



Monday, November 7 – Friday, November 25, 2022

PRAYER PRACTICE

Lord, teach us to pray...
Pray through the richness of Lord's Prayer,
expanding each phrase.

For example:

Our Father,
Father of all people, who delights in his children,
who invites us to call him "Abba," "Papa"

Holy is your name,
completely set apart. All good.
All light, wisdom, and love are yours.

This week's devotions were written by Bill Brams

Monday, November 7

Read: Hebrews 11: 17

Reflect: Chapter 11 of Hebrews accounts in some detail the faith of many, including Abel, Enoch, Noah and Abraham. In verse 17, we remember how Abraham's faith is tested when he is called to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice. Each of us can look into our hearts when our faith is tested. What would we do?

Prayer: Gracious God, my faith has been tested and I have at times been found wanting. The lesson of my biblical ancestors gives me strength and courage when my faith is tested. I pray to be up to the task.

Tuesday, November 8

Read: Hebrews 11: 23.

Reflect: In verse 23 Moses' parents chose to hide Moses to save him and ignore the king's edict. Parents hold such responsibility to protect and guide their children.

Prayer: Gracious God, I pray that my faith and God given wisdom will guide me to do the best for my children and grandchildren. I ask that what I do today can be "paid" forward to future generations beyond my direct influence. I pray Lord that I am up to the task and responsibility to further your kingdom on my time on this earth.

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Read: Hebrew: 11: 24-25

Reflect: Moses as an adult chose to deny himself earthly pleasures from Pharaoh but rather to stand with the people of God for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Gracious God help me to focus on the gift of Jesus Christ. Help me to seek to further your kingdom on earth, rather than pursue gain from short term pleasures.

Thursday, November 10, 2022

Read: Read Hebrew 11: 26-28.

Reflect: By faith Moses ignored the threats on his own life from Pharaoh and without fear chose to protect the lives of Israel's first born.

Prayer: Gracious God touch my heart to the core so I can minimize the fears of living that threaten to distract me. Help me live a life of faithful courage to further your kingdom in the name of your son Jesus.

Friday, November 11, 2022

Read: Hebrew 12: 1-2.

Reflect: What a wonderful metaphor. The witnesses, our ancestors who are heroes of our past, spiritually supporting our quest to fix our eyes on our savior Jesus Christ. My own genealogy research helped me identify many stories of ancestors forming a continuum to me. It is much more than name.

Prayer: Gracious God, I ask for perseverance to be given to me so that I can focus on the quest marked for me by Jesus Christ. God, please help me endure the trials along the trail and be blessed in this life by the gift of your son Jesus Christ. Let me not forget the saints in my past that helped form me and lead me to this day.

Saturday, November 12, 2022

Read, reflect, and enjoy Psalm 103 in preparation for tomorrow's sermon.

Sunday, November 13, 2022

Come, let us worship the Lord together! Join us at 9 am for our traditional service or 10:30 for our contemporary South Ridge service. Unable to be present? Participate online through Facebook Live, the FPCA YouTube channel, or our [FPCAmbler.org](https://www.FPCAmbler.org) website.

PRAYER PRACTICE

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication

This week's devotions were written by Suzy Moore

Monday, November 14, 2022

Read: Psalm 103

Reflect: There is story about a little boy who wonders where God is. His grandfather tells the boy to get a clean piece of paper and markers. "Draw me a house," and the boy does. "Is God in the house, PopPop?" "Draw me a dragon," and the boy does. "Is God the dragon or fighting the dragon, PopPop?" "You still have plenty of room on your nice clean piece of paper, so draw me some friends, animals, cars, clouds, and a rainbow," and the boy does. "Where is God, PopPop? Is Jesus in the picture?" "My grandson, God and Jesus are the paper - here before you began - the clean new piece of paper to begin your drawing, here through your drawing and now able to hold all you may draw."

Pray: Dear Lord, with all our hearts and souls we thank you for being with us all the time, wherever we are and wherever we will be. We are grateful that Jesus pardons all our iniquities, heals our diseases, rescues us from all the bad and evil touching our lives, turns our spirits to His way, and fills our lives with loving kindness and compassion. We love your compassion and patience and the forgiveness you so freely give always to each of us.

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Read: Psalm 103:3-5

Reflect: It is such a blessing to know that not just some of our sins God pardons, and not just some of our diseases he heals, but all! We give thanks in knowing God redeems us, crowns us with loving kindness and compassion, and satisfies us with good things. We rest, as Max Lucado phrases it in *Traveling Light*, in knowing that: “If you have the Shepherd, you have grace for every sin, direction for every turn, a candle for every corner, and an anchor for every storm. You have everything you need.”

