

May 6 to 12

Nuremberg District

**Bless God! He didn't reject my prayer, he didn't withhold his faithful love from me.
(Psalm 66,20 CEB)**

Pray? Yes, pray, more and more!

There's a German saying that "need teaches you to pray". But full fridges and bank accounts mean that many of us have forgotten how to pray. Or is that oversimplifying things? Even here in Germany people are increasingly finding that their fridges and bank accounts are empty. We are also affected by pictures of war, torture, hunger, flight and anger, where prayer is our only option. But to pray, you at least have to feel or hope that there is a God, a God who will hear you, a God who means well by you and by all of His creation! Otherwise there's no point in praying.

In contrast to many people today, the original writer of the psalm didn't doubt God's existence. He knew from past experience that God was there and helped His people, setting them free and bringing them to the promised land. He knew automatically that God would hear his

prayer. But whether his prayers would actually come true in the way he had asked, that he did not know. And so he prayed constantly, pestering and nagging God. Constantly, until his situation changed. We don't know whether his prayers did in fact come true in the way he had asked. But in the end he praised God and saw the goodness of God revealed in his changed situation. He saw once more God's benevolence towards him and all others, he saw that God would take care of him and others, and bring about freedom and justice. Today, on the 5th Sunday after Easter, we are called to prayer. So pray! Today! And tomorrow even more so!

Markus Jung

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I THANKS

- for the living faith in many social and missionary projects in the individual circuits.
- for the spreading hope in the church that Christ offers people freedom and love.
- for the love to people inside and outside our churches
- for the courage and trust that our churches put in the work of God.
- for the sharing, caring and helping that goes on inside and outside our churches.

I PRAY

- for the upcoming new churches that are about to be set up, that people will let themselves be called and sent out.
- for those who feel called to serve as full-time ministers.
- for those offering their services as lay preachers.
- for those who take on the many different tasks that need doing in our churches.

Nuremberg District

The 25 circuits in the Nuremberg District include 43 churches with around 6,200 Methodists. The district covers large cities, conurbation areas and rural regions in Bavaria and Württemberg, where innovation and tradition come together in a positive mixture. Over the next four years, we want to set up new churches in three Bavarian cities.

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