



Prayer Resource Guide

Thank you for taking the time to pray. There are many different ways we can pray and certainly so many needs. You can use the following resource to help you during your time of prayer. It is divided into sections. Some are actual prayers, others are ideas for what to pray about and some scripture to guide you through. Pick and choose what you would like to use.

You could begin with a time of silence and take a couple deep breaths -

"As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still, to breathe slowly, to re-center my scattered senses on the presence of God. As I draw near to you God would you draw near to me? Teach me to pray. Speak Lord, your servant is listening." (borrowed from Lectio365)

You could follow the format of ACTS:

Adoration: Praise God for WHO he is, his character (use a Psalm)

Confession: Tell God you are sorry for where you have sinned

Thanksgiving: Thank God for the many blessings you have received

Supplication: Ask for the needs you are aware of and the help that you need

You can pause your prayer time and sing a song or listen to music. You could walk through your neighborhood or around the church building and pray letting what you see remind you what to pray about.

We want to cover our ministry in prayer asking God to be with us and bless our efforts - that His Kingdom would come and His will be done.

You can use this resource anytime. Paul told the church in Ephesus (Ephesians 6:18) to "Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere."

Prayers for *the Church*

Please use these prayers as inspiration to pray for *the Church* as well as the whole church on earth.

Heavenly Father, let *the Church* be a place where Your Word is proclaimed boldly that we may be instruments of your love, truth, forgiveness, mercy, and grace in our community. Guide our pastors and leaders as they seek to follow you. Give our congregation a desire for the work you would have us do in our community and lead us to follow you.

Lord God, we pray that you would bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace in our community. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

Lord, grant that *the Church* would be fearless and radical in our love and service to those in our community. Let us follow the example of Jesus by demonstrating love, respect, empathy, mercy and active concern for all, especially for people suffering poverty, hunger and illness, those forgotten and neglected, and our enemies.

God, help our church body to walk in a manner worthy of the calling You have given us. Help us in all our interactions with one another to have humble and gentle hearts. Grant us patience for one another, bearing with one another in love. Grant the Body of Christ unity. May we walk humbly with You, God, allowing You to show us our wrongs. Lord, thank you for all you do in our lives. We are truly grateful for the many blessings you have provided. Today we lift up to you *the Church*. It is the place we go to worship you, and be guided by you. It is where we gather to see and honor the face of Christ clearly in the faces of our neighbors. It is where you are present in our midst, and we ask for your blessings over us. Continue to protect us as we gather and give us wisdom moving forward. Continue to draw more people who need to be connected to life in Jesus to our ministry. And make us ready to welcome all who come so they will experience the love you have for them.

the Church is more than a building, Lord. We are a group that lifts one another up, and we ask that you give us the heart to continue in that way. We ask you to bless us with the desire to do more for the world around us and for one another. We ask that those in need are identified and are given a helping hand. We ask that we reach out to our community where you see fit to help. We also ask that you bless us with the resources to fulfill your mission for our church. We ask that you give us the ability to be great stewards over those resources and that you guide our hand in using them.

Give us a strong sense, O Lord, of your spirit in our church. We ask that you bless us in our direction and point us toward how we can do more in you. Lord, we ask that when people enter our church they feel you all around them. We ask that we remain hospitable to each other and to visitors, and we ask for your grace and forgiveness when we slip up.

Lord, we ask for the blessing of wisdom on our church leaders—our Pastor, Elders, Leadership board and staff. We ask that you guide them and uphold them as they seek to see and do your will. We ask that the words we speak as part of the Body of Christ be ones that honor you and our neighbors and that strengthen our relationship with you and our brothers and sisters in Christ. We give you thanks for the leaders you have blessed us with, and ask that you continue to bless them with servants' hearts and loving kindness as they lead and guide our congregation.

We ask that you continue to bless the ministries of *the Church*. From lifeGroups, to 1:1 relationships, Kids Connection and Higher Ground and our Preschool. We ask that you be ever in our midst, that you might help these ministries to strengthen us as individuals and a community of Christians committed to sharing the power of your word, presence and peace with others.

Lord, we give you thanks that our church brings us closer to you. We lift *the Church* up to you in prayer and we thank you Lord, for giving us this community of faith. We ask for your blessings on our continuing efforts to invite and welcome people to live under the Lordship of Jesus, to help form people in the love of Christ through spiritual growth, and to go forth committed to being the hands of Jesus in the world.

