

An All-Age Service on The Lord's Prayer

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The purpose of this service was to encourage our community to experience the Lord's Prayer in different and new ways, together. In order to do this, we used a range of mediums, senses and learning styles, and this culminated in us writing our own version.

Here are some of the elements we included:

Listening and Speaking - we put the words of the prayer on a slide, with groups of words in 4 different colours. Each section of the room was given a different colour to read out loud.

Moving: a prayer labyrinth – we created a small labyrinth at one side of our room, with the words of the prayer laid out on the floor. We invited people to walk through the prayer, but had the following discussion sheet available at the same time to avoid people queuing or waiting with nothing to do.

Discussion and writing/drawing – at the same time as the labyrinth, we encouraged people to talk in small groups, using the sheet below. This was an opportunity to write, draw, doodle, underline and share with one another what stood out to them. After some time, we had space for groups to feedback on their experiences of the Lord's prayer so far.



What do you notice as you read, listen, speak and walk through this prayer?

Write, draw, underline, highlight...

**Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
¹⁰ May your Kingdom come.
May your will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.
¹¹ Give us today the food we need,
¹² and forgive us our sins,
as we have forgiven those who sin against us.
¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation,
but rescue us from the evil one.**

Matthew 6:9-13

Listening and music – we played a video of the Lord’s Prayer being sung in Te Reo Maori.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koNwV9UGfbU>

Listening and seeing – we played a video of an alternative Lord’s prayer created by the Anglican church and filmed in Wellington.

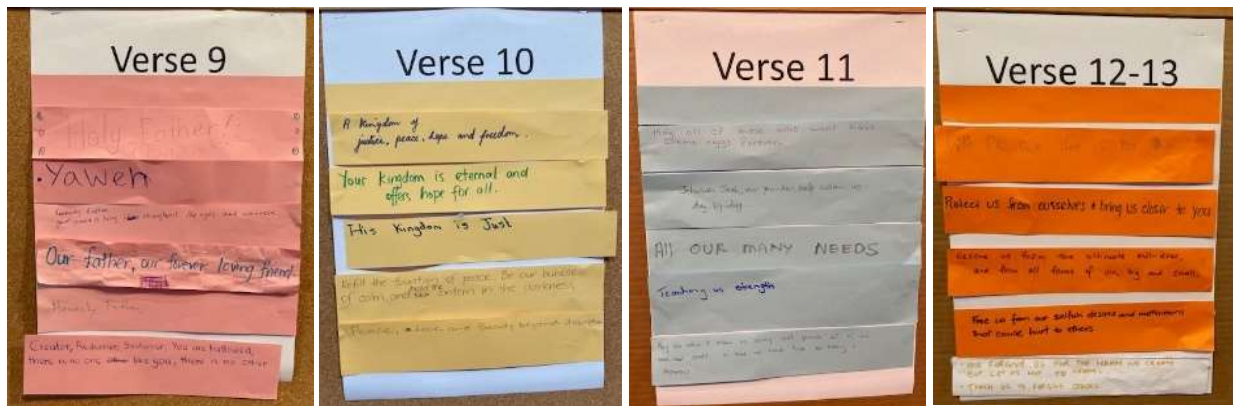
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGolFmLr7_Y

After experiencing the prayer in these different ways, we used the alternative version as a model for writing our own prayer.

Here’s how we did it:

1. We created a sheet which divided the prayer into 4 sections.
 - a. Names for God (verse 9)
 - b. What does God’s kingdom look like? (verse 10)
 - c. What do we need from God for today? (verse 11)
 - d. What do we need God to rescue us from? (verse 12-13)
2. We worked on each section one by one, looking at the alternative words from the Anglican prayer book and then giving each group 2-3 minutes to write several of their own lines in the box on their sheet.
3. We allowed time for a few groups to share one of their lines before moving on to the next section.
4. On each table we put a coloured strip of paper. Once we got to the end of the fourth section, we explained that the colour of their paper strip related to one of the sections of the prayer ie if they had a pink strip of paper, that was for verse 9, the names of God. Each group was asked to choose their favourite line they had written, for the verse they had been allocated, write it on the strip and stick it onto a poster at the front.
5. After this we sung a couple of songs while one of our team typed the lines of our prayer onto PowerPoint slides.
6. We finished our service by standing and reading together our OBC version of the Lord’s Prayer. It sounded amazing and many people were impressed, saying, ‘wow, look what we wrote together!’





The prayers each group created were so special, we didn't want to throw them away, unused! We collected them up, typed them out and for the next few Sundays we read one of our OBC Lord's prayers as part of our worship time.

If you have any questions or would like to see any of the PowerPoint slides or handouts, please email jan@obc.org.nz.