

# TRANSFORMING PRESENCE

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
DAILY PRAYER GUIDE



*Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend  
the transforming presence of the Kingdom of our  
Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.*

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

# TRANSFORMING PRESENCE

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## TRANSFORMING PRESENCE

This guide is an invitation to experience the wonder of God's transforming presence in daily life. Jesus has rescued us from our sins and has called us His own. In doing so, He has established our primary and permanent identity: we are His beloved daughters and sons. No other identity comes close to being as important or bringing such security. As people who receive and rest on Jesus Christ, we come to God as children of a perfectly good and loving Father—in the words of the Westminster Shorter Catechism—"offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to His will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of His mercies."

These prayers are intentionally arranged to the seven-day course of a week and focus our attention each day on themes of the Gospel. The week starts with Renew on Sunday as we remember and celebrate Jesus' victory over sin and death in common worship. The follow days reorient us to the Gospel, two days devoted to each theme: Connect, Abide, and Extend. Each week follows this common pattern of prayer to call us deeper, even as seven weeks of Scripture readings propel us forward in the reality of God's presence, power, and purpose.

Prayer connects the personal reality of the Father's presence to our hearts that we may abide deeply in Christ and extend His saving love by the Spirit to one another and the world. May this guide be a companion to our journey further into the transforming presence of Christ.

## **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.

## **WHY A PRAYER GUIDE?**

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" and let God's Word lead you into prayer.

### **2. It helps us to pray biblically.**

The majority of the reading is from Scripture. We will read through 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 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 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 Prayer**

The Call to Prayer is God's invitation for you to pray to Him as a beloved child speaking a perfectly good and loving Father.

### **The Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving**

The Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving are a space to celebrate the wonderful loving-goodness of God as revealed in His word and in your own life.

### **Scripture Readings**

The daily scripture readings turn our attention to God through His living Word. This prayer guide is oriented around the Psalms and selected readings in Luke, Acts, Galatians, and Ephesians that can be found in the Daily Scripture Readings appendix on page 22.

### **Reflection**

The time for reflection is intended to create space for you to listen to God through the Scripture readings and ask for His help to joyfully obey.

### **Prayer of Confession**

The Prayer of Confession is a time to tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, to live according to His loving-goodness and to receive the underserved healing-kindness of God that we need for renewal.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Jesus taught His disciples to pray in this way, so we too follow His lead by praying the Lord's Prayer.

## **Prayer of Supplication**

The Prayer of Supplication is a place to ask God to accomplish His redemptive purposes in the specific circumstances and relationships that are on your heart and mind, even as we pray for the Church and the needs we see in the world beyond our personal involvement.

## **Weekly Collect**

The Weekly Collect is a way of joining the Church united in Christ in the local congregation and around the world in praying the same prayer on the same day. All of the closing prayers draw from The Book of Common Prayer and remind us that we are united in Christ as we gather together—"collect"—our prayers and present them before our one God: Father, Jesus Christ His Son, and the Holy Spirit.

## **Sundays**

Sundays are a unique time to participate with the people of God in celebrating the victory of Christ over sin and death. A short Psalm reading appointed for Sundays as the liturgy of corporate worship centers our focus on Christ.

## **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 element. 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, you may each say something aloud, no matter how short or clumsy (we are all learners!). During the Prayer of 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 a life of prayer. This is only one way to pray among many that has grown up in the history of God's people. The reality of loving and trusting God is most important, not the method.

## WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The God who created the world wonderfully good made us to be in loving relationship with Him as caretakers of His creation, reflecting His goodness, beauty, and truth. Though created exceptionally good, we became fatally flawed, and the default setting of human nature is now notoriously and unavoidably self-centered and severed from God. Instead of living according to God's perfect loving-goodness, we are guilty of pride, betrayal, shame, violence, addiction, fear, injustice, and all kinds of evil that the Bible calls sin. However good our lives may be, we cannot fix our deepest problem in our own strength, and even life at its best ends in death, justly deserving eternal separation from God.

The Gospel, literally meaning "good news," is that God the Father so loved the world that He entered into it in person through His Son Jesus to rescue us and everything He has made from the corruption of sin. Jesus was born of a virgin woman named Mary through the Holy Spirit, God's personal presence and power, in Roman-occupied Palestine and lived in the early first century AD. He proclaimed, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel" and demonstrated this reality by His sinless way of life in healings, teaching, and powerful acts of God's mercy. Fully man and fully God, Jesus was executed by Roman forces on a cross for our sins, died, was buried, and rose bodily from the dead. His victory over sin and death revealed Jesus as God and the ultimate authority and leader of the whole world. There is no other way to salvation except through Him.

