

# **JMA Commissioning Service 2024**

## **Suggested prayers**

**“He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?...”**

Micah 6:8 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition).

### **Opening prayer**

Loving God,  
we come together today to worship you and give thanks for our JMA collectors.  
Bless our time together as we learn about people around the world.  
Amen.

### **General prayer (a)**

Dear God,  
we pray for the world.  
We pray for peace and justice.  
Help us all to glow  
and may your love for the world radiate through us  
as we serve you.  
Amen.

### **General prayer (b)**

Radiant God,  
we are excited to serve you.  
May the glow of the Holy Spirit  
fill our lives and guide us  
as we serve you.

In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank you Jesus for the gift of the Holy Spirit  
as we serve our church and communities.  
May we glow and radiate with the love of God  
as you also served others by helping and healing people.

Help us to put into practice your teachings.  
Your life and ministry show us how we should live and set an example of how we  
should act.  
Help us to put love into action, and to spread your love around the world.  
Amen.

## Offering prayer

Generous God,  
we bring before you our JMA collections.  
May this money help people, programmes and projects in  
Methodist communities all over the world.

Bless this money and all those who have contributed to JMA with their prayers,  
time or donations.

Thank you, Generous God,  
that we can serve you through our JMA collections.  
Amen.

## Suggested prayer activity

### Placard prayers

#### Material:

- White cardboard
- Colourful pens/pencils/crayons/paints
- Craft wooden sticks or reuse some old rulers
- Sticky tape

#### Preparation:

- Make sure that you have risk assessed the surrounding areas.
- Make sure that none of your group have allergies for the materials you are using (eg paint).
- If you plan to use scissors, make sure the children are always supervised and/or that you use children's scissors.

#### Instructions:

- Ask the children why they think it is important to challenge injustice.
- Once the children have shared, reaffirm their answers and build on their thinking.
- Explain to the children, and those gathered, that the 'A Methodist Way of Life' practice of 'Challenge' encourages us to 'challenge injustice'
- Ask the children and congregation to consider how we challenge injustice in our every day lives? Can our excitement and passion help JMA be part of challenging injustice in the world?
- Pause for thought, then play a collection of songs of your choice that you feel talk about challenging injustice. Let this be your background music as you create your placard prayers. (If you are stuck for a song to choose, visit [methodist.org.uk/jmacs](http://methodist.org.uk/jmacs))
- Make your placard prayers by writing prayers on cardboard, and using the sticky tape to place to a wooden stick or ruler on the back as a hand hold.
- You may want to display the placard prayers in/around your worship space or hall, or the children may want to take their placard prayers home.

- When the song playlist has finished, invite the children/congregation to read their placard prayers out aloud.
- When all the placard prayers have been read out aloud, together say 'Amen'.

### **The Lord's Prayer in British Sign Language**

Visit the JMA webpages [methodist.org.uk/jmacs](http://methodist.org.uk/jmacs)

### **The Peace in British Sign Language**

Visit the JMA webpages [methodist.org.uk/jmacs](http://methodist.org.uk/jmacs)



You are part of a global Methodist community.

### **JMA promise:**

Learn, pray and serve with the worldwide Church of Jesus Christ