About this Booklet

Since we first published our booklet of Lenten prayer, a lot has changed! COVID-19 has upset our plans, isolated us from one another and brought death, sickness, financial hardship, worry and stress to our community. Once the social distancing guidelines are lifted, our world will remain a very different place than it was in mid-March. The generations living through this time will forever remember a time pre- and post-Coronavirus. We will be forever changed.

Yet it is the Easter season—a time when we remember Christ defeated death and is raised to a new life, with a new body that will never die again. We are invited to do the same: to die to sin and death and live in Christ. This is true, regardless of how we feel about it or how small our lives have become. We need to constantly remind ourselves this is true, and that is what this booklet is designed to do.

As Wisconsin's *Safer at Home* order continues, we pray God's will be done during this pandemic. We pray to be shaped us into the people God created us to be, pray God give us His own prayers and longings for the world, pray for patience and grace for the sake of those we live with and pray He prepares us to share our true hope—Jesus Christ himself—with the world.

As we move into the Easter season, pray regularly! These prayers have been updated to reflect the joy and victory of Jesus, and how that gives us hope for our current circumstances.

Orientation

The prayer offices in this booklet are designed to be done in as little as 5 minutes. As time allows, you can expand them with additional scripture, silence and intercession. Do as many or few of the offices as you like! You can find a full orientation at <a href="lightcolor: lightcolor: light

GAFCON has collected a series of prayers of intercession for COVID-19 at gafcon.org/prayers-during-covid-19-crisis



Prayers for Morning & Evening

EASTER 2020

In The Morning —

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall show forth your praise. *Psalm 51:15*

Psalm 100

O be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; * serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. Be assured that the Lord, he is God; * it is he that has made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; * be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting, * and his truth endures from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A reading from holy scripture may be added.

O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others. The church prays for seven different areas, listed on the next page. You can pray for one area each day, or pray through all seven daily, either in the morning or evening.

Pray for...

Ourselves

The Government

Church Leadership

Our Community

Those in Need

The Peace of the World

The Repentance of God's People

Pray The Lord's Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, who alone works great marvels: Send down upon our clergy and the congregations committed to their charge the life-giving Spirit of your grace, shower them with the continual dew of your blessing, and ignite in them a zealous love of your Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

At Midday —

This devotion may be used before or after the midday meal.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. *Ephesians 1:3*

Psalm 113:1-4

Praise the Lord. Sing praises, you servants of the Lord; *
O praise the Name of the Lord.
Blessed be the Name of the Lord, *
from this time forth for evermore.
The Lord's Name be praised *
from the rising up of the sun to the going down of the same.
The Lord is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

A reading from holy scripture may be added.

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

Pray The Lord's Prayer

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the Cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

In the Early Evening ————

This devotion may be used before or after the evening meal.

A candle may be lit during the following Scripture:

How excellent is your mercy, O God! The children of men shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings. For with you is the well of life, and in your light shall we see light. *Psalm 36:7, 9*

Phos Hilaron

O gladsome light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,*
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,*
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,*
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

A reading from holy scripture may be added.

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

Pray The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis - The Song of Simeon

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, * according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, * which you have prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, * and to be the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; * as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. *Luke* 2:29-32

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this night and evermore. Amen.

At the Close of Day —

I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; for you, Lord, only, make me dwell in safety. *Psalm 4:8*

Psalm 134 – Ecce Nunc

Behold now, praise the Lord, *
all you servants of the Lord,
You that stand by night in the house of the Lord, *
even in the courts of the house of our God.
Lift up your hands in the sanctuary *
and sing praises unto the Lord.
The Lord who made heaven and earth *
give you blessing out of Zion.

You keep them in perfect peace whose minds are stayed on you, because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord for ever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. *Isaiah* 26:3-4

A period of silence may follow.

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others. It is appropriate that prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings of the day, and penitence for our sins, be included.

Pray The Lord's Prayer

O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If you did not pray "In Early Evening," you may wish to conclude with the Nunc Dimittus and closing prayers on the prior page.