

Prayer of Adoration

The Methodist Conference 2021 started this weekend and our prayer of adoration is entitled Conference Prayer and was written by Deacon Angela Shereni for this year's Conference.

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To you, O God of all creation be praise and glory!

For you have brought everything into existence.

We thank you, loving God for the way you embrace and nurture every life.

You have called us to know you, to love one another, not only love those who love us, but even love our enemies as you have loved us.

You have called us to live and act justly.

Help us to recognise the rights of the poor and the oppressed,

the excluded and the marginalised,

and to know the kingdom of God is inclusive.

May your Church be found serving among those who lack resources, standing firm for justice, love, and peace in the world.

Give your Church the spirit of wisdom and guidance

that we may discern the times in which we live,

that we may be inspired, encouraged to serve and worship you

in new ways, and in new places.

Let God's people live, not in fear, but in love, justice, and peace. Amen.

Prayer of confession:

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Loving God,

today we are stepping into this holy space

knowing that you will meet us here.

Thank you, Jesus, that we belong to your family,

not because of what we do,

but because of whose we are: children of God.

God of the streets and crowds of the world,

we come to you in sorrow and shame

for the times we have allowed prejudice to distance us from those you would draw close to.

Raise us up to love and serve you.

We bring to you the times when we have been too proud to ask for help and too distracted to help others.

Raise us up to love and serve you.

We acknowledge the times we have been quick to judge those we don't easily identify with, and ignored those whose plight we have not taken to heart.

Raise us up to love and serve you.

Thank you, God, that when we reach out to you you are already reaching out to us.
Forgive us when we forget that it is you who brings help and healing.

Silence

Lord Jesus,
we thank you for restoring our relationship with you and one another through your forgiveness and grace.
As we step out in thankfulness,
may we also reach out across barriers
to give and receive, to restore and to heal, in your name. **Amen.**