



## PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 7PM

Join us outside in the pavilion or on [Facebook](#) and use this Guide to pray with us.

### • INTRO

Welcome to another Prayer Service! When we began this journey of praying through the Psalms with Psalm 1, we explored the imagery of a flourishing tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in and out of season—a vision of *thriving in Christ*. This abundant life centers on drawing nourishment each moment from the life-giving presence of God and His word. Have you ever been *famished*? You spent the day working hard outside, you pushed past your limits in a workout, you skipped a meal, you got overheated—and your body started to scream for sustenance! You search for anything in sight to rehydrate and refuel—and that feeling of first satisfying this desperate need is so satisfying and relieving. We're created to rely on material food to live, but we need spiritual food to live, too. If we ate as much food as we read Scripture, would we even have enough to survive? We can go through seasons where we feel terrible in our souls because we've neglected to "eat," or we've been "feeding" on all the wrong stuff. But God provides abundantly and generously for our need: we just have to take the time to seek His presence and meditate on His word. Tonight, as we pray through **Psalm 5**, our goal is simply to nourish ourselves on the Word of God, in the Presence of God, with the People of God. In these crazy times of ongoing uncertainty, we desperately need this nourishment. Let's pray together.

### • 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." (Lectio365)

*Pause and pray*

As we read **Psalm 5** together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that stand out to you:

***"<sup>1</sup> Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament. <sup>2</sup> Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. <sup>3</sup> In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly. <sup>4</sup> For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness; with you, evil people are not welcome. <sup>5</sup> The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong; <sup>6</sup> you destroy those who tell lies. The bloodthirsty and deceitful you, LORD, detest. <sup>7</sup> But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple...***

***<sup>8</sup> Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies—make your way straight before me. <sup>9</sup> Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with malice. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongues they tell lies. <sup>10</sup> Declare them guilty, O God! Let their intrigues be their downfall. Banish them for their many sins, for they have rebelled against you. <sup>11</sup> But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. <sup>12</sup> Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.”***

*Let's sing together and worship the Lord:*

- **SONG**

**“Come Thou Fount” Click Here - <https://youtu.be/dDw8t6nv0f4>**

**VERSE 1**

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

**VERSE 2**

Here I raise mine Ebenezer  
Hither by Thy help I'm come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home

Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wand'ring from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

**VERSE 3**

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy grace Lord like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

CCLI Song # 108389 John Wyeth | Robert Robinson © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

**“Surrounded (Fight My Battles)” Click Here - <https://youtu.be/WpjZ6Jz950g>**

**CHORUS**

This is how I fight my battles  
This is how I fight my battles  
(This is how I)

**BRIDGE**

It may look like I'm surrounded  
But I'm surrounded by You  
It may look like I'm surrounded  
But I'm surrounded by You

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- **Psalm 5:1-3**

Tonight, instead of reflecting on the particular meaning of the Psalm, we're going to practice a way of reading God's Word called "Lectio Divina," a historic way of reading the Bible that involves meditating and praying through God's Word: coming to the Scriptures to encounter God, to listen for His voice for us. We're breaking down the Psalm into three sections. Each section, we'll read three times: the first time, just to breathe, be still, and open ourselves to God. The second time, to listen for a word or phrase that grabs our attention. The third time, to pray into that word or phrase, asking God what He wants us to hear in this passage. Let's read and pray. As we read slowly, take some deep breaths, calm your mind, try to remove distractions and just hear these words coming from God's heart to your heart:

***"<sup>1</sup> Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament. <sup>2</sup> Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray. <sup>3</sup> In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly."***

Read it a second time, and this time, see if there is a word or phrase the Spirit might be zeroing in on for you. Ponder and reflect on that word or phrase; see what images or thoughts, what other Bible passages, what experiences come to mind.

Read it a third time, and this time, pray into that word or phrase: "God, what is the word you have for me in this passage? Is there anything you want to say specifically for me today?" Pause and pray.

- **Psalm 5:4-7**

Follow the same steps as we read this second section of Psalm 5.

***"<sup>4</sup> For you are not a God who is pleased with wickedness; with you, evil people are not welcome. <sup>5</sup> The arrogant cannot stand in your presence. You hate all who do wrong; <sup>6</sup> you destroy those who tell lies. The bloodthirsty and deceitful you, LORD, detest. <sup>7</sup> But I, by your great love, can come into your house; in reverence I bow down toward your holy temple."***

Pause and pray.

- **Psalm 5:8-12**

For the final section of Psalm 5, practice these steps one last time. Breathe deeply, focus intently, and listen carefully. If this is hard for you, don't worry: God's grace is here with you. Just be open and have faith God will work through His Word, feeding your soul today.

***“<sup>8</sup> Lead me, LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies—make your way straight before me. <sup>9</sup> Not a word from their mouth can be trusted; their heart is filled with malice. Their throat is an open grave; with their tongues they tell lies. <sup>10</sup> Declare them guilty, O God! Let their intrigues be their downfall. Banish them for their many sins, for they have rebelled against you. <sup>11</sup> But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. <sup>12</sup> Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.”***

Pause and pray.

- **SONG**

**“New Wine” Click Here - [https://youtu.be/QbJaM\\_EneMw](https://youtu.be/QbJaM_EneMw)**

**VERSE**

In the crushing in the pressing  
You are making new wine  
In the soil I now surrender  
You are breaking new ground  
(You are breaking new ground)

(God) I came here with nothing  
But all You have given me  
Jesus bring new wine out of me

**TAG**

Jesus bring new wine out of me  
Jesus bring new wine out of me

**PRE-CHORUS**

So I yield to You and to Your careful hand  
When I trust You I don't need to understand

**BRIDGE**

'Cause where there is new wine  
There is new power  
There is new freedom  
And the kingdom is here  
I lay down my old flames  
To carry Your new fire today

**CHORUS**

(So) Make me Your vessel  
Make me an offering  
Make me whatever You want me to be

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- **Closing**

***“Father, help me to live this day 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.”***  
(Lectio365)