

Rebuilding hope and confidence: Prayers & Bible verses

Prayers

We are all walking the Emmaus Road now,
moving from where we have been
to where life is leading us.

No matter how we experience or interpret
what is happening now and what lies ahead;
no matter how we may feel on a given day,
what we can be assured of is
that Christ is with us.

We hope for a better day,
and pray for that day to come.

For now, we are walking on the road.
Take heart that you do not walk alone.
*Bishop Mariann Budde,
Bishop of Washington, The Episcopal Church*

Let us pray that we as Christians
are called to follow God's example,
as dearly loved children to walk
in the way of love, just as Christ loved us
and gave himself up for us
as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Let us pray that we Christians,
alongside other people of faith and of goodwill,
live in and serve the whole community -
where there is no longer Jew or Greek,
there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female....
for all of us are one in Christ Jesus. (*Galatians 3:28*)

We are here to serve our communities
and to bless them.
To carry hope and peace,
and to demonstrate the love of God to everyone.
Servants and neighbours to those around us.
Lord Hear Our Prayer.

*Adapted from a sermon by Rt. Hon. & Rt. Revd. Dame Sarah Mullaly,
Bishop of London*

God of compassion, God-with-us, be with us in these times of uncertainty. Break into our lives, rekindle our hope and breathe love into our communities,

that we might find new ways of supporting and upholding one another, bearing witness to your inclusive love of family, friend, neighbour, and stranger alike.

May our love for those most vulnerable in our community become a beacon of hope for all.

In faith, hope, and love, in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Rev Denise Liersch Uniting Church of Australia

Gracious God, whose loving kindness has no limits, teach us afresh the way of Christ.

Where we have felt discouraged, renew us through signs of hope;

where we have been tempted to give up,

grant us strength and faith to face the day;

where we have grown anxious about the future,

give us courage to plant the seeds of tomorrow

in acts of radical love today.

Renew us by your Spirit and set us free to serve you

so that the whole of creation may rejoice in your name. Amen.

Richard Andrew, Darlington Methodist District Chair

Breath of life and love,
disturb the dark clouds

of fear and anxiety

that trouble our lives,

and in this gentle breeze,

as clouds disperse,

may we sense hope

and healing, as your light

breaks in and through

our hearts and minds,

and shines out in the world.

© *John Birch*

We will walk in hope and confidence,

trusting each other, loving each other -

and together we will rebuild the hope and confidence

of families and communities everywhere -

always reaching forward as God's hands and feet

and reflecting a life filled with purpose and meaning,

grace and love, peace and joy.

Sheran Harper

Bible verses

Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it.
Never tell your neighbours to wait until tomorrow
if you can help them now.
Proverbs 3:27-28 (GNT)

Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins
and will raise up the age-old foundations;
you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls,
Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.
Isaiah 58:12

Some of you will rebuild the deserted ruins of your cities.
Then you will be known as a rebuilders of walls and a restorer of homes.
Isaiah 58:12 (NLT)

As for me, I watch in hope for the Lord,
I wait for God my Saviour;
my God will hear me.
The day for building your walls will come,
the day for extending your boundaries.
Micah 7:7; 11

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

Jesus has the power of God, by which he has given us everything we need
to live and to serve God. We have these things because we know him.
Jesus called us by his glory and goodness.
2 Peter 1:3 (NCV)

St. Augustine quote on hope

Hope has two daughters; their names are anger and courage. Anger that
things are the way they are, and courage to see that they do not remain
as they are.