

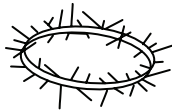


GRACE FOR THE HUMBLE

JAMES 4:6-7

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2019



PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

LENT & HOLY WEEK 2019

But he gives more grace. Therefore it says,
"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the
humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God.

JAMES 4:6-7

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PCPC PRAYER GUIDE INTRODUCTION

This guide has a simple aim: to help us grow in our love for God through time in His Word and prayer. The Bible teaches that in order to love God we need a relationship with Him. Though we had caused alienation from God by our sin, God Himself has nevertheless provided for that relationship in His overcoming the alienation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is God the Son. In union with Christ, we now have intimate access to God as our heavenly Father. Scripture and prayer are the means through which we experience, apply, and enjoy that relationship. As we learn to pray, and as we learn to listen and obey the gracious overtures of God's Word, we learn to live as God's children, loving and trusting Him more fully.

WHY DAILY PRAYER?

Why set aside fixed times every day for prayer? Why not simply pray unprompted, when the stirring comes? Practically speaking, we are creatures attuned to rhythms. We order our lives by sunrises and sunsets, by hours, weeks, seasons, and years. Daily prayer is a way of consecrating our ordinary rhythms to God, ensuring that all of life is offered to Him. C. S. Lewis once wrote, "Relying on God has to begin all over again every day as if nothing had yet been done." And so it must. Our relationship with God should take hold of our schedules as well as our hearts.

Historically speaking, this has been the way of God's people. Consider the testimonies of the psalmists:

"Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates *day and night*" (Psalm 1:1-2).

"*Evening and morning and at noon* I cry out to you..." (Psalm 55:17).

"*Seven times a day* do I praise you..." (Psalm 119:64).

By the time of the first century, the ritual of daily prayer was formally embedded in Jewish spirituality. There were several hours in the day that marked regular times for prayer. The first detailed miracle in Acts happened because Peter and John were going to the temple "at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour" (Acts 3:1) for three o'clock prayers. Peter's vision in Acts 10 confirming God's grace for the Gentiles occurred as he was observing sixth-hour prayer, his noon devotions (Acts 10:9). The community that gathered after Pentecost devoted themselves daily to "the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42).

The practice of daily prayer continued through the early church and expanded consistently throughout time and culture wherever the gospel spread. Along with

Sunday worship and the sacraments, daily prayer remains a central way that Christians all over the world express devotion to Christ.

But we might simply hearken back to Jesus Himself. Even being the eternal Son of God, Jesus set aside times to pray regularly. He celebrated His dependence on the Father (John 5:19, 30) and sought sanctuary in solitude with Him (Luke 5:16). If it was necessary for Jesus who is "very God of very God," how much more for us who are made to bear His image?

WHY A PRAYER GUIDE?

A common objection to using a liturgy for devotions is that it restricts freedom, deteriorating into heartless formality. However, if you have ever found yourself repeating the same words and phrases over and over again in prayer "spontaneously," then you know that our own minds and experiences are just as restrictive. Guided prayer is not meant to curb freedom but to bolster it by introducing into our prayer life the language and imagery of the Scriptures.

Here are a few compelling reasons to use a prayer guide:

1. It helps us to pray regularly.

Sometimes we may not pray regularly because we may not know where to begin. A prayer guide takes the pressure off needing to make that decision anew every day. It repeatedly says, "Start here." You do not need a stirring, a reason, a plan, or consistency. Simply "start here" and let God's Word lead you into prayer.

2. It helps us to pray biblically.

In this prayer guide there is no commentary from gifted Christian authors or pastors. It is uncluttered, so to speak. The elements come either directly from Scripture or from common worship. The majority of time is spent in the Psalms, a book of the Bible meant especially for prayer and worship. One of the encouraging messages reiterated in the Psalms is that you do not have to put on a happy face to live the Christian life. Praying biblically allows us to pray the truth of who we are while growing in the hope of who we might yet become.

3. It helps us to pray communally.

Though we are praying individually, we are doing so together, specifically as a church body. This book is meant for this flock, in this time and place. To know that others with whom God has joined us are reading and praying the same words encourages us in our common journey. Prayer is a communal activity as much as much as an individual one.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Use this guide however may be helpful to you. For many, that means using it just as it is. For others who are already committed to daily reading plans or Bible studies, that may mean skipping the Scripture readings and only using some of the other portions. For those who are in the habit of family worship, you can adapt the guide to read and pray together as a family.

Here are suggestions for each of the elements:

The Call to Worship

The Call to Worship is God's initiating with you through His Word. Read the call, perhaps out loud. Receive God's invitation to worship Him as spoken to you in that moment.

The Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Praise God for who He is as He has shown in His Word and in your life. Thank Him for His presence and gifts in your life.

The Readings

The other daily readings for this season, continuing from Epiphany, conclude the section of the Old Testament known as the Minor Prophets. These prophets are called "minor" because their writings are short in comparison to longer prophetic books like Isaiah and Jeremiah. Though often challenging due to our distance from their historical circumstances, the minor prophets have a God-given agenda that is entirely relevant today: to call God's people to turn from their sin and to return to the grace found in obedience to Him. Here is a brief overview of each book:

Micah: To the southern kingdom of Judah, Micah writes about God's judgment, forgiveness, and future hope.

Nahum: To the southern kingdom of Judah, a message of hope through the coming destruction of oppressive Nineveh.

Habakkuk: A dialogue between the prophet and God about God's justice and sovereignty.

Zephaniah: To the southern kingdom of Judah, Zephaniah emphasizes the "day of the LORD," a time of judgment for those who have rejected God and blessing for those who have followed Him.

Haggai: To those who have returned from Babylonian captivity, Haggai writes about the restoration of the Temple and fulfillment of God's promises.

Zechariah: To those who have returned from Babylonian captivity, God renews His commitment to restore Judah as His treasured people.

Malachi: To those who have returned from Babylonian captivity, a call to seek renewal out of their moral compromise and dead orthodoxy.

The Prayers for the Day and for the Night

In the morning, begin by saying The Lord's Prayer, the model for prayer that Jesus taught His disciples. (You can find the words in the Appendix of this guide.) Each phrase of The Lord's Prayer is filled with grace and challenge. Say the prayer expectantly for the day ahead.

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession are opportunities for you to lay out before God whatever burdens you carry as well as those others carry. Ask Him for things. Ask Him for mercy. Ask Him to help you become more like Christ.

The Closing Prayer is a way to conclude. All of the closing prayers draw from *The Book of Common Prayer* and are unique to either morning or evening. They are called "collects" because they gather our prayers together and present them before God collectively as we go about our scattered lives. Pray this prayer as your own in the confidence that others are praying with you.

The Confession of Sin

The Confession of Sin occurs at night as we review our days. It is an opportunity to repent for the ways we have missed the mark and to receive the grace we need for renewal and change. In the Appendix you will find a longer explanation for the process of self-examination that fits here.

The Words of Assurance

The Words of Assurance are God's promise to forgive, cleanse, accept, and renew you in Christ. Hold onto these as you would anything of great value. Return to them when doubts or disillusionment grow.

The Grace

The Grace is God's blessing on you as you go out into your day or lay your head down to sleep. Receive it as a final word until you return to pray again.

Sundays

Sundays are unique as our time to gather and worship as a church family, to celebrate once again the victory of Christ over sin and death. There are only Psalm readings on Sunday because the liturgy of corporate worship is our primary focus. Consider using the Sunday morning liturgy again at night for personal prayer.

A Note for Families

This prayer guide can be a great tool for times of family worship. We suggest letting any of those who are able take turns reading each portion: one person reads the Call to Worship, another the Confession of Sin, another the Words of Assurance, and so on. This ensures that everyone is involved in both hearing and speaking the Word of God with one another. During the Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving and the Prayers of Supplication and Intercession, you may each say something aloud, no matter how short or clumsy (we are all learners!). During the Personal Examination and Confession, take a minute to pray to God personally in the quiet of your own thoughts. This is just one

way to use the guide as a family. We encourage you to explore how it might best help your own worship and devotion in your life together.

As a final word, there are many great reading plans, devotionals, and exercises to encourage in us a life of prayer. This is a way to pray, only one among many that has grown up in the history of God's people. Most important is not the method, but the reality of loving and trusting God. May your relationship with Him grow.

WELCOME TO THE SEASON OF LENT.

The word *lent* is English in origin and comes from the word *lengthen*. Lent is the time of the year when the days grow longer, and we look forward to the warmth and new life of spring.

The Christian liturgical calendar reflects this growing light and hope in our celebration of Easter. The date of Easter falls on a Sunday after the spring equinox, because the spring equinox is the point in our solar year when light overtakes darkness. Thus, the placement of Easter reflects the truth that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the point in history when light overtook darkness. And from the empty tomb, we anticipate that the light will grow until darkness is no more: "And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:5).

