into relationship
to look for new beginnings
that hardly seem possible.

**Let us respond to that call
and worship God.**

Prayers

God, who walked this earth in Jesus the Christ,
and responded to the needs of the people,
feeding them physically and spiritually,
we bring to you today
our spiritual needs in the form of our confession.

When we have used miracle stories as excuses
not to act on the needs of others,
or to assume their faith is not enough,
or that miracles do not teach us anything today:

Loving God, forgive us.

When we have seen the sending of the disciples
and decided it was not for us,
or heard the invitation to retreat after busyness
and decided we have not time to recover,

Loving God, forgive us.

When we turn away from the whole person
and forget their needs,
either physical or spiritual,
or any other types of needs they have,

Loving God, forgive us.

Help us to start again
responding to your call –
a call that is both to share your love
and to know it for ourselves –
help us to hear your voice
calling us to respond to the people we meet. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance

God shares love and grace
with all people,
inviting us into relationship
and encouraging us to respond
in that relationship.

Know that as an act of grace,
you are loved, you are forgiven:

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Intercession

God of love,
we pray for the people of our world
who need a miracle in their lives,
or at least some intervention from somewhere
to make their lives better.

We pray for the people around the world
who are affected by conflict and war –
whether this is international violence
or the violence that happens in family relationships.

We pray the victims of violence
may experience peace;
that the perpetrators of violence
may treat their victims as fellow humans
and have a change of heart
that they may also change their behaviours:

God of all people, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people around the world
who have no homes to live in
or food for their table,
or shelter for their families.

We pray for those who go without
that somehow enough will be shared with them
so they may have a hope for a future;
we also pray for those who write policies

that they find a way to share that hope:

God of all people, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people around the world
who have inadequate access to health care
or rehabilitation after disability;
or ability to join in all aspects of community life

We pray there may be healing
and the people available to facilitate it;
we also pray for the health workers
as they seek to make a difference
though the need is too much:

God of all people, hear our prayer.

We pray for the people who are seeking spiritually,
who feel an emptiness in their lives
although they may not know how to fill it.

We pray they may be nourished
in their spirituality
and be supported in finding ways to do this:

God of all people, hear our prayer.

Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

God meets us in Christ,
calling us into relationship
to look for new beginnings
that hardly seem possible.

Now God sends us out
calling to respond to that relationship
in all that we do.

**Let us respond to that call
and in our daily actions
we worship God.**