

We each have our own ideas about what prayer is and whom we pray to, so please do enter into these prayers in whatever way seems right to you; however one good way is to use a familiar Hebrew word, “amen”, which means roughly “yes, I agree, count me in with that.” Amen?

To begin, a reading from the Gospel according to St Mark:

Jesus called them and said to them, ‘You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

So let us pray.

God our Father, thank you for the Queen, and for her long life of service at the heart of this nation and Commonwealth. As we receive the news that she has had to withdraw from tomorrow’s Service of Thanksgiving we pray for healing and peace. Knowing that it is more blessed to give than to receive, we ask that she may experience your blessing in all its fullness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord may we her subjects learn from Her Majesty's life of devoted service, and know in our own lives that it is by faithfully doing our duty that we grow, by grace, into the people you have made us to be. We ask that all who govern under her may follow her example, as she has steadfastly striven to follow the example of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

We conclude with the Accession Prayer:

ALMIGHTY God, who rulest over all the kingdoms of the world, and dost order them according to thy good pleasure: We yield thee unfeigned thanks, for that thou wast pleased to set thy Servant our Sovereign Lady, Queen ELIZABETH, upon the Throne of this Realm. Let thy wisdom be her guide, and let thine arm strengthen her; let truth and justice, holiness and righteousness, peace and charity, abound in her days; direct all her counsels and endeavours to thy glory, and the welfare of her subjects; give us grace to obey her cheerfully for conscience sake, and let her always possess the hearts of her people; let her reign be long and prosperous, and crown her with everlasting life in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.