So as the days lengthen, we prepare our hearts for the yearly commemoration of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Lent is a time to reflect on our lives. It is a time to repent of our sins. It is a time to experience anew the cleansing flood of God's mercy that washes our sins away and the amazing grace that restores us to wholeness and abundant life in His family.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and continues until Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. Excluding Sundays, this is a period of 40 days, commemorating the 40 days of fasting, prayer, and temptation that Christ spent in the wilderness on our behalf. It's also typological of the forty years that Israel spent wandering in the desert, the 40 days of rain during the days of Noah, and other 40-day penitential periods throughout Scripture.

In union with our Savior, Lent is a time to deny our own flesh by fasting in some way. In the Bible, fasting is not a show of piety or spiritual strength, but a way to depend on God more fully.

There are two main reasons we fast during Lent. First, we fast for the life of the world. As we deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Christ, we call upon God to heal our broken world. Second, we fast in order to mourn the reality of our own brokenness. As a season of repentance, Lent invites us to be more introspective and to ask the Lord to deliver us from our sinful ways in order to be His light to the nations. Thus, these two reasons for fasting go hand-in-hand. We fast and pray for deliverance for the world, yet God has given us to the world for its deliverance. Therefore, we also fast and pray for our own deliverance from sin, so that we can better love and serve this broken world. You will find these themes reflected in our prayer guide this season.

So, what should I do during Lent? Here is a good summary:

LOOK IN – Lent is a time to look inward and reflect on our lives and relationship with God.

LOOK UP – Lent is a time to focus our hearts and minds on God in prayer.

GIVE UP – Lent is a time to fast and abstain from some good things in order to focus and pray more fervently.

GIVE OUT – Lent is a time to evaluate and renew our commitment to give to and serve in God's Kingdom.

Here are some suggested fasts for the season: food, TV, social media, alcohol, shopping, caffeine, radio/podcasts.

In the back of this guide, you'll find an exercise that will help you identify things in your heart and life that have become rivals to God, all of which are good when ordered below our love for Him. We call these things idols. Consider using this exercise during Lent as a means of specific repentance.

Adapted from an introduction written by Tim Lecroy, lead pastor at Christ our King Presbyterian Church in Columbia, Missouri. You can read more about the season of Lent from Tim's blog: www.pastortimlecroy.com/category/church-calendar/lent

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 95, 32, 143

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins, may receive from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalms: 102, 130

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Bless us, O God, in this holy season, in which our hearts seek Your help and healing; and so purify us by Your discipline that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 37:1-18

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 2

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins, may receive from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalm: 37:19-42

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Bless us, O God, in this holy season, in which our hearts seek Your help and healing; and so purify us by Your discipline that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 31

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 3

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins, may receive from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalm: 35

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Bless us, O God, in this holy season, in which our hearts seek Your help and healing; and so purify us by Your discipline that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 30, 32

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 4

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins, may receive from You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalms: 42, 43

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Bless us, O God, in this holy season, in which our hearts seek Your help and healing; and so purify us by Your discipline that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Morning Psalms: 63, 98

Evening Psalm: 103

MONDAY, MARCH 11

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 41, 52

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 5

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalm: 44

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 45

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 6:1-8

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalms: 47, 48

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 119:49-72

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 6:9-16

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalms: 49, 53

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 50

Reading the Bible Together: Micah 7

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalms: 19, 46

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 40, 54

Reading the Bible Together: Nahum 1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalm: 51

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 55

Reading the Bible Together: Nahum 2

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your only Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalms: 138, 139

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You, we may glorify Your holy name, and, finally, by Your mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

Morning Psalms: 24, 29

Evening Psalms: 8, 84

MONDAY, MARCH 18

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 56, 57

Reading the Bible Together: Nahum 3

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalms: 64, 65

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 61, 62

Reading the Bible Together: Habakkuk 1-2:1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalm: 68

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 72

Reading the Bible Together: Habakkuk 2:2-20

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalm: 74

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 70

Reading the Bible Together: Habakkuk 3:1-9

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalm: 74

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 69

Reading the Bible Together: Zephaniah 1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalm: 73

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 75, 76

Reading the Bible Together: Zephaniah 2

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, Jesus Christ, Your Son; who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalms: 23, 27

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Morning Psalms: 93, 96

Evening Psalm: 34

MONDAY, MARCH 25

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 80

Reading the Bible Together: Zephaniah 3:1-8

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalm: 77

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 78:1-39

Reading the Bible Together: Zephaniah 3:9-20

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalm: 78:40-72

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, who drew out a fountain of living water in the desert for Your people, as they well knew, draw from the hardness of our hearts tears of repentance, that we may be able to lament our sins and receive You in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 119:97-120

