

This week, we're sharing ways we can pray to ask God to continue the work of changing our hearts to reflect his own.

There are a number of ways we can understand what prayer is. One way is to see prayer as the act of conversing with God in an ongoing exchange of thoughts, feelings and desires. Prayer is communicating with God and is vital to a growing relationship with him.

It may also be helpful to think of prayer in different categories, such as prayers of adoration, thanksgiving, confession or petition. Each have an important place in our journey of faith. This week, as we seek to listen, learn, and move to serve the world around us, we'll focus on prayers of confession (*acknowledging our sin*) and prayers of petition (*requests for God to do his redemptive work*).

Feel free to pray these prayers or your own throughout this week.

Prayer of Confession

from the Book of Common Prayer

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.
Amen

Prayer of Petition

from Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.