



PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15th, 7PM

Join us on our [Facebook Page](#) at 7:00pm for a Live Video. If you do not have Facebook, you can use this guide to pray with us on your own wherever you are and a recording of the service will be shared later.

- **INTRO**

Tonight, for our prayer time, we're going to use a devotion written by Carla Harding from the "Lectio365 App" by 24-7 Prayer International. (Learn more about this App and ministry at www.247prayer.com/lectio365) Today is the birthday of a modern-day hero of faith, Corrie Ten Boom, a Dutch Holocaust survivor and world-renowned evangelist who died in 1983 at the age of 101 (1892-1983). This devotion will lead us through a rhythm of prayer and scripture, drawing on the witness of Corrie's life. We'll also intersperse some reflections on our Philippians readings for the week and time to lift up specific prayer requests from our church family. Let's begin with a song.

- **SING**

"Spirit of the Living God" (Daniel Iverson, 1926)

Click here – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BagH-zTfnsQ>

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

- **PAUSE**

As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly; to re-center my scattered senses upon the presence of God.

Pause and Pray

Prayer of Approach

***I draw near to You, God, would you draw near to me? Teach me to pray.
Speak, Lord; your servant is listening.***

- **REJOICE & REFLECT**

I rejoice in God's mercy today, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 145...

Psalm 145:8-10

The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. The LORD is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all his creation. All of your works will thank you, LORD, and your faithful followers will praise you.

Corrie Ten Boom was born on this day in 1892. Her faith, her brave action during the Second World War and her subsequent teaching on prayer and forgiveness inspires and challenges us today. Growing up near Amsterdam in the Netherlands, Corrie was part of a well-respected Christian family. From a young age, she gave her time and energy to helping others, including children with additional needs. When the Nazis invaded their country in 1940, the Ten Booms hid an estimated 800 resistance fighters and Jews in secret rooms in their home, protecting them until they could be moved to safe houses elsewhere.

In February 1944, the Ten Booms were betrayed when a man asked Corrie to help pay a bribe to free his wife. Nazis arrived to arrest the family, but Corrie protected the Jews and resistance fighters in their home by hiding them in a secret space in her bedroom. During her imprisonment, Corrie was first placed in solitary confinement and interrogated. Then she and her sister Betsie were put in a Dutch concentration camp, and later moved to a German camp for women. Even in these harsh and harrowing conditions, Corrie and Betsie helped others by leading a prayer group with a smuggled Bible each night.

Though Betsie died in the concentration camp, Corrie was released by what may have been a clerical error, saving her life and allowing her to go on helping others, including teaching on prayer and forgiveness. After the war, in recognition of her work, Corrie was knighted by the queen of the Netherlands and was honored by Israel as Righteous Among the Nations—a title given to non-Jews who risked their lives to help Jews during the Second World War.

Speaking on effectual prayer, Corrie Ten Boom taught that, “There’s nothing too great for God’s power and nothing too small for God’s love. I learned that in the difficult class of life’s school... When you are in a difficult class then you learn much, especially when the teacher is good, and my teacher was the Holy Spirit.” In the same sermon, Corrie told her audience about catching a cold while living in a concentration camp. Her sister, Betsie, told her to pray and ask God for help—Corrie laughed! Betsie, however, prayed for God to give Corrie a handkerchief. A simple, practical prayer. After she said “Amen,” a friend arrived and gave Corrie a gift of a handkerchief. “How in the world did you know that I needed a handkerchief?” asked Corrie. Her friend replied, “There was a voice in my heart who said, ‘Bring a handkerchief to Corrie Ten Boom.’”

Corrie continued, “Can you understand what a handkerchief tells you in such a moment? That there is a Father in heaven who hears it when on a very small planet, the earth, some one of his children prays for an impossible small thing, for a hankie, and that Father in heaven tells one of his other children—give a handkerchief to Corrie Ten Boom. That is the foolishness of God. But the foolishness of God is the greatest wisdom and I’ve learned so much by that handkerchief.” (Search “Effectual Prayer – Corrie Ten Boom” on YouTube)

- **ASK**

In one of Peter’s letters, he encourages us to “Cast all your anxiety on God because he cares for you,” (1 Peter 5:7). Even in the midst of terrible suffering, Corrie’s sister, Betsie, brought the simplest and most practical anxieties and needs to God in prayer. What anxieties or needs do I have today—large or small? I often dismiss my own worries as trivial, and it’s especially easy to do this at a time when many are suffering because of the Coronavirus Pandemic. However, in this moment, I choose to trust that God is interested in me.

Lord, I bring my anxieties and needs to You and thank You that there’s nothing too great for Your power and nothing too small for Your love.

Pause and Pray

Lord, please remind me of people I know who are burdened by anxieties and needs at the moment. I ask you to make Your presence felt in their lives today and ease their burdens.

Pause and Pray

- **YIELD**

God, we are deeply moved by the faith of Corrie and Betsie Ten Boom, even in the midst of a Nazi concentration camp. In all that we face this week—the celebrations, the challenges, and everything in between—help us to remember that nothing is too great for Your power and nothing is too small for Your love. Help us to practice turning all our worries and needs into prayer, trusting in Your attention and compassion.

Pause and Pray

Father, help me to live each day this week to the full, being true to You in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen.

- **SING**

“O Come to the Altar” (Elevation Worship)

Click here – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpfuKKH_SCE

VERSE 1

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

CHORUS

O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

VERSE 2

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling

CCLI License # 870332 Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Steven Furtick © 2015 Music by Elevation Worship Publishing

- **SCRIPTURE & PRAYER**

*Lord, we are so encouraged by servants of yours like Corrie and Betsie Ten Boom. They demonstrated a life lived fully in Christ, abounding in peace, contentment, faith, hope, and love in the most difficult circumstances—much like your servant, Paul, who we are reading about this week in Philippians, which he wrote from imprisonment. There, empowered by your Holy Spirit, he wrote: “**I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.**” (Philippians 1:3-6)*

Take time to celebrate you Christian brothers and sisters at Trinity Church (and beyond). Give thanks for the church and for specific people.

*Paul also wrote in Philippians: “**And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.**” (Phil. 1:9-11)*

(VERSE 2 CONTINUED)

Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

BRIDGE

Oh what a Savior, isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen

VERSE 3

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

Take time to pray for Trinity Church (and others you are connected to) that our love “may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,” that we would be “filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ.”

Pray now for specific prayer requests that are on our prayer chain (focus on any that you are drawn to at this time and any others not in this list):

Sue Gearhart, the family of Mary Corey (who passed away this weekend), Susan Reibsome (for healing), Jean Hummel (for healing), Doris Jordan (for healing), Dick & Emma Jean Jordan, Sis Beyer, Phil Hanse, Gloria Kieffer, Valerie, Mark & Abby Thomas, Peggy Gerst, Roger Heintzelman, Dennis Russell, Stanley, Amelia, Sue Orr, Baylon Draus, Lori Hancock, Eric Bisong, Sharon & Jason Kizis, Dean & Jean Rishel, Carolyn Yarger, Donald Grubb, Theo Fodness, Faye, Kerry Enright, Mike Diehl, Lana Clark, Erin Ross’s mom & brother, Baby Rowen, Daniel Babich (for healing), for all those essential workers continuing to work in the fight against COVID-19

- **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you;

The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26)