

Faithful God, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Be with us, Spirit of God;

nothing can separate us from your love.

Breathe on us, breath of God;

fill us with your saving power.

Speak in us, wisdom of God;

bring strength, healing and peace.

Bible reading – Mark 2: 1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home.

² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay.

⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ “Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts?”

⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and take your mat and walk’?

¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ “I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.”

¹² And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

How can we 'remove the roof' to let more people meet with Jesus?



[Lord's Prayer video on Vimeo](#)

A PRAYER FOR SHAPED BY GOD TOGETHER

Eternal God,
You call your people to fullness of life in you
and promise to be with us
in all the changing scenes of life:
may we be shaped by you in our lives
and communities to refresh the Church,
transform the world, and build the kingdom,
as with thanksgiving for the past,
we step out in hope and trust into your future;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.