

Prayer Gathering for October 2025



St Matthews

helping local people follow Jesus Christ

Psalm 62

For the director of music. For Jeduthun. A psalm of David.

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| <p>¹ Truly my soul finds rest in God;
my salvation comes from him.</p> <p>² Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I shall never be shaken.</p> <p>³ How long will you assault me?
Would all of you throw me down –
this leaning wall, this tottering fence?</p> <p>⁴ Surely they intend to topple me
from my lofty place;
they take delight in lies.</p> <p>With their mouths they bless,
but in their hearts they curse.</p> <p>⁵ Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.</p> <p>⁶ Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I shall not be shaken.</p> <p>⁷ My salvation and my honour depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.</p> | <p>⁸ Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.</p> <p>⁹ Surely the lowborn are but a breath,
the highborn are but a lie.
If weighed on a balance, they are nothing;
together they are only a breath.</p> <p>¹⁰ Do not trust in extortion
or put vain hope in stolen goods;
though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.</p> <p>¹¹ One thing God has spoken,
two things I have heard:
‘Power belongs to you, God,
¹² and with you, Lord, is unfailing love’;
and, ‘You reward everyone
according to what they have done.’</p> |
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A Time of Sharing

How have we seen God at work in our lives and in our church in the last month?

Praying for People

- Give thanks that Nicky has found a new role at a church near Manchester.
- Pray for the housebound members of our church especially Diana Aidam, Vi Chambers, Frances Ross, Rob Thurgood and Freda Tuke.
- Pray for those unwell especially Dorothy Aimes in hospital.

Praying for St Matthew's Church

- Give thanks for the new people who have joined us on a Sunday. Please pray they would settle into the life of the church. Pray for all those completing the 321 course.
- Give thanks for the popularity of the Macmillan Coffee morning and for all the guests who came along.
- Pray for our recent Men's Breakfast and some good discussions on the theme of work.
- Give thanks that 8 young people came our first "Ignite" meeting in September. Please pray for the next meeting on 19 October.
- Give thanks for all the generous donations to the Foodbank at our Harvest Service.
- Give thanks for a successful start to the monthly SGP training course and please pray for Spencer Shaw (SGP Director) coming to preach at St Matthews on 19 October.
- Give thanks for all who help with our work with children and young people on a Sunday morning. Please pray for two more leaders and one more helper for Sunday Club.
- Give thanks that the Church Centre refurbishment is progressing and is nearly complete.
- Give thanks for the opportunities Matthew has to lead collective worship at St Paul's OE Academy and pray for year 5 coming to visit the church on Wednesday 15 October.

Praying for St Ethelburga's Church and the Hastings Deanery

- Bishop Martin would like to allocate Matthew a training curate in July 2026. Please pray that the Lord would send the right person for this role.
- Please pray for Matthew's wider role as Rural Dean. Give thanks for a constructive meeting between the licensed clergy and a number of borough councillors on Monday 29 September. Pray for fruit from this meeting.
- Pray for the Deanery Finance Meeting on Tuesday 7 October with John Preston (the Diocesan Secretary). Pray for all the parishes as they consider their parish share contributions for 2026 and for the Diocesan plans to use some national church funding to invest in Hastings.
- Pray for the Deanery Synod Meeting on Thursday 16 October with Lesley Hurst (Diocesan Director of Education) and Mark Talbot (Chief Executive of DCAT) on the subject of schools and churches partnering together.
- Please pray for the ongoing negotiations about someone taking a possible lease of the St Leonard's Church site.

Praying for the All Saints Lindfield

- Give thanks for our partnership with All Saints Lindfield and generous ongoing funding of our Families and Youth Work.
- Please for their welcome and help of a number finding their way into church, spiritually hungry but with no Christian background. 'Grow Together' is a new group that Hugh Bourne (their Associate Vicar) leads to scoop them up and explore the Christian faith
- 'Forget Me Knots' - a new ministry starting next week - for those living with dementia or other cognitive impairment. Our prayer is that it will draw numbers from the local area into the orbit of the church
- We're holding our first Men's Weekend Away (10-12 Oct) for a number of years. Please pray that those on the fringe will be drawn in, relationships will deepen and bear fruit in discipleship, 1-1s, etc. in the months to come
- October is our stewardship season. Please pray that the Lord would provide financially through His people, and that those who don't yet give will learn to do so as part of following the Lord.

Praying for our World

- Pray for peace in an increasingly fractured and divided world.
- Pray for the current proposals for peace in the Middle East.
- Pray for the people of Ukraine and a path to peace.
- Pray for the persecuted churches especially fellow Christians leaving in daily fear of arrest.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment for all world leaders.