Reading the Bible Together: Haggai 1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalms: 81, 82

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 83

Reading the Bible Together: Haggai 2

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalms: 85, 86

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 88

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 1:1-17

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalms: 91, 92

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 87, 90

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 1:18-2:13

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalm: 136

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth Your right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Morning Psalms: 66, 67

Evening Psalms: 19, 46

MONDAY, APRIL 1

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 89:1-18

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 3

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalm: 89:19-52

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah: No longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31, 34)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 97, 99

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 4

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalm: 94

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 101, 109

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 5

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalm: 119:121-144

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, APRIL 4

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 69

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 6

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalm: 73

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 102

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 7

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalm: 107:1-32

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 107:33-43, 108

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 8

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that He may live in us, and we in Him; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalm: 33

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully increase in us Your gifts of holy discipline, in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting; that our lives may be directed to the fulfilling of Your most gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Morning Psalm: 118

Evening Psalm: 145

MONDAY, APRIL 8

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 31

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 9:1-8

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalm: 35

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah: No longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31, 34)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 121, 122, 123

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 9:9-17

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalms: 124, 125, 126

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 119:145-176

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 10

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalms: 128, 129, 130

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 131, 132

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 11

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalms: 140, 142

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 22

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 12:1-13:1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalms: 141, 143

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 137, 144

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 13:2-9

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, You alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant Your people grace to love what You command and desire what You promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalms: 42, 43

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only begotten Son to reconcile earth with heaven; Grant that we, loving You above all things, may love our friends in You, and our enemies for Your sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

Morning Psalms: 24, 29

Evening Psalm: 103

MONDAY, APRIL 15

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 33b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 51

Reading the Bible Together: Zechariah 14

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy, but first He suffered pain and entered not into glory before He was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. (Hebrews 1:1-2)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God my Father, help me to nail to the cross of Your dear Son the whole body of my death, the wrong desires of my heart, the sinful designs of my mind, the corrupt sights of my eyes, the cruel words of my tongue, the ill employment of my hands and feet; that I may live and grow into the glorious likeness of Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. (1 John 3:1)

Evening Psalm: 69

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy, but first He suffered pain and entered not into glory before He was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (Hebrews 3:12-13)

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah: No longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. (Jeremiah 31:31, 34)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalms: 6, 12

Reading the Bible Together: Malachi 1

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, by the passion of Your blessed Son, You made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so, to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. (Hebrews 1:3a)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O God of my salvation, I confess that I do not serve You as I should. My love for others is often shallow, crumbling at the first tremor of real testing. I try to heal deep wounds with superficial cures. Forgive me. Confront me with Your way of righting wrong, Your strange work of healing through the sacrificial love of Jesus, and help me to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)

Evening Psalm: 94

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, by the passion of Your blessed Son, You made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so, to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. (Hebrews 4:14)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31a, 34b)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 55

Reading the Bible Together: Malachi 2:1-16

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Lord God, whose blessed Son, our Savior, gave His body to be whipped and His face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (1 Peter 1:8-9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

After making purification for sins, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (Hebrews 1:3b-4)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, I confess my sinful response to the trials and discomforts of my life. While in the depths of woe, I have resented my need for You and rarely lifted my eyes to You. Instead, I have been charmed by other things that falsely promise escape and comfort: the approval of others; material possessions; the satisfaction of my own desires. Soften my heart to delight in Your love for me above all else, through Your Son, my Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. (Psalm 103:2-4)

Evening Psalm: 74

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Lord God, whose blessed Son, our Savior, gave His body to be whipped and His face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David, and He shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (Jeremiah 33:14-15)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 102

Reading the Bible Together: Malachi 2:17-3:5

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before He suffered instituted the sacrament of His body and blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Of the Son, God says, "Your throne, O God is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions." (Hebrews 1:8-9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Merciful Father, I have been quick to judge and slow to forgive. I have kept score of how others have wronged me, nursed grudges, shown coldness, and lashed out in anger. Thank You, Father, that this is not how You have treated me. Enable me to love and forgive others in the same way that You have loved and forgiven me, in Jesus' merciful name. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end. (Lamentations 3:21-22)

Evening Psalms: 142, 143

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before He suffered instituted the sacrament of His body and blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.... Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (Hebrews 10:19, 22-23)

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." (Jeremiah 33:14, 16)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 22

Reading the Bible Together: Malachi 3:6-18

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we pray You graciously to behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (1 Peter 2:10)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

