

# PRAYERS

Taken from the Baptist compilations  
Prayers of the People (2011) and  
Gathering up the Grumbs (2020)

## Open Space, Still Centre

God, everywhere and nowhere,  
in grace and love full and  
overflowing...  
as first in Christ,  
You welcomed us with open hearts;  
so now we welcome you into this quiet  
and holy space.  
Immerse us, we pray,  
within your Spirit's generous flood  
until we find our still centre  
at home, in you

This prayer was written use at 'open  
spaces' at the Baptist Assembly in  
2004, by Richard Kidd

## A prayer for transformation

Healing, redeeming transforming God,  
hear our prayers for the world  
Where there is ugliness transform  
with beauty.  
Where there is violence, bring peace,  
Where there is deceit bring  
truthfulness.  
Where there is shallow superficiality  
bring depth and authenticity.  
Where there is evil bring forth  
goodness  
And where there is despair, bring  
forth hope.

Roy Searle, Northumbria Community  
Trust

## A morning prayer

Lord, this as every morning, we come to you fragmented, confused, distracted.  
Take our fragmented minds and create us again.  
May we have a clear eye and steady focus, to see and serve you in all things.  
Keep us honest, steadfast and kind, centred in your wholesome and life giving presence.  
Into your hands we commend our spirits. Amen.

Patricia Took

## Love Regardless, a Prayer of Confession

He stands in the middle of the mess  
I've made of my life  
Casting not a glance at the debris  
that surrounds his feet  
And he looks at me  
He looks at me  
And simply says "Come"

And opening his arms  
He welcomes me into an  
all-encompassing embrace  
I am held by those strong and loving  
arms  
And I hear his words of comfort in my  
ear  
As he reassures me  
He reassures me  
That all I have done is forgivable

That I am still loved  
And worthy of his acceptance  
And I begin to sense that acceptance  
As I am securely held within the  
Father's embrace  
I know, I feel, within my soul, that  
unfathomable peace

Ali Taylor

## So Few Words

So few words  
So much to say  
Fill me with your Word, Lord

So much pain  
In my heart holds sway  
Fill me with your peace, Lord

So many troubles  
Filling each day  
Fill me with your strength, Lord

Each day, you speak to me  
Each day, you comfort me  
Each day, you carry me  
Every day, you love me.

Gail Scholes

*Prayers of the People* is a volume of prayers from nearly 100 contributors who, between them, encompassed the depth and breadth of British Baptist life.

*Gathering up the Crumbs* is collection of original worship material written, as part of the celebration of a centenary of Baptist women's ordination, by women who are accredited to serve in the churches of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, Baptist Union of Scotland and Baptist Union of Wales.

See page 39 for details.