

PRAYERS (taken from Methodist Church prayer handbooks)

In the silence of this moment, as I seek your heart, O God, may I hear your words anew, 'my Grace is sufficient for you'. In the struggles of this day, and the turmoils of the night, let me know deep within that you grace is sufficient for me. As your church seeks to serve you and witness to your love, in our worship reveal once again that your grace is sufficient for us. As people cry out in anger and pain to be set free from all that binds them, may we together discover the truth that your grace is sufficient for all of us. In my joy and in my weakness, in my openness and my vulnerability, may your power be made perfect for your grace is sufficient for me. Amen

Protecting God, when we fall, you quietly pick us up; when we fear, you gently hold on to us; when the future looks bleak, you nudge us onwards, until at last we find ourselves in the place you would have us be. Amen

You alone, O God, are infinite love. You alone can speak into our condition. You alone can search the mind and purify the heart. You alone can flow over our darkness with the ocean of eternal light. Amen

God of both darkness and light, do we seek and find the inner strength of your comfort more often, more clearly in the dark times of our lives than when all is going well and we feel more self-sufficient, basking in the sunshine? Help us never to forget that you always travel with us and that our task here in your kingdom on earth is to share your light and your love with those around us, not hide it under a bushel just for our own needs when times are hard. Amen

Lord of the day, Lord of the night; Lord of betwixt shades, I am held in your sight. Lord of the sea, Lord of the land, Lord of all places. I am held in your hand. Lord of the storm, Lord of the calm, Lord of all weather, I am held in your palm. Lord of the joy, Lord of the pain, Lord of all feeling, with you I will remain. Amen
