



PRAYER GUIDE – October 31, 2024

We invite you to enter the SANCTUARY (sit in a pew, kneel at the altar and/or other places in the Sanctuary) to spend time with the Lord listening to and crying out to Him as you reflect on and pray prompted by these Scriptures and prayer prompts/points:

--Man of Sorrows

Has anyone ever said something that hurt you?

Or, maybe you have wounded a friend with your words? Take a look at the pain Jesus endured in order to save you:

Isaiah 53:3-5 says,

“He was despised and rejected - a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.”

Jesus went through all of that so you could be called His son or daughter. He wanted you to know that you are chosen and loved.

In light of Jesus' sacrifice, make it a goal to speak life to one another. Ask God for the gentleness and wisdom to reflect Him with every word you say.

--Names of God

In the Bible, God has many names. Each one represents a part of His character. The names of God have different meanings for you and me because of the ways we have experienced His faithfulness in our lives.

Read each of the names of God listed at the table. Which one is the most personal to you?

How has God worked in your life?

- Father
- Creator
- Provider

- Prince of Peace
- Good Shepherd
- Counselor
- Healer
- Savior

--Let the whole earth shout triumphantly to the Lord! Serve the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Acknowledge that the Lord is God. He made us, and we are his — his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and bless his name. For the Lord is good, and his faithful love endures forever; his faithfulness, through all generations.

Psalm 100:1-5 CSB

**We have so much to be thankful for. Glory to God!!

--2 Chronicles 7:14 "If My people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways then I will hear from heaven and I will forgive their sins and I will heal their land."

**Pray. Pray. Pray for our country in these last hours before Election Day.

**Ask the Lord to convict of specific sins in your heart, then confess, repent, and receive His generous forgiveness in total reliance on the blood and death of Jesus.

--For my thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as high as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9

**Prayers as we surrender our plans to the Lord and wait for His prompting of our next steps.

--“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

**Pray that our hearts will seek more of Him and we will be filled to the measure and overflow as we know and experience more of him!!

**Pray St John's will always filter all plans through Jesus' command to LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE and to MAKE DISCIPLES. (Matthew 22:36-40, Matthew 28:18-20)

**Pray over each Sunday School class, Bible study group as they come to mind.

**Pray over Sunday Worship times and what this time honoring God means to you.

**Pray over our choir and praise band, may the music bring us closer to God in worship and may this “music family” continue to grow in love and community with one another.

**Pray over Wednesday night activities as a whole and pray also about how you and your family can be a part of all that goes on each Wednesday. Pray we remember these times together are laying a foundation of faith and family in the lives of not just our kids but in all who are involved.

**Pray with hope filled expectation over our 5 year plan and what the 75th year of St John’s Methodist Church will look like in 2029.

**Pray over our Daycare (children served, their families, director, teachers, board, present and future needs)

--Isaiah 41:10 “Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed for I am your God. I will help you. Yes, I will hold you in My righteous right hand.”

**Prayers over Bro Ben as he leads. May he hear loudly from the Holy Spirit, may he boldly step into where God is calling him to lead our church. May he follow the model of Jesus, guiding staff and congregation with grace and truth. Pray he is reminded daily that God promises to help him and to hold him.

**Pray for staff members by name (Same Isaiah 41:10 reminder):

- Mattie Burton
- Nicole Lindsey
- Baylor Garrett
- Tamie Burton
- Schiefer Phillips
- Vicky Morgan
- Andy Hackleman
- Arie Strain
- Kim Oates

**Specific prayers over Mattie Burton family (Brandon, Mattie, Jozie):

- To experience a special, fresh closeness with Christ
- To have a smooth time moving in and settling into their new house
- To make positive new relationships within the church, neighborhood, and community
- To experience grace, comfort, wisdom, and strength for the challenge of change – leaving behind and starting over
- To experience the rich welcome of Christ through His people at St. John’s and in the community
- To experience a smooth transition into a new daycare (Jozie) and work (Brandon and Mattie)

--We live in this world, but we don’t fight our battles in the same way the world does. The weapons we use are not human ones. Our weapons have power from God and can

destroy the enemy's strong places. We destroy people's arguments, and we tear down every proud idea that raises itself against the knowledge of God. We also capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 ERV

**Pray over our youth. Our youth have asked us to pray over their level of anxiety. Pray with us they learn to cope with stress over hard things going on at home, busy schedules and pressure to perform. Prayers our teenagers are learning how to find real rest in Jesus.

--Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38 CSB

--“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’ Matthew 25:40

**Missions:

-Ahava will move to their new location November 10th. Please pray for a smooth transition.

-You Matter Ministries will hand out coats on Monday, November 11th.
(Please see You Matter's prayer guide for specific prayers during this season of discernment)

-Other missions this season to cover in prayer:

Angel Tree

Christmas Meals

**Please keep prayers over the Community Kitchen's transition into a new location and a new board of directors.

-Our St John's reps to the board & executive committee: Emily Gnemi (Secretary) & Justin Nix

--The people who live in darkness have seen a great light, and for those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned. From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near.” As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter), and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. “Follow me,” he told them, “and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:16-20 CSB

For North Delta District Rally (Sunday, November 3, 2024):

-Matthew 4:16-19

-To see, hear, and respond continually and faithfully to Jesus who is The LIGHT and The LIFE

-To experience Jesus bringing His light and life into our own darkness and death

-To be in constant preparation by Jesus through the Holy Spirit to care about and bring His light and life to the places of darkness and death in our families, churches, and communities

-To be fruitful in Jesus as “fishers of people”

NATIONAL/ELECTION SEASON PRAYER POINTS (from Jack Graham Ministries):

#1 – PRAY FOR WISDOM AND DISCERNMENT:

Pray for God's wisdom for all who are involved in the election process, including candidates, voters, and officials.

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. – James 1:5

#2 – PRAY FOR LEADERS AND CANDIDATES:

Pray for those running for office, that they may be guided by integrity, truth, and a heart to serve the people.

The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will. – Proverbs 21:1

#3 – PRAY FOR THE PROTECTION AND THE SANCTITY OF LIFE:

Pray for the protection and sanctity of life at all stages, that our nation may uphold the value of every life – born or unborn.

For you formed my inward parts, you knitted me together in my mother's womb. – Psalm 139:13

#4 – PRAY FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:

Pray for the preservation of religious freedom in our nation, that believers may continue to worship and serve God without hindrance.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. – 2 Corinthians 3:17

#5 – PRAY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE:

Pray for peace and justice in our land, that God's righteousness will prevail in all aspects of society.

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." – Amos 5:24

#6 – PRAY FOR NATIONAL UNITY:

Pray for the unity of our nation, that despite differences, we may come together in love and mutual respect.

Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. – Ephesians 4:5

#7 – PRAY FOR REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING:

Pray for a spiritual awakening in America, that many will turn to Christ and experience His love and salvation.

Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? – Psalm 85:6