The risen Jesus is now in the realm of God's presence, power, and radiantly beautiful goodness—a reality invisibly alongside this visible realm that the Bible calls heaven—as the supreme world leader in charge over all things. He remains at work in the world to draw people to Himself as the Spirit enables us to give up trying to redeem ourselves, to turn away from self-centeredness, and to entrust our whole lives to Jesus. This is what the Bible calls repentance and faith. By God's loving action: we are freely forgiven of every wrong; united with God in an intimate relationship of love as His sons and daughters; restored to the life we were created for to enjoy and celebrate God's remarkable truth, goodness, and beauty; called to joyfully participate in His redeeming work in the world; and assured with hope that we too will rise from the dead to a magnificent life forever with God. When all of God's loving purposes for the world come to their appointed completion, Jesus will return to unite heaven and earth in the fullness of God's kingdom, right every wrong, and renew all things.

A clear way to make this commitment to Jesus is to speak honestly with God through a prayer in which you:

- Tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, that separate you from His loving-goodness, and commit to giving up on this way of life.
- Thank God for loving and forgiving you through the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Promise to trust and follow Jesus as your ultimate authority, guide, and leader for life.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be faithful to Jesus over the course of your life.

**The following is an example of such a prayer:**

God, I give up trying to save myself. I have failed your perfect goodness in my thoughts, words, and actions. I am truly sorry. Thank you for forgiving me through the death of your Son, Jesus. I trust Him, gladly receive all that He accomplished on my behalf through His death and resurrection, and commit my whole life to His ultimate authority and leadership from now on. Please help me with your Holy Spirit so that I may live according to Your love, follow Jesus' leadership, and serve Your good and loving purposes in the world through Your family, the Church. Amen.

If you are entrusting your life to Jesus for the first time, tell a trusted Christian friend and servant of the Church. God is inviting you to step further into the life He intends for you by identifying with Jesus through Baptism and the Church.

**If you are not yet ready to commit your life to Jesus, consider praying a prayer like the following:**

O God, please reveal Yourself to me. Draw near to me as I seek You. Open my eyes to see your truth. Show me those things in my mind and heart that keep me from faith in You. Help me to know and trust Jesus Christ. And lead me to those people who can help me as I seek to know You.

(Prayer taken from *To Be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism*)

Keep praying, keep seeking, for there is a God of unfathomable love who is seeking after you.

## SUNDAY | Renew

Send out Your light and Your truth;

let them lead me;

let them bring me to Your holy hill

and to Your dwelling!

Then I will go to the altar of God,

to God my exceeding joy,

and I will praise You with the lyre,

O God, my God.

(Psalm 43:3-4)



# MONDAY | Connect to Christ

## CALL TO PRAYER

One generation shall commend Your works to another,  
and shall declare Your mighty acts.  
On the glorious splendor of Your majesty,  
and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
They shall speak of the might of Your awesome deeds,  
and I will declare Your greatness.  
They shall pour forth the fame of Your abundant goodness  
and shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. (Psalm 145:4-7)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

Free prayers of thanks.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

## REFLECTION

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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)

Tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, trusting that God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).



## **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. (KJV)

## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who are spiritually weary and seek rest to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who are spiritually weary and seek rest.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

## **TUESDAY | Connect to One Another**

### **CALL TO PRAYER**

I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. (John 17:20-21)

### **PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING**

Free prayers of thanks.

### **DAILY SCRIPTURE READING**

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

### **REFLECTION**

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

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And lead me in the way everlasting! (Psalm 139:23-24)

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## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who mourn and long for comfort to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who mourn and long for comfort.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

# WEDNESDAY | Abide in Christ

## CALL TO PRAYER

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.  
(John 15:5)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

Free prayers of thanks.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

## REFLECTION

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Search me, O God, and know my heart!  
Try me and know my thoughts!  
And see if there be any grievous way in me,  
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## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who struggle and desire victory to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who struggle and desire victory.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

# THURSDAY | Abide in Christ

## CALL TO PRAYER

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

Free prayers of thanks.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

## REFLECTION

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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)

Tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, trusting that God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

## **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. (KJV)

## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who sin and need a Savior to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who sin and need a Savior.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

# FRIDAY | Extend Christ

## CALL TO PRAYER

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

Free prayers of thanks.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

## REFLECTION

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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)

Tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, trusting that God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).