O Lord, I have sinned countless times today and have no glory or obedience to wear before You. Forgive me for my doubt, my rebellion, my apathy; for my self-assertive pride and my self-destructive shame. Turn my eyes toward Your radiant Son to see in Him my health, salvation, and hope, trusting that His wounds have paid my ransom. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression... You will cast all our sins in the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:18a, 19b)

Evening Psalms: 40, 54

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we pray You graciously to behold this Your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

MORNING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah...David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in My presence to make sacrifices forever. (Jeremiah 33:14, 17)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Readings

Morning Psalm: 88

Reading the Bible Together: Malachi 4

Prayers for the Day

The Lord's Prayer

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

EVENING PRAYER

Call to Worship

Therefore, He had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (Hebrews 2:17-18)

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus, help me, for I am weak and forgetful, easily distracted by the joys and sorrows of life. I am capable of great thoughts concerning You one moment, and yet forgetting Your kindness the next. Forgive me for the unbelief that clings to my flesh and clouds my mind with doubt and fear. Help me to take hold of You as You have taken hold of me, according to the riches of Your power and grace. *Amen.*

Personal Examination and Confession

Words of Assurance

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the Lord takes thought for me. You are my help and my deliverer.... (Psalm 40:17)

Evening Psalm: 27

Prayers for the Night

Prayers of Supplication and Intercession

Closing Prayer

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with Him the coming of the third day, and rise with Him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

IDOLATRY INVENTORY

Lent is an opportunity to look inside our hearts, identify the things that we love more than God, and humbly repent, asking for more of His transformation.

Prior to establishing a daily practice, use the idolatry inventory below to identify 2-3 statements/idols which you are prone to. Take at least 15 minutes each day to review idols and instances when your idols may have been at work, and to pray in repentance, asking God to help you love and serve Him more than your idols.

"I only have worth if / Life only has meaning if ...

I have power and influence over others." (power idolatry)

I am loved and respected by ____." (approval idolatry)

I have this kind of pleasure experience, a particular quality of life."
(comfort idolatry)

I am able to get mastery over my life in the area of ____." (control idolatry)

People are dependent on me and need me." (helping idolatry)

Someone is there to protect me and keep me safe." (dependence idolatry)

I am completely free from obligations or responsibilities to take care of someone." (independence idolatry)

I am highly productive and getting a lot done." (Work idolatry)

I am being recognized for my accomplishments, and I am excelling in my work." (achievement idolatry)

I have a certain level of wealth, financial freedom, and very nice possessions."
(materialism idolatry)

I am adhering to my religion's moral codes and accomplished in its activities."
(religion idolatry)

This one person is in my life and happy to be there, and/or happy with me."
(individual person idolatry)

I feel I am totally independent of organized religion and am living by a self-made morality." (irreligion idolatry)

My race and culture is ascendant and recognized as superior."
(racial/cultural idolatry)

A particular social grouping or professional grouping or other group lets me in." (inner ring idolatry)

My children and/or my parents are happy and happy with me."
(family idolatry)

Mr. or Ms. "Right" is in love with me." (relationship Idolatry)

I am hurting, in a problem; only then do I feel worthy of love or able to deal with guilt." (suffering idolatry)

My political or social cause is making progress and ascending in influence or power." (ideology idolatry)

I have a particular kind of look or body image." (image idolatry)

Confront Your Idols:

1. Name your idol(s) out loud.
2. Confess your hearts dependence on your idol(s) to God and someone else.
3. Repent, or turn away from, the idol(s) in your life.
4. Rejoice, or take joy in, the absolute certainty of Jesus' mastery of your life.
5. Replace your idol(s) with a renewed passion for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

*This inventory was originally created by
Tim Keller, founding pastor of Redeemer Prebyterian Church, Manhattan

APPENDIX

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy catholic church;
The communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

A WAY OF PERSONAL EXAMINATION

Consider God's holiness and grace, manifest in the life of the Son, Jesus Christ.

Pray for God's presence and illumination. Ask God's Spirit to be with you and for your eyes to be open as you consider your day.

Examine yourself prayerfully:

Search me, O God, and know my heart!
Try me and know my thoughts!
And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting! (Psalm 139:23-24)

Note the times throughout the day you have seen God at work in your circumstances and in your heart. Name those ways in which you have resisted God and His will.

Pray in deep gratitude for every sign of God's loving presence, and pray in sorrow, repenting of any place you have resisted His loving will.

Receive the Words of Assurance for the day, leaning on the promises and mercy of God.

Conclude in prayer, offering yourself body and soul, in your thoughts, words, and actions, as a living sacrifice to God, which is your spiritual worship.

NOTES





But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God.

JAMES 4:6-7

