

ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

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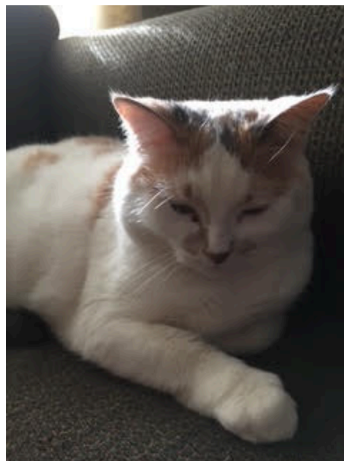
Serving,
Supporting,
& Encouraging
Prayer

Life is filled with both joy and sorrow, with moments of celebration and moments of loss. These past few days have reminded me of that truth in a very personal way.

I have just returned from a wonderful visit with my wife's family in England. It was a time of laughter and delight—good food and wine, a bonfire under the night sky, even fireworks. It was one of those seasons when life feels rich and full, a gift to be savored.

Yet when I arrived home, weary from travel, I was greeted not with joy but with grief. My dear cat, Abby—who had been part of my life for twelve years—was gravely ill. Yesterday, with the guidance of our kind veterinarian, Dr. Felix, we made the difficult but loving decision to let her go peacefully.

It is never easy to say goodbye. And yet, in that moment, I was reminded of the grace that shines even in loss. Our pets are among God's gentle gifts to us. They ask for so little, yet they give so much. Abby was always present for me—whether I was rejoicing or struggling, whether I was at my best or at my lowest. She never asked for explanations, never kept score, never judged. She simply loved.



In her quiet way, she mirrored something of God's own steadfast love: patient, constant, forgiving. And so my heart is filled not only with sadness but also with gratitude. I thank God for the gift of her companionship, for the comfort she brought in challenging times, and for the joy she brought in good times. And though some may question it, I believe with hope that I will see her again in God's kingdom, where all creation is gathered in love.

As we turn now toward the fall, our community is also looking to the future. In October we will welcome our new Primate, Archbishop Shane Parker, who will share his vision of where God is leading us in a world filled with uncertainty and anxiety.

It seems to me that in such a world, we are called to the same lesson Abby offered me: to live not in fear, but in trust; not in judgment, but in love. ...con't pg 2

Life, Loss,
And above all,
Grace

by

Paul Feheley,
National Director



Life, Loss, and above all, Grace. *Cont'd from pg 1*

That is why our program this year will be centered on the words of Jesus in John 10:10: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

We are choosing not to give in to despair, but to proclaim fullness of life, grounded in prayer and in God's grace from sea to sea to sea.

I hope you will join us on October 20 for our online gathering, as together we seek the abundant life Christ promises—life that holds both joy and sorrow, loss, and grace, and somehow, through it all, the presence of God.



A Prayer for the Holy Land

The Most Reverend Dr Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, August 2025

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond who suffer from hunger and starvation, that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls. By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war, the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones, and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Season of Creation

Sept 1-Oct 4, 2025



Garden of Peace
2025 SOC

PEACE WITH CREATION

Our hope: Creation will find peace when justice is restored.

There is still hope and the expectation for a peaceful Earth.

Resources for the Season of Creation, including liturgical and prayer supports, can be found at <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

Isaiah 32.14-18: For the palace will be forsaken, the populous city deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become dens forever, the joy of wild asses, a pasture for flocks; until a spirit from on high is poured out on us, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Let Us Pray

October 2025 to May 2026

"...Life in all its fulness: Prayer from Sea to Sea to Sea" (John 10:10)

The AFP (Canada) Executive is pleased to share with you the focus for our upcoming 2025/2026 year, "Life in all its fulness: *Prayer from Sea to Sea to Sea*". Our hope is that both our *Let Us Pray* sessions, continuing on Mondays from **October** through to May at 1:00pm (ET), and our Lenten speaker will address this theme each from their own perspective. In celebration of the fulness of gifts we enjoy across this land, we will be bringing speakers to you from sea to sea to sea, to inform and inspire us with the role of prayer in their lives and ministries.

**Please note that our *Let Us Pray* sessions
will begin in October this year.**

Current Work
of the AFP
Executive by

Valerie Kenyon,
National Chair



Monday, October 20

Please join us at *Let Us Pray* this month as **our new Primate the Most Reverend Shane Parker** joins us as we begin our new season. We are absolutely delighted that Archbishop Shane can be with us as we begin another year. We're sure you'll want to hear what he has to say.

Monday, November 17

Originally scheduled for April 2025, we are so pleased that **Bishop Rachel Parker** from the Diocese of Brandon is able to join us this Fall. We have asked Bishop Rachel to speak to us about her experiences of "Life in all its fullness" as it relates to the realities of some of our smaller parishes. Come and be inspired.

Monday, December 15

As we enter this season of Advent, we are pleased to be welcoming back the **Lieutenant Colonel Judson Bridgewater** who spoke to us several years ago. Padre Judson will bring to us his thoughts on "Life in all its fulness: Prayer from Sea to Sea to Sea" in relationship to the situations he faces and those he serves as a military Chaplain.

Remember, all of our *Let Us Pray* sessions are recorded and available to you at any time. They would make an excellent resource for a prayer group wishing to expand their experience and/or understanding of different kinds of prayer. As they are available on demand, **they could be used at any time that suits your group**. Please take advantage of these wonderful resources.

Here is a link that will serve us for the entire 2025/2026 season:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83536726542?pwd=r1Aj0fdW20FDkLjz4dLazF4UqA08jz.1>

Looking Ahead: Lenten 2026 Speaker

Please stay tuned to learn more about our upcoming Lenten Speaker.

As soon as details have been confirmed we will share them with you.

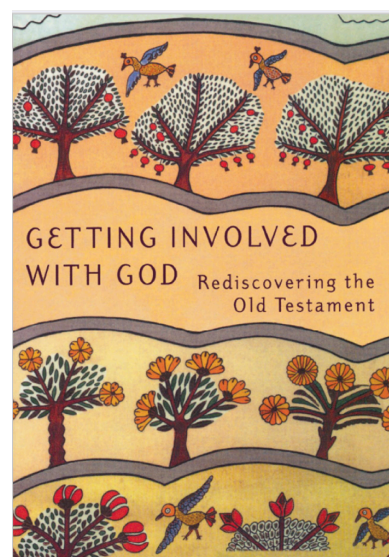
Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament

By: Ellen F. Davis Reviewed By: Carol Knox

This book is a jewel of a resource by Dr. Ellen Davis, Professor of Bible and Practical Theology at Duke University. The first 4 chapters engage us directly with praying the psalms as common prayer in new and insightful ways. The remaining chapters deepen our understanding of other psalms, wisdom literature, and a few “troubling texts” that invite us into a full disclosure of how we feel to God.

She writes “They enable us to bring into our conversations with God feelings and thoughts that most of us think we need to get rid of before God will be interested in hearing from us.When we open our hearts and minds fully to the God who made them, then we open ourselves to the possibility of being transformed beyond our imagining.”

Although written by a theologian, this book is easily understandable to the average lay person. Her writing engages the reader to join her passion for our God who loves us beyond all imagining.



Remembering Others

A Thanksgiving Prayer by Samuel Pugh

O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.



Ps 67.6: "The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us."

Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (Canada)

PO Box 43021, London, ON N6J 0A7

www.anglicanprayer.org

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newsletter@anglicanprayer.org
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