

MOTHERS' UNION

MIDDAY PRAYERS FOR

OCTOBER 2025

THEME – KEYS OF THE

KINGDOM

Reflection for 'Keys of the Kingdom'

The disciples asked Jesus 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?', Jesus told them that 'Unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles their self like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.' Matthew 18:1-4

During October we have both Prisons week and Anti-Slavery Day. We remember that all those who are caught up in modern slavery and those who are in prison are still children of God and worthy of God's love and forgiveness. Let us heed Jesus' commandment to 'love your neighbour as yourself.'

Monday – Prison

Loving Lord, we pray for those in prison, their families outside the prison gates and all who work in the criminal justice system. We pray for the families of prisoners who serve their own sentence on the outside, living with stigma and shame. We pray also for the victims of crime, that they may know that God hears them as they cry out in their pain and frustration. Help them to find peace. Amen.

Tuesday – Forgiveness

God of love and strength, Your Son forgave His enemies even while he was suffering shame and death. Strengthen those who suffer. When they are accused, save them from speaking in hate, when they are rejected save them from bitterness, when they are imprisoned, save them from despair. Give us grace to discern the truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

(Adapted from Anglican Church of Canada. Alternative Service Book)

Wednesday – Children

Father of all, let us be like children each and every day, seeing the wonders of Your creation through new eyes. Let us be in awe of all you have created. As the season begins to change let us find joy in falling leaves and crisp fresh mornings. Let us remember that we are stewards of Your world and treat it with the love and care that it deserves. Amen

Thursday – The Kingdom of heaven

King of Heaven, lead us ever onward to Your Kingdom. Let us now the breadth of Your blessings and the length of Your promises. We desire nothing more than to dwell, with You, so let us be like children and enter in, where we can sit at Your feet, watch You on Your throne and enjoy Your perfect love. Amen

(Adapted from Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226)

Friday – Our Father

Heavenly Father, may everyone upon the earth honour You. May Your rule be accepted and Your purpose accomplished. Forgive us the wrong we have done and let us forgive those who have wronged us. Give us a childlike love for You, which casts out all fear and while we gaze on You, let our love for You grow more and more each day. Amen

Saturday – Social Justice

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us, help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbours. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

(Episcopal Church of the United States of America. Book of common prayer)

Final Blessing Prayer

May God give us light to guide us when we cannot see His way, courage to support us when we are afraid, and love to unite us all, His children, now and evermore. Amen

Wave of Prayer

1-3 October: **Nzara** in South Sudan; **North Kigezi** in Uganda; **Kivu** in Rwanda; **Damataru** in Nigeria; **Auckland** in New Zealand and **Vanuatu and New Caledonia** in Vanuatu

5-7 October: **Mbhashe** in South Africa; **Kitgum** in Uganda; **Ukwa & Ilesa** SouthWest in Nigeria; **Tasmania** in Australia and **Central Melanesia** in Solomon Islands

8-10 October: **Ethiopia; Zanzibar** in Tanzania; **Awgu/Aninri** in Nigeria; **Freetown** in Sierre Leone; **Monmouth** in Wales and **Malaita** in Solomon Islands

12-14 October: **Ezo** in South Sudan; **Thika** in Kenya; **Jos & Akoko** in Nigeria; in Europe and **União de Mulheres Episcopais Anglicanas do Brasil** (UMEAB) in Brazil

15-17 October: **Terekeka** in South Sudan; **Nairobi** in Kenya; **Maiduguri & Osun** North in Nigeria; **Edinburgh** in Scotland and **Calcutta** in India

19-21 October: **High Veld** in South Africa; **Nambale** in Kenya; **Niger-Delta** in Nigeria; **Diocese of Guinea** in Guinea; **Blackburn** in England and **Bhopal** in India

22-24 October: **Kimberley and Kuruman** in South Africa; **Kitui** in Kenya; **Kano & Kwara** in Nigeria; **Armidale** in Australia and **Myitkyina** in Myanmar

26-28 October: **Malakal** in South Sudan; **All Saints Cathedral** in Kenya; **Kontagora & Osun North East** in Nigeria; **Glasgow & Galloway** in Scotland and **Pune** in India

29-31 October: **Luapula** in Zambia; **Nakuru** in Kenya; **South Rwenzori** in Uganda; **Ibadan-North** in Nigeria; **Connor** in All Ireland and **Pusan** in South Korea