God Almighty, we give You thanks that — despite conflict, hunger, poverty, suffering, illness, and injustice — You are our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1). Grant that *the Church* would be emboldened by this grace-filled promise and reality to help and strengthen our neighbors in every situation in our community and in every corner of the world.

In the midst of our collective suffering, stir Your Church to action, Lord Jesus. Use us to surround hurting people with those who will minister to them. Send us to offer food, service, and other ministry in Your name. Prompt us to reach out and offer the comfort we ourselves have received from You. Give us opportunities in our community to share the reason for the hope we have (Matthew 25:37-40; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; 1 Peter 3:15).

Grant that we, as full participants at *the Church*, submit to the Lord each day, so that we may receive His grace daily to live as we should (James 4:6-10). Let us walk in a spirit of humility, as Jesus walked, favoring justice and kindness (Micah 6:8).

God, let our first response as Christians be to pray when we become anxious about a situation, circumstance, or relationship (Matthew 6:25-32; Philippians 4:6-7; Jeremiah 33:3).

Lord, let the mature Christians in our congregation set a pattern of seeking the Lord in all things, so that younger generations may find their strength and hope in the Lord, especially in times of crisis (Psalm 27; Psalm 91; Acts 17:26-27).

Heavenly Father, grant that we would meditate daily on the Word of God, so that we may be kept pure and from sin, allowing the God of heaven to conform us to the image of Christ, instruct us in righteousness, and strengthen our faith (Psalm 119:9-11; 1 Peter 1:13-2:3; Romans 8:29; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 12:4-13; 2 Corinthians 7:1).

Lord, let us live blamelessly before a lost and watching world that they may come to know you (Philippians 2:14-16; Matthew 5:16).

God, let genuine repentance characterize our response to sin. Let the lordship of Jesus Christ rule our daily living (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Matthew 7:21).

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, without Your help our labor is useless, and without Your light our search is in vain. Invigorate our study of Your holy Word that, by due diligence and right discernment, we may establish ourselves and others in Your holy faith. Send Your Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, comfort us in all our temptations and afflictions, defend us from all error, and lead us into the truth that we, being steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works and in the end obtain everlasting life.

Almighty God, You have promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in Your Son's name. Mercifully incline your ears to us who have now made our prayers and supplications to You, and grant that those things that we have faithfully asked according to Your will we may receive to meet our need and bring glory to You. We surrender to your perfect will. And it is in your powerful and precious name, Jesus, we pray. Amen

**Use these prayers for those you know who are far from God or struggling with their faith.
Place their names in the blank as you pray for them.**

Although _____ has been spiritually blind, please give them eyes to see Jesus (John 9:25).

May _____ know You are Lord and there is no Savior besides You (Isaiah 43:11).

Lord, may _____ know that You desire for them to be saved and come to the knowledge of Your truth (1 Timothy 2:4).

Open _____'s eyes and help them turn from darkness and receive forgiveness of sins (Acts 26:18).

Lord, please direct _____'s heart into Your love and into the steadfastness of Christ (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

I ask that _____ know how patient You are toward them and that You do not wish for them to perish but to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

Help _____ to understand that they can have forgiveness through the blood of Christ (Ephesians 1:7).

I will give _____ hearts that recognize me as the Lord. _____ will be my people, and I will be their God, for they will return to me wholeheartedly (Jeremiah 24:7).

And I will give _____ a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in _____. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart (Ezekiel 36:26).

Please use these prayers as inspiration to pray for the anxious, depressed, lonely, mourning, and fearful in our church, community and nation.

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams.

God our creator, through whose providing care we enjoy all goodness and life, turn our eyes to your mercy in this time of suffering and loss. Comfort our community and nation as we continue to deal with loss in so many areas; shine your light on those whose only companion is darkness, and teach us all to number our days that we may apply our hearts to your wisdom.

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks in all circumstances and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Grant that fears and anxieties in this mortal life may not hide from us the light of your immortal love shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Surround _____ with your steadfast love and lighten their burden. By the power of your Spirit, free them from distress and give them a new mind and heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God our comforter, you are a refuge and a strength for us, a helper close at hand in times of distress. Enable us so to hear the words of faith that our fear is dispelled, our loneliness eased, our anxiety calmed, and our hope reawakened. May your Holy Spirit lift us above our sorrow to the peace and light of your constant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Lord of heaven and earth, encourage those who are hurting to seek You, reach out to You, and find You, because You are not far from them. Give them hope that You are with them so that the waters they are passing through will not sweep them away, and the fire they are walking through will not burn them (Acts 17:27; Isaiah 43:21). Use your church to be a light in the darkness.