Pray: Dear Lord, we are thankful for You in our lives and for the gifts of kindness, compassion and grace you give us time and time again. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Read: Psalm 103:19

Reflect: We are fortunate to be able to turn all our concerns and anxieties over to God’s care. Doing this clears the way for us to seek His will and way for everything. God welcomes us to rejoice in each day and be glad in it as he has made each day and is present in it (Psalm 118:14). In *Jesus Calling*, Sarah Young encourages us to trust in God, not be fearful, to thank Him and rest in His sovereignty.

Pray: Dear Lord, You created this world, and You are present in the world and with each of us each moment of the day. For this we are grateful and thankful. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Read: Psalm 103:12-13

Reflect: “Are we there yet?” ask the children from the backseat. How do parents explain distance to their children? How does our Father in heaven explain the distance between us and the sins he as forgiven? We wonder how can it be that the bad things we have done, the wrong choices we have made, the hurt we have caused, the things we have left unfinished do not mark us, stain us, or any longer hold us back? This is the Good News! Psalmist David puts it well with his metaphor - the distance between us and our transgressions is as far as the east is from the west.

Pray: Dear Lord, we are glad you remove us from all of our sins. This changes everything for us and for the world. It feels like hope for the future, and it seems a glimpse of Heaven. We are thankful. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Friday, November 18, 2022

Read: Psalm 103:10-11

Reflect: I once read the following little story: Charlie was tossing rocks while waiting for his father outside the building. One rock shattered the windshield, but Charlie resolved to tell his dad. When his father came out, Charlie, in tears, explained what had happened. What did his father do? He hugged Charlie, explained Charlie would have to pay an amount each month for the repair - and raised his allowance just that amount per month.

Pray: Dear Lord, thank you for watching over us and guiding us through the Holy Spirit to make right, good, and just choices. May we rest assured you reward us for choosing the right path. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Saturday, November 19, 2022

Read Philippians 4:4-7 in preparation for tomorrow's sermon.
Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Sunday, November 20, 2022

Come, let us give thanks together!
Join us at 9 am for traditional worship or 10:30 for our contemporary
South Ridge service.
You can also join online via Facebook, YouTube, or our website.

PRAYER PRACTICE

Giving thanks for our senses

Take a slow, deep breath.
Savor the feeling.
Thank God for the breath.

Look around you.
Thank God for colors, for small tokens that bring you joy.

What do you hear?
Thank God for sounds, for music, birds, the laughter of children
and voices of loved ones.

Perhaps light a scented candle.
Take in the aroma of brewing coffee.

And taste!
Can you taste honey?
Chocolate?

**Thank God for all the ways you experience his goodness
through your senses.**

Monday, November 21, 2022

Read: Philippians 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*

Reflect: Paul was not at a spa when he wrote the letter to the Philippians. He was in prison and under persecution. How could he rejoice? How can we, even as so many things seem to crumble around us? We can remember that God is with us amid every circumstance. That he is for us and will give us his peace when we fix our hearts on him. That this world we are so attached to will be made new, all set right, and so will we. We can remember even now that we are more loved than we can imagine.

Pray: Lord God, because you are God and have adopted us as your own, we can rejoice. Help us to have a right view of all our circumstances and trust your plan for the present and the future.

Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Read: Philippians 4:5 *Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.*

Reflect: How do those two sentences go together? Does the Lord's nearness gentle your spirit? Take a moment now to reflect on the nearness of the living God. Breathe in the peace he offers. Breathe out anxious thoughts. Breathe in his presence. Breathe out fear. Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

Pray: Almighty God, we thank you for your nearness. You are with us always. May being in your presence gentle us in a way that is evident to all.

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Read: Philippians 4:6 *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

Reflect: It's the day before Thanksgiving. Are you anxious about preparing a feast? Spending time with contentious relatives? Perhaps being alone on a holiday? We are called to give thanks *in* every circumstance, not *for* every circumstance. May God's nearness and love provide a peaceful perspective and may you boldly present your requests to God with thanksgiving.

Pray: Dear God, I give you thanks for my many blessings. Thank you for making me your own and for promising to be with me always. My heart is prone to anxious thoughts. I come to you with this request...

Thursday, November 24, 2022

Thanksgiving Day

Pray for each person you will encounter today. Thank God for each one, even and especially those you find most difficult. Picture God's love resting on them. If you are by yourself today, perhaps spend some time writing notes of encouragement, calling an old friend, or doing an unexpected kindness. And if you are lonely, reach out.

Friday, November 25, 2022

Read: Philippians 4:7 *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Reflect: Remember a time when God gave you great peace right in the middle of a trial. As God kept you then, he will keep you now. When you feel frail, remember that God's strength is made perfect in weakness. The peace God offers us is foreign to those who do not know him. What a gift is the peace of God!

Pray: Lord God, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Help us to remember your faithfulness and so live in your peace which is deeper and wider than we can begin to understand. Again, we thank you for your nearness and always for your love.



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A place where lives are changed by Christ
and we live out our faith together.

