

Monthly Prayer Gathering for November

St Matthews

Bible Reflection from Psalm 18v1-19

For the director of music. Of David the servant of the Lord. He sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said:

¹ I love you, Lord, my strength.

² The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;

my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise,
and I have been saved from my enemies.

⁴ The cords of death entangled me;
the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.

⁵ The cords of the grave coiled around me;
the snares of death confronted me.

⁶ In my distress I called to the Lord;
I cried to my God for help.

From his temple he heard my voice;
my cry came before him, into his ears.

⁷ The earth trembled and quaked,
and the foundations of the mountains shook;
they trembled because he was angry.

⁸ Smoke rose from his nostrils;
consuming fire came from his mouth,
burning coals blazed out of it.

⁹ He parted the heavens and came down;
dark clouds were under his feet.

¹⁰ He mounted the cherubim and flew;

he soared on the wings of the wind.

¹¹ He made darkness his covering, his canopy
around him –
the dark rain clouds of the sky.

¹² Out of the brightness of his presence clouds
advanced,
with hailstones and bolts of lightning.

¹³ The Lord thundered from heaven;
the voice of the Most High resounded.

¹⁴ He shot his arrows and scattered the enemy,
with great bolts of lightning he routed them.

¹⁵ The valleys of the sea were exposed
and the foundations of the earth laid bare

at your rebuke, Lord,
at the blast of breath from your nostrils.

¹⁶ He reached down from on high and took hold
of me;

he drew me out of deep waters.

¹⁷ He rescued me from my powerful enemy,
from my foes, who were too strong for me.

¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my disaster,
but the Lord was my support.

¹⁹ He brought me out into a spacious place;
he rescued me because he delighted in me.

Praying for COP26 Conference

- Pray for our world leaders as they gather in Glasgow. Please pray they may find consensus and agreement as they set new climate goals.
- Pray for wisdom for us as individuals and as a church as we seek to play our part in caring for God's creation.
- Pray for people to see the solution to climate change ultimately lies in people turning back to God.

Praying for Social Justice Ministries across Hastings

- Give thanks for a recent meeting at King's Church bringing together various social justice ministries operating across the town.
- Please pray for the Foodbank and CAP seeking to help people struggling with hunger and debt.
- Please pray for the anti-trafficking hub based at King's Church.
- Pray for Reflect helping women and men facing crisis pregnancy situations to talk through the issues with trained workers.
- Pray for the Transom Trust seeking to help the homeless in Hasting by providing supported housing.
- Please pray for a new sense of churches working together across the town.
- Pray for love and compassion for everyone these ministries meet and for many opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Praying for St Ethelburga's Church

- Give thanks for their link with St Leonards CE Primary School and the recent PCC visit to the school. Pray for Matthew and their "Open the Book Team" giving assemblies.
- Give thanks for a recent successful grant application providing funding for some urgent roof repairs. Please pray for a second grant application currently under consideration.
- Pray for their all-age service with breakfast this Sunday. Pray that many guests would come following adverts to Rainbows, Brownies, Messy Church and Morning Stars.
- Pray for Messy Church on 21 November and for our future plans to develop Messy Church.
- Give thanks that the diocese has been very positive about their latest re-ordering plans. Please pray as they finalise the faculty documentation by the end of the month.
- Pray for a long-term solution for the St Leonard's Church site.

Praying for St Matthew's Church

- Give thanks for the appointment of a Families and Youth Pastor
- Give thanks for the ongoing good numbers at our 11am service. Please pray for the new families to come to Christian faith. Please pray for Sunday Club and Creche running each week.
- Pray for new people to know how to best use their gifts at church.
- Give thanks for Tom Morgan's work as Treasurer and for God providing all we need financially this year. Please for our Advent Gift Day on 28 November.
- Please continue to pray for our midweek community ministries especially Smarties, Friendlies and The Hub.
- Pray for the PCC as we seek to put together a new Mission Action Plan for the diocese. This will eventually form the church vision for 2022-23. The PCC next meeting on 22 November.
- Pray that the roof and organ repairs can happen before the end of the month.

Praying for Individuals

- Pray for newcomers to church.
- Pray for members of our church family unable to come to church especially Diana Aidam, Dorothy Aimes, Peggy Blythe, Celia Bray, Vi Chambers, Thelma Fogarty, Frances Ross and Freda Tuke.
- Pray for the family and friends of Pam Schlaefli (a resident of The Crest) whose funeral is this week.