Forgive me when I allow anxious thoughts to cloud my thinking. Help me take my anxieties to you in every circumstance, believing you will intervene and work out your eternal purposes. Give me a thankful heart—a heart that says, “I am grateful for your loving kindness to me, Father. I know you will work out your plans for my growth, others’ good, and your glory.”

Pray for our Ministry Team at *the Church* (and their families)

Pastor Jeff Meyer and Amy
Pastor Matt Wipperman and Kate and Ella
Pastor Mike Peters and Sara
Emily Powers and Micah and Ollie and Eliza
Jess O'Malley and Brian and Brianna, Kylie and Morgan
Tom Simon and Cindy
Elsa Gumm and Matt, Maryke and Ceren
Karen Hettenbach and Bart
 Jenni Nowak and Rick
 Tanya Hoppe and Mark
 Lisa Snelling and Chris
 Jenna Dunwald and Nick

Elders:

Brian Hayman (Peggy)
Bill Strange (Peg)
Patrick Tsai (Michelle)
Mark Dawson (Joan)
Mark Radtke (Maria)
Jim Haas (Linda)
Pete Jaeger (Dannie)
Matt Bolha (Anna)

Leadership Board:

Laura Potter (Jim)
Sheila Anderson (Rick)
Grant Kafka (Amanda)
Rich Frohmader (Erika)
James Conrad (Andrea)
Adrian Adshead (Kirsten)

“So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.” Galatians 6:9

Pray that more people in our ministry would understand they are Household WELLS and desire to fully participate in bringing living water to their neighborhoods. And that we would actively share stories in our Penzu journals to inspire one another.

Pray for our lifeGroups. That they would be a place for people to grow in their faith and be strengthened in community. Pray our groups multiply so there are more leaders for more people to be connected in groups. Pray that we learn how to live life well together and are instruments of hope and healing to our community.

Pray for 1:1 relationships. That there are more and more of these relationships for people to grow deeper in their faith and love for Jesus

Pray for Higher Ground. That our youth are strengthened in their faith. That they are protected from evil. That they sharpen one another and love one another. Pray they are bold to speak about their faith to their friends. That they understand their identity in Christ and how valuable they are.

Pray for our preschool. That enrollment for the fall would increase. That families who are not connected to a church home would be welcome at *the Church*. That the little ones would begin to know how much they are loved by Jesus.

Pray for our young families. Pray for moms and dads to live out Deuteronomy 6 in their homes, talking about Jesus when they walk along, lie down, sit at dinner. That our homes would be the center of faith development.

Pray for those who are married. Pray that God would protect and strengthen them and that husbands and wives would cherish, love and respect each other.

Pray for those who are single. That God would be their companion, and they would know how valued and loved they are.

Pray for our elderly. That they would know they are not alone and loved deeply by God.

Pray for those who are attending Connections. That they would understand our mission, vision and values and be fully engaged in our strategy as full participants. That they would feel welcome and a part of our family.

Pray for our on-line presence. That those who tune in or access our content would be blessed and desire to be connected to life in Jesus. That our ministry would be protected from evil and hate. That our message would be clearly understood and God's word would go out and accomplish what he wants.

Pray for those in need. That God would supply all their needs and that we would be aware of them so we can help.

Pray for our partnerships with schools and organizations in the community. That we would be eager to serve and they would flourish.

Pray for those serving in different countries to spread the love of Jesus. Steve and Kim Cecil. (Russia) Abraham and Kamala (Nepal) Jon and Marijane Beutler (Mozambique - Bible Translators) Brian and Barbara Thompson (United World Missions)

Head to Toe Prayer for Kids

To give younger kids a tangible way to talk with God, relate topics of prayer to different parts of their bodies. Have them point to their:

- Toes: Pray they would always walk in God's paths and follow Him. Confess ways they might have strayed from God's path.
- Knees: Confess when they haven't knelt in prayer to God but have tried to do things on their own. Honor God with words they might use for a King as you are knelt down before Him.
- Tummy: Thank God for all He provides for us, including our food!
- Hands: Pray for the ways they could serve people, asking God to give them opportunities to serve neighbors and friends.
- Ears: Pray they would hear God's voice above all others, and that they would listen to the needs of people around them.
- Mouth: Pray they would courageously speak God's Word to those who need to hear it.
- Eyes: Pray they would seek God, and that God would give them eyes to see other people who may need to know they are known and loved by God.
- Head: Pray they would have the "mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16) and always consider others, think pure thoughts, and not be anxious or afraid. Children can also confess ways they may have not had the mind of Christ.

