

Prayer Guide

January - March 2025



Happy New Year!

This prayer guide and scripture reading are devoted to a regular commitment to devoted time with Jesus. They help you to slow down for contemplative prayer and scripture reading and follow a shared track of prayer and scripture with our church.

Use this prayer guide along with our weekly prayer list sent each week and lift your church family in prayer.

Remember, prayer forms us. I expect you to hear from God when you pray; it could be a simple encouragement or a convicting spirit nudge. His Spirit is always at work.

Payton Nate

We pray to be **formed by God**. Take a moment and **quiet your head, heart and spirit**. Open yourself to hearing from God and then **begin with these prayers each day**. This is the work of slowing down and posturing yourself to **hear from God**.

FIRST WORDS IN PRAYER

O Lord, let my soul rise to meet you
as the day rises to meet the sun.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

You are with us.

Jesus, teach us not to shun what is
of God in everyone.

Lord, help us believe that we might
see you come.

When I walk in darkness, Lord,
carry me through.

Good Shepherd, we are yours;
you know our every care.

CONFESSION AND DECLARATION

I confess to you, Almighty God,
and to my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do.

Because of God's grace and
forgiveness,
I will walk in the light, the beautiful
light.
I will come to where the dewdrops of
mercy shine bright.
Jesus, shine all around us by day and
by night.
Jesus, you are the light of the world.

THE JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

HAVE MERCY ON ME [A SINNER].

Amen.

LORD, I'M WILLING

BY GENA RAE MCNEIL

Lord, I'm willing.

Lord, I'm willing your will and way to see.

Lord, I'm willing. Lord, I'm willing.

Lord, I'm willing to be used by Thee.

'Though sometimes I don't feel worthy,
consecrate me. I'm saved, I'm not the
same.

'Though the world may under-rate me,
dedicate me so I'll be wholly changed.

Lord, I'm willing. Here I stand.

Lord, I'm willing. Take my hand
and keep me by thy grace,
so I can run this race.

LORD, I'M WILLING

BY GENA RAE MCNEIL

Lord, it's more than I'll ever understand,
how I am preserved by thy hand.
But then there's only two things required
of me:
to be faithful (because I've been set free)
and to be willing to be used by Thee.
So Lord, I come willing to be used by Thee.

Lord, I'm willing.
Lord, I'm willing your will and way to see.
Lord, I'm willing. Lord, I'm willing.
Lord, I'm willing to be used by Thee.

When we open God's word, it's like we're opening his mouth— take some time each day to immerse yourself in God's word. As you read the daily Psalm, imagine the feelings you encounter as your own. As you read in the Old Testament, work to discover what it has to do with the Good News of Jesus Christ. As you read in the New Testament, imagine you are present with Jesus or with the early church.

BIBLE READING QUARTER 1

Psalms: one each day

Old Testament Reading: same each day of the week

New Testament Reading: one chapter each day

Week of Dec 29

Psalm 1-7
Isaiah 60:1-9
Ephesians 3:1-12

Week of Jan 5

Psalm 8-14
Isaiah 42:1-9
Luke 3:15-22

Week of Jan 12

Psalm 15-21
Isaiah 62:1-5
John 2:1-11

Week of Jan 19

Psalm 22-28
Nehemiah 8:2-10
Luke 4:14-21

Week of Jan 26

Psalm 29-35
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Luke 4:21-32

Week of Feb 2

Psalm 36-42
Judges 6:11-24
I Corinthians 15:1-11

Week of Feb 9

Psalm 43-49
Jeremiah 17:5-10
I Corinthians 15:12-20

Week of Feb 16

Psalm 50-56
Genesis 45:3-11, 21-28
I Corinthians 15:35-50

Week of Feb 23

Psalm 57-63
Jeremiah 7:1-15
I Corinthians 15:50-58

Week of Mar 2

Psalm 64-70
Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Romans 10:5-13

Week of Mar 9

Psalm 71-77
Genesis 15:1-12,
17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1

Week of Mar 16

Psalm 78-84
Exodus 3:1-15
I Corinthians 10:1-13

Week of Mar 23

Psalm 85-91
Joshua 4:19-24,
5:9-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

This next section is all about bringing our requests to God. Before you begin this specific time of prayer, read Psalm 23 and Psalm 91:1-2.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for your immediate family by name.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray for your personal requests and needs.

Use this time to pray for whatever is on your heart. Employ your spiritual gift and pray in tongues to edify yourself before the Lord.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for these weekly needs:

Sunday: the church gathered

All of Albemarle's worship gatherings today are clear gospel! Our network churches: Sandhills Assembly and NC Assemblies of God fellowship Churches.

Monday: the church scattered in mission

Wisdom in reaching out with God's love through our various vocations, local businesses, and medical missions. Business owners in the community, doctors, nurses, civil servants.

Tuesday: the church at home and at school

For homes and schools. All of our county schools, charter and private schools, college and universities.

Wednesday: the church serving the needy

The people who reach out regularly to meet the needs of the community. Our local and regional outreach partnerships include the Pregnancy Resource Center, Stanly Christian Ministry, Convoy of Hope, FAM, LEAF, and other partners.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for these weekly needs:

Thursday: the church in our nation and world

Guidance for those who govern and those who are governed. For peace and justice. Local, state, and national officials and servants.

Friday: AFA's own fellowship

For the growth and deep-rooted cultivation of unity and hospitality at AFA. For our pastor, board, and leadership team.

Saturday: the witness of Christians

That the church may grow inwardly in discipleship and outwardly through evangelism of the lost; All of our supported missionaries.

PRAYER TO THE CRUCIFIED CHRIST

(ADAPTED) BY HOWARD THURMAN

Teach me, O God, the simple lesson
of trust.

Bring into my sorely pressed spirit the sure
confidence of birds floating in the sky with
nothing to support them but the
automatic trust of wings; or the sure
confidence of fish that keeps them from
drowning with nothing to save but the
automatic use of their gills. Teach me to
trust, to work for the renewal of my
strength; all without pressure, without
paying hostage to my anxieties.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew
their strength."

CLOSING PRAYERS

These prayers are an appropriate ascent from the slower, more contemplative prayer that we've just prayed. Pray these as you wrap up this time of prayer.

PRAYER WITH OPEN HANDS

Christ, as a light, illuminate and guide me.

Christ, as a shield, overshadow me.

Christ under me; Christ over me;

Christ beside me, on my left and my right.

This day be within and without me, lowly
and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me, lowly
and meek yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;

Christ as a shield;

Christ beside me

on my left and my right.

PRAYER OF GRACE

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF THE MYSTERY

Christ **has died**.

Christ **has risen**.

Christ **will come again**.

BENEDICTION PRAYER

We are image bearers of the
most high God,
We are covered by the love
of Jesus,
We have the power of the
Holy Spirit within us.

Because of the Holy Spirit's
power within us,
We will freely and recklessly
give away this love of Jesus
We won't hold back.

Amen.



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