

## Prayer for This Time of Distress



Loving heavenly Father,  
we pray to you in this time of distress,  
as we see a world struggling to cope with the coronavirus and all the  
suffering it's caused.

We pray for peace and not panic.

We pray for faith and not fear.

We pray for hope in the face of despair.

We ask that you would protect those on the frontline, the doctors,  
nurses and paramedics who help those who are sick.

We long, Lord, to see your love surround those who are anxious,  
isolated or alone

and for you to help us to work together to meet their needs.

Help us all to make wise decisions and take sensible precautions so  
that people stay well and we get through this quickly.

Lord, look down with mercy, guard us and guide us,  
and heal our world.

Amen.

### Contacts:

**Church office:** closed at present

**Website:** [www.rydebaptist.org](http://www.rydebaptist.org)



@rydebaptist

**Minister:** Rev Kerry Birch  
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### Church Secretary:

Sally Pratt  
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Reg Charity no [1133780](https://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/charity-details/1133780)

All Deacons available by ☎ if  
needed.

**Please note!** Items for 7/52 should  
be given to **Sally** by **midnight**  
**THURSDAY** on 641305 or email:  
[ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com](mailto:ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com)

# 7/52 @ RBC

**29 March 2020**

Be joyful always, pray continually, and give thanks  
in all circumstances,  
for this is God's will for you, in Christ Jesus.

**1 Thessalonians v 16-18**



Check out our website at **[www.rydebaptist.org](http://www.rydebaptist.org)**  
for general updates.

More specific pastoral information,  
sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study will be  
on **<https://www.rydebaptist.xyz>** —the Sunday  
supplement.

**If you are willing to join a list of folk  
who would be happy to call others  
who are alone at home within  
Ryde, please contact Kerry.**



Our brother and church member **Alan Turner** sadly passed away this week. Please pray for his family and friends at this sad time.



### What's On

**Worship at home** with Premier Radio 10 am Sunday.  
**BBC1 10.45 am** Pre-recorded Sunday worship service.  
Check <https://baptist.org.uk/> for the latest news from the Baptist Union.



Join BU General Secretary Lynn Green along with Stephen Sutton, Minister at Coulby Newham Baptist Church, on Sunday evening at 7 pm. As part of the broadcast Stephen will reflect on Jeremiah 29:7. Available at [https://baptist.org.uk/Articles/571085/Prayer\\_broadcast\\_29.aspx](https://baptist.org.uk/Articles/571085/Prayer_broadcast_29.aspx)

You can download a free e-book of coronavirus prayers at <https://nickfawcett.uk/2020/03/27/free-e-book-of-coronavirus-prayers-out-now/#more-2979>

### Ryde emergency response scheme:

Ryde Town Council is working with Aspire Ryde to provide information and emergency support for residents.

**Coronavirus Ryde Support Hub – Call (01983) 811105 between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.**

You can also find information on the Council's website:

<https://www.rydetowncouncil.org.uk/>

The Ryde community Hub is linked to an Island wide Hub and Helpline coordinated by IW Community Action. **This can be reached on (01983) 823600 and is available 9am – 5pm seven days per week.**

'This is not a season for sentimental views of God. It is a bitter season. And God sent it. We know this, because he "works all things according to the counsel of his will". (Eph 1.11) All things. Nature is not sovereign. Satan is not sovereign. Sinful man is not sovereign. God rules them all. So, we say with Job, "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted" (Job 42.2). Therefore, God not only comprehends the coronavirus; he has purposes for it. God does nothing, and permits nothing, without wise purposes. Nothing *just happens*. Everything flows from the eternal counsels of God. All of it is wisdom. All of it is purposeful. For those who trust Jesus Christ, all of it is kindness. For others, it is a merciful wake-up call: "Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price" (Rev 22.17)'.

For more from **John Piper** see: <https://www.desiringgod.org/>

The **coronavirus pandemic** is having a devastating effect in wealthy countries, but much more so in those that are much poorer and where the health systems and infrastructure are not as developed as ours. The Baptist Missionary Society, Tear Fund, the Leprosy Mission, Operation Mobilisation and many others are working alongside frightened and needy people.

**Please pray for them in this task, asking the Lord to strengthen and support them.**

More information as to how you can help in practical ways in next week's 7/52.

*Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. Some folk have been asking how they can continue to give to the church in the current situation. If you would like to set up a standing order, bank details are as follows:*

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102  
sort code 20—60— 55**

*If you usually give in cash or by cheque, we suggest that you save it up until you have a few weeks' worth and then contact Kerry or one of the deacons who can collect it from you.*



Offerings for **February** were as follows:  
Cash and Envelopes **£894.20** Standing orders **£1605**  
**Total: £2499.20**