## **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. (KJV)

## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who are strangers and want fellowship to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who feel like strangers and want fellowship.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

# SATURDAY | Extend Christ

## CALL TO PRAYER

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. (Romans 12:1)

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

Free prayers of thanks.

## DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

*See Daily Readings on page 22*

## REFLECTION

How shall you live in loving obedience to God's Word today? Pray for God's help.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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)

Tell God your failures, being as specific as possible, trusting that God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

## **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. (KJV)

## **PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION**

I pray for all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, to find this church's doors open wide and to receive welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray by name for those who hunger and thirst after righteousness and for God to bring those of His choosing into this church's doors.

## **WEEKLY COLLECT**

*See Weekly Collects on page 24*

# DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday . . . . . Psalm 43 . . . Luke 23  
Tuesday . . . . . Psalm 30 . . . Luke 24  
Wednesday . . . . . Psalm 25 . . . Acts 1  
Thursday . . . . . Psalm 16 . . . Acts 2  
Friday . . . . . Psalm 73 . . . Acts 3  
Saturday . . . . . Psalm 2 . . . Acts 4

Monday . . . . . Psalm 145 . . . Acts 5  
Tuesday . . . . . Psalm 67 . . . Acts 6  
Wednesday . . . . . Psalm 116 . . . Acts 7  
Thursday . . . . . Psalm 44 . . . Acts 8  
Friday . . . . . Psalm 146 . . . Acts 9  
Saturday . . . . . Psalm 66 . . . Acts 10

Monday . . . . . Psalm 46 . . . Acts 11  
Tuesday . . . . . Psalm 49 . . . Acts 12  
Wednesday . . . . . Psalm 89 . . . Acts 13  
Thursday . . . . . Psalm 65 . . . Acts 14  
Friday . . . . . Psalm 96 . . . Acts 15  
Saturday . . . . . Psalm 18 . . . Acts 16

Monday . . . . . Psalm 111 . . . Acts 17  
Tuesday . . . . . Psalm 23 . . . Acts 18  
Wednesday . . . . . Psalm 3 . . . Acts 19  
Thursday . . . . . Psalm 27 . . . Acts 20  
Friday . . . . . Psalm 71 . . . Acts 21  
Saturday . . . . . Psalm 40 . . . Acts 22

Monday ..... Psalm 9....Acts 23  
Tuesday ..... Psalm 28....Acts 24  
Wednesday ..... Psalm 35....Acts 25  
Thursday ..... Psalm 45....Acts 26  
Friday ..... Psalm 57....Acts 27  
Saturday ..... Psalm 63....Acts 28

Monday ..... Psalm 103...Galatians 1  
Tuesday ..... Psalm 133...Galatians 2  
Wednesday ..... Psalm 19...Galatians 3  
Thursday ..... Psalm 130...Galatians 4  
Friday ..... Psalm 32...Galatians 5  
Saturday ..... Psalm 37...Galatians 6

Monday ..... Psalm 150...Ephesians 1  
Tuesday ..... Psalm 132...Ephesians 2  
Wednesday ..... Psalm 136...Ephesians 3  
Thursday ..... Psalm 1...Ephesians 4  
Friday ..... Psalm 17...Ephesians 5  
Saturday ..... Psalm 128...Ephesians 6

# WEEKLY COLLECTS

## WEEK ONE

Grant, O Lord, that the course of this world may be peaceably governed by Your providence; and that Your Church may joyfully serve You in confidence and serenity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## WEEK TWO

O God, Your never-failing providence sets in order all things both in heaven and earth: Put away from us, we entreat You, all hurtful things, and give us those things which are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## WEEK THREE

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by Your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by Your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## WEEK FOUR

Keep, O Lord, Your household the Church in Your steadfast faith and love, that through Your grace we may proclaim Your truth with boldness, and minister Your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## **WEEK FIVE**

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for Your holy Name, for You never fail to help and govern those whom You have set upon the sure foundation of Your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **WEEK SIX**

Almighty God, You have built Your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to You; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **WEEK SEVEN**

O God, You have taught us to keep all Your commandments by loving You and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to You with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.







The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and  
the love of God and the fellowship of the  
Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14



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