

Welcome Words 1

We come together now, in the presence of:
God the Father who judges with justice,
God the Son who offers **forgiveness**, and
God the Holy Spirit who helps us to begin again.

Welcome Words 2

We have gathered in the name of
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
to worship together
and think about our value **forgiveness**.

Acrostic Poem

Forgiveness is...

Forgetting the hurts

Offering a new beginning

Restoring a friendship

Given and received

Identifying responsibility

Valuing the truth

Ending an argument

Not holding a grudge

Encouraging honesty

Saying sorry

Starting again

A teaspoon (tsp) prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you that you offer **forgiveness** to all, through Jesus.

Sorry for the times when we have been slow to say sorry to others
or not quick enough to forgive.

Please help us to ask for **forgiveness** when we make a mistake
and to accept an apology kindly.

Amen

A new leaf prayer

Father God,

You offer **forgiveness** to us today
just as you did to Zacchaeus 2000 years ago.

Like Zacchaeus, help us to turn over a new leaf and begin again.

Help us to show others we are sorry by the way we behave.

Amen

A forgiveness prayer

Lord Jesus

Help us to be ready to show **forgiveness** to others,

As you are ready to show **forgiveness** to us.

Amen

A new beginning prayer

Father God

You are always ready to **forgive**.

Make us always ready to receive your **forgiveness**
and to make a new beginning.

Amen

Praying with open hands

Dear Lord,

Thank you that you **forgive** us completely.

When people hurt us, please help us not to bear grudges,
and instead, ask for your strength to **forgive**.

Amen

Easter prayer

God of wonder, God of new life,

On Good Friday we remember how the friends of Jesus
cried tears at the foot of the cross.

They were sad and quiet as he was laid in the tomb.

On Easter day we will remember how their sadness turned to joy
when Jesus rose from the dead and returned.

He brought the promise of new life and **forgiveness** for us all.

Help us to remember every day
the gift of your son Jesus to the world,
and always be thankful.

Amen