

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website  
**“Prayer”**  
Covenant Group Curriculum, River of Grass Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation, Davie, FL

**Opening Meditation/Music/Silence/Chalice Lighting** (whichever one(s) you choose to do)

**Opening Words:**

Make sure you get in touch with the members of your group and ask them to bring their favorite prayer(s) to the meeting. Have people read their selections in this space. Do this prayerfully, i.e. hands clasped, eyes closed, how people feel comfortable praying.

**Check-in/Sharing**

**Topic/Reading:**

*The Summer Day*

Who made the world?  
Who made the swan, and the black bear?  
Who made the grasshopper?  
This grasshopper, I mean---  
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,  
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,  
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down---  
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.  
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.  
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.  
I don't know exactly what a payer is.  
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down  
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,  
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,  
which is what I have been doing all day.  
Tell me, what else should I have done?  
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?  
Tell me, what is it you plan to do  
with your one wild and precious life?

- Mary Oliver

**Questions for consideration:**

- What does prayer do for us?
- Paul in the Bible said that we should “pray without ceasing”. What did he mean by that?

## **Likes and Wishes/Feedback**

### **Closing Words:**

Prayer invites God to be present in our spirits and in our lives. Prayer cannot bring water to parched land, nor mend a broken bridge, nor rebuild a ruined city, but prayer can water an arid soul, mend a broken heart, and rebuild a weakened will.

- Abraham J. Heschel

The best prayer I know Is “Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.”

Annie Lamott

Amen. May you live in blessing.