

Prayer

See also: [Service of worship](#) and [Prayer in Christianity](#)

[Mary Magdalene](#) by [Ary Scheffer](#) (1795–1858).

Prayer is a [worship](#) and communication to [God](#). Prayer can be spoken, silent (no talking), or in a [song](#). It can be used to praise God or to ask for something including help and [forgiveness](#).

Prayer can take a variety of forms: it can be part of a set ritual or an individual invocation and can take the form of a hymn, a ritual statement, or a spontaneous expression. It can be done alone or in groups.

In [Christianity](#), prayers are varied. They can be completely spontaneous, or read entirely from a text, like the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. The most common prayer among Christians is the [Lord's Prayer](#) which, according to the gospel accounts, is how [Jesus](#) taught his disciples to pray.

In [Islam](#), [salat](#) is observed three^{[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)} or (most commonly) five times every day at prescribed times.

[Hinduism](#) has prayer to various divinities or holy beings.

Dua

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Painting of the [Mughal Emperor Akbar](#) doing a Dua prayer.

du‘ā ([Arabic](#): دُعَاء) is a prayer or request made by Muslims^{[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)} in which they ask for help from their [God](#). Muslims see dua as a very serious way of worship.

Dua has been done by Muslims for a long time,^{[\[6\]](#)} as it is seen as very important by a lot of Muslims and Muslim families.^{[\[7\]](#)} They have been carried on as traditions.

References

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