



## Our Prayer Vigil

Dear friend in Christ:

Thank you for your willingness to join in our prayer vigil. God calls us to pray for one another, and we have His promise that He will hear and answer our prayers. As you approach your prayers each day, here are some simple encouragements:

- It can feel overwhelming to think praying for half an hour or an hour. Use the prayer wheel on the back cover as a guide for you. It will lead you through the different focusses of our prayers.
- Meditate on God's Word. Read God's Word as you pray. As you read the Scriptures, God is speaking to you. You can pray back the Word in conversation with Him.

Example: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth".  
We pray: "How blessed we are, Lord, through the gift of Your creation. Your creation is wonderful. I thank you for the gifts I see all around me in the world."

You can approach all of Scripture this way. The Psalms are especially beneficial in this!

- Pray in the confidence that you are approaching a loving Father. He, who loved you and gave His Son to save you, has called you to come to Him in prayer. He will hear. He will answer!
- Pray in accordance with His will. Trust that His answers are always what we need.
- Prayer can and should be specific. That doesn't mean that we don't pray some general ideas, but where possible, we take the needs we know to God.
- It is helpful to find a quiet place, free from distraction. This is what Jesus meant when He talked of "going into your closet". He Himself went aside to quiet places, so that He could spend time with His Father.

James says to us: *The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.* (James 5:16 - ESV) May God use you to be a blessing, and to be blessed through your conversations with Him in prayer.

## What should you ask for in prayer?

- † *Yourself*: Pray that God may lead you to be a channel for His love at work, at school, at play, and in His Church. (Colossians 1:9-12)
- † *Your home and family*: Pray that Christ may be the centre of your home and family and guide you in your relationships. (Eph. 4:31-32; 5:22-6:4)
- † *Our Congregation*: Pray that we, as individuals, will know God's love and draw on His wisdom and understanding. (Ephesians 3:13-19) Pray for growth; for service to one another; for those who have fallen away. You can use the bulletin from Sunday to see those with special needs.
- † *Our Church*: Pray for Lutheran Church-Canada; its leaders and the organizations within the church, that we may be united in Christ. (Eph. 4:1-3; John 17:11). Rev. Timothy Teuscher is our synodical president.
- † *The Community*: We know the challenges caused by the COVID-19 virus. We pray for the health care workers; for those who carry on essential services; for those struggling with loneliness and fear; for those facing unemployment and for those who have lost loved ones. Pray for our witness, and for blessings to those around us. (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)
- † *Our Nation*: Pray that all people of this land may acknowledge God's mercy and forgiveness. Pray for our leaders, that they may be good rulers, and that they would know God, too. Read and pray the words of 2 Chronicles 7:14.
- † *For those who do not know Christ*: Pray that the lost may come to the life that is in Christ alone. (Romans 10:1; 1 Timothy 2:4-6) Of course, pray that God may use us to share His love with others!
- † *For the sick, the discouraged, the burdened*. We all know any number of people who struggle day by day. We name them before the Father, and ask that He would heal, help and restore, in accordance with His will. Pray that they may know His presence and peace in all their needs. (James 5:14-15; 1 Peter 5:7)

Use this prayer wheel as a simple way to guide you in your prayers.

