

PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH, 7PM

Join us outside in the pavilion or on <u>Facebook</u> and use this Guide to pray with us.

• INTRO

Welcome to Prayer Service! Tonight's focus is Psalm 9, a Psalm that praises God for His deliverance and highlights God's justice. In a time of such turmoil in our nation and our world, this prayer will center us in the praise of God and the justice of God. While the world rushes on, let's anchor ourselves in these truths so we can thrive in Christ and live for His mission in the world. 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 9** together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that stand out to you:

"¹ I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.² I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. ³ My enemies turn back; they stumble and perish before you. ⁴ For you have upheld my right and my cause, sitting enthroned as the righteous judge. ⁵ You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked; you have blotted out their name for ever and ever. ⁶ Endless ruin has overtaken my enemies, you have uprooted their cities; even the memory of them has perished. ⁷ The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment.⁸ He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity. ⁹ The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. ¹⁰ Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.¹¹ Sing the praises of the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what he has done. ¹² For he who avenges blood remembers: he does not ignore the cries of the afflicted. ¹³ LORD, see how my enemies persecute me! Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death, ¹⁴ that I may declare your praises in the gates of Daughter Zion, and there rejoice in your salvation. ¹⁵ The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug; their feet are caught in the net they have hidden. ¹⁶ The LORD is known by his acts of justice; the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands. ¹⁷ The wicked go down to the realm of the dead, all the nations that forget God. ¹⁸ But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish.¹⁹ Arise, LORD, do not let mortals triumph; let the nations be judged in your presence. ²⁰ Strike them with terror, LORD; let the nations know they are only mortal."

<u>SONGS</u>

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" Click Here - https://youtu.be/DXDGE_IRIOE

CHORUS

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul Worship His holy name Sing like never before O my soul I'll worship Your holy name

VERSE 1

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning It's time to sing Your song again Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me Let me be singing when the evening comes Ten thousand years and then forevermore

VERSE 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

VERSE 3

And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

CCLI Song # 6016351 Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs

• PSALM 9:1-2

⁴¹ I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. ² I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High."

The Westminster Catechism of 1647 famously begins with, "Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." We were made to worship. We were created to reflect God's image. We were designed to delight in God's glory. There is nothing better for our souls than to turn our hearts toward God, no matter what we're dealing with, in order to give thanks for His blessings and delight in His goodness—for this is the purpose for which we were made and this is our destiny in Christ. Take time to *worship* God with all your heart. Rejoice *in* God Himself. Let go of all distractions. Give thanks for specific things: what are the "wonderful deeds" of God you want to give thanks for? Pause and pray.

• **PSALM 9:7-10**

⁴⁷ The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. ⁸ He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity. ⁹ The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. ¹⁰ Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you."

How confident are we in the righteousness and justice of God? Can we say with the Psalmist, "The Lord reigns forever"? In this season of turmoil, where do I need to ground myself in the hope that God will make all things right, both in the present, and ultimately in the life to come? Who do I know or what situations am I aware of in the world in which people are being oppressed and troubled? Pause and pray.

PSALM 9:17-20

⁴¹⁷ The wicked go down to the realm of the dead, all the nations that forget God. ¹⁸ But God will never forget the needy; the hope of the afflicted will never perish. ¹⁹ Arise, LORD, do not let mortals triumph; let the nations be judged in your presence. ²⁰ Strike them with terror, LORD; let the nations know they are only mortal."

Nations rise and fall. Sadly, too often their actions are driven by arrogance, selfishness, and greed; as the Proverb says, "pride comes before the fall." What about our nation? Do we need a wake-up call? Do we need a reminder that we are "only mortal"? Pray for our nation to wake up to God's power, to our mortality, and to the needs of our neighbors. Pray for the attitude of 2 Chronicles 7:14 to sweep through the Churches in our country: *"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."* Pause and pray.

• <u>SONG</u>

"What A Beautiful Name" Click Here - https://youtu.be/r5L6QIAH3L4

VERSE 1

You were the Word at the beginning One with God the Lord Most High Your hidden glory in creation Now revealed in You our Christ

CHORUS 1

What a beautiful Name it is What a beautiful Name it is The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a beautiful Name it is Nothing compares to this What a beautiful Name it is The Name of Jesus

VERSE 2

You didn't want heaven without us So Jesus You brought heaven down My sin was great Your love was greater What could separate us now

CHORUS 2

What a wonderful Name it is What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a wonderful Name it is Nothing compares to this What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus What a wonderful Name it is The Name of Jesus

BRIDGE

Death could not hold You The veil tore before You You silence the boast of sin and grave The heavens are roaring The praise of Your glory For You are raised to life again

BRIDGE

You have no rival You have no equal Now and forever God You reign Yours is the kingdom Yours is the glory Yours is the Name above all names

CHORUS 3

What a powerful Name it is What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus Christ my King What a powerful Name it is Nothing can stand against What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus

ENDING

What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus

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<u>Closing</u>

"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)