



PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 7PM

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

• INTRO

Welcome to Prayer Service! On this eve of Thanksgiving, we're taking a break from our weekly journey through each of the Psalms and focusing instead on worshiping God in a spirit of gratitude. To do this, we'll look at passages from the Psalms, including some we've already covered, to focus our hearts and minds on remembrance and thanksgiving. The Psalms help us to view our whole journey in the light of God's character and providence: they teach us in prayer to remember what God has done, to encounter God in the present joys and struggles, and to look forward with hope based on what God has already done and whom He has revealed Himself to be. Let this time be a pause from the rush of a potentially disappointing or stressful holiday season: let's remember, let's give thanks, and let's take heart. 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.*

Let's read these words from Psalm 34 as we worship together:

"1 I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. 2 I will glory in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. 3 Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. 5 Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame."

• SONGS

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" Click Here - https://youtu.be/DXDGE_IRI0E

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

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

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
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

- **Looking Back**

“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.” (Psalm 9:1-2)

Think back on the past year: what a difference between our expectations for 2020 and the reality! Yet, how often have we seen God’s faithfulness in spite of this challenging time? What are the “wonderful deeds” of God you have seen in your life, your family, our church and community? Be specific and give thanks to God. Pause and pray.

- **Looking Around**

“But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain. I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side.” (Psalm 3:3-6)

You may have felt surrounded at times this year, maybe even right now. When you think of the things that trouble you or threaten you now, picture God covering you like a shield and lifting up your head in encouragement. Give thanks to God who is “an ever-present help in times of trouble,” (Psalm 46). *Pause and pray.*

Gratitude is a powerful way to shape our mindset: can you list five specific things you are thankful for right now, in this moment? Let each expression of gratitude lift your heart in praise to God, who is the giver of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). *Pause and pray.*

- **Looking Forward**

“Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.” (Psalm 9:10)

“But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the Lord’s praise, for he has been good to me.” (Psalm 13:5-6)

When you think about the future, what do you feel? Hope, anxiousness, excitement, uncertainty, anticipation, dread? A mixture of all? The Psalms repeatedly teach us to remember God’s faithfulness in the past that we may be able to *trust* in the present and *hope* for the future. In the New Testament, Philippians 4:6-7 similarly encourages us, *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

If there is anything you are anxious about as you look to the future, try to present your requests to God and let your heart move to a place of trust. Give God thanks for all He has done and thank him for what He is *going to do*. *Pause and pray.*

- **SONG**

“Alive & Breathing” Click Here - <https://youtu.be/gYUJjsgd96k>

VERSE 1

What holds your heart
What stirs your soul
What matters come to mind
The cares you keep
The thoughts you think
It's not all wasted time
Seek and you will find

CHORUS

Joy still comes in the morning
Hope still walks with the hurting
If you're still alive and breathing
Praise the Lord
Don't stop dancing and dreaming
There's still good news worth repeating
So lift your head and keep singing
Praise the Lord

VERSE 2

The years roll by
We wonder why
We lost our way from home
Our Father finds
The child inside
We left for growing old
Awake, awake, awake my soul

BRIDGE

Let everything let everything
Let everything praise the Lord
In the working in the waiting
Let it praise the Lord
In the blessing in the breaking
Come on praise the Lord
In the dying the rising
Let it praise the Lord
Let it praise the Lord
Praise the Lord

CCLI Song # 7138680 Elle Limebear | Matt Maher © 2019 Be Essential Songs

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is Thy faithfulness, great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness Lord unto me

CCLI Song # 18723 Thomas Obediah Chisholm | William Marion Runyan © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain

- **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)