



**ST NINIAN'S UNITING  
CHURCH  
PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS  
1 October 2025  
Scripture:  
2 Timothy 1:1-14**



### **Prayer**

Fan within us the flame of the gifts of God to us,  
May we be not timid in our faith, but filled with Christ's power, love and self-discipline.

We give thanks that Christ has saved us and called us to a holy life,  
not because of anything we have done but because of Christ's own purpose and grace.

Amen

*(Drawn from 2 Timothy 1:6-9)*

### **Thanks & praise prayer points**

- That Jesus Christ has saved us and called us to a holy life.
- For the gifts God has given us, to use in Christ's service.
- For the universe that God has created - sky, earth and waters, and all the creatures that inhabit them.
- For family, friends and neighbours who care for us.

### **Forgiveness prayer points**

- For being timid in our faith, and not recognising the power of the Holy Spirit within us.
- That we have not been faithful stewards of God's creation.
- For causing pain to others, intended or unintentionally.

### **Words of Grace**

Christ has saved us and called us to a holy life

Not because of anything we have done but because of Christ's own purpose and grace.

This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

Lets us be confident to know, our sins are forgiven.

Amen

*(Paraphrase 2 Timothy 1:9)*

### **Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

<sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup>For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. <sup>8</sup>So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. <sup>9</sup>He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. <sup>12</sup>That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

<sup>13</sup>What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

### **Reflection**

While in 1 Timothy Paul appears as a free man, in 2 Timothy he appears to be a prisoner (2 Timothy 1:8) in Rome (1:16-17). In addition, he seems to have been abandoned by many of his close friends and colleagues (4:9-16), with imminent death pending (4:6-8). That is likely why 2 Timothy is filled with personal exhortations addressed to Timothy rather than concerns or teachings for the church.

In this week's reading, the voice of an exhausted apostle speaks to us of the accumulated stresses and sufferings of decades given over to proclaiming the good news of Jesus. The letter knows well that those who persist in loyalty to a

countercultural Christ will encounter hardship, even in his case to the point of death.

Despite his personal suffering, Paul remains steadfast in his faith. Paul reminds Timothy that he can rely on God to lead faithful followers beyond shame and fear into the fullness of the life made possible through Jesus Christ. Paul's focus on the Holy Life that God has called us to, not through our own activities or what we have done, but because of God's purpose and grace.

If you are feeling tired, overwhelmed, suffering, or persecuted for your faith, 1 Timothy is a message of encouragement and endurance. Regardless of our circumstances, we can rejoice for God has saved us and called us to a holy life. And God has not done this because of anything we have done or deserve, but because God loves us and cares for us.

And we too should guard the faith given to us (the 'good deposit' (v14)). Not to store-up treasures which decay, but because our faith endures and enriches and empowers others, even if we don't see the result of this.

Amen

### **Intercessory Prayers**

We give you our thanks and praise, O God,  
for you saved us with a holy calling  
for the sake of the life that is in Christ Jesus.

Hear the prayers we bring you.

Be with your church in all places, especially countries where Christians are persecuted for their faith.

Bless all church leaders, especially in the Uniting Church and our local community, and may they lead with humility and wisdom. Be with those studying for ordination and ministry in the church, and guide those responsible for their formation.

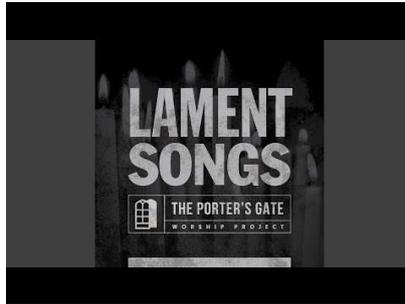
Bless all missionaries and evangelists of your work, that they may speak your truth to the world with love. May your light be shown to those who have not seen its flame.

Be with those who are tired of life and overwhelmed by troubles; lighten their load and bring peace to their hearts.

Remember those known to us, and treasured in our hearts.

Amen.

**Song: The Porter's Gate – Come, O Come Be out light.**



Come, O Come  
Be our light  
Drive out the darkness  
Come, Jesus, Come

Every year under the thorn  
Every wrong that we have known  
Every valley will be raised  
Ancient ruins will be remains

Come, O Come  
Be our light  
Drive out the darkness  
Come, Jesus, Come

Every weapon made for war  
Every gun and every sword  
Will be melted in the flame  
To be used for gardening

Come, O Come  
Be our light  
Drive out the darkness  
Come, Jesus, Come

In the emptiness of grief  
Through the night of suffering  
In the loss and in the tears  
God of comfort, O be near...

Come, O Come  
Be our light  
Drive out the darkness  
Come, O Come  
Be our light  
Drive out the darkness

Come, and end all the violence  
Come, do not be silent  
Come, cling to your promise  
Come, break all injustice  
Come, Jesus, Come.