



PRAYER SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 2021

Join us at 7pm in the Sanctuary or on [Facebook](#) and use this guide to pray along with us.

• INTRO

Welcome to Prayer Service! This is life: battles happen. Valleys happen. Storms happen. How should the friends of God respond? What do we do as followers of Jesus when the challenges of life seem to surround us like an army besieging a city? Psalm 27 provides one of the most powerful and eloquent answers to this question, giving us a window into a life of prayer and intimacy with God—and an example to follow. Some of the Psalms, as we've seen, take a bit of study and context to understand; but Psalm 27 is one of those beautiful prayers that speaks for itself. Let it meet you where you're at tonight, let the Word of God speak to you today. Tonight as we worship and pray through this Scripture, we're going to take the simple approach of "Lectio Divina," an ancient way of reading the Scriptures that allows us to pray and meditate through the Word, listening for God's voice to us. Let's pray.

• 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 27** together, be open with the parts that confuse or challenge you; meditate on the parts that stand out to you:

"¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid? ² When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. ³ Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. ⁴ One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. ⁵ For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. ⁶ Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD. ⁷ Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me. ⁸ My heart says of you, 'Seek his face!' Your face, LORD, I will seek. ⁹ Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. ¹⁰ Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. ¹¹ Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. ¹² Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations...

13 I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

- **SONGS**

“Whom Shall I Fear”

VERSE 1

You hear me when I call
You are my morning song
Though darkness fills the night
It cannot hide the light
Whom shall I fear
You crush the enemy underneath my feet
You are my sword and shield
Though troubles linger still
Whom shall I fear

CHORUS

I know Who goes before me
I know Who stands behind
The God of angel armies is always by my side
The One who reigns forever
He is a friend of mine

The God of angel armies is always by my side

VERSE 2

My strength is in Your name
For You alone can save
You will deliver me
Yours is the victory
Whom shall I fear
Whom shall I fear

BRIDGE

(And) nothing formed against me shall stand
You hold the whole world in Your hands
I'm holding on to Your promises
You are faithful
You are faithful

CCLI Song # 6440288 Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | Scott Cash © 2012 Alletrop Music

“Surrounded (Fight My Battles)”

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 27:1-3**

“1 The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. 3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.

Reread the passage above prayerfully. What words or phrases stand out to you?

Meditate on the aspects you feel God calling you to focus on, and allow it to guide your prayer for yourself and for others. *Pause and Pray.*

- **PSALM 27:4-6**

“⁴ One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple. ⁵ For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock. ⁶ Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD.”

Reread the passage above. What’s jumping out at you in this section? Ask the Lord to speak. Reflect on it and allow it to guide your conversation with God. *Pause and Pray*

- **PSALM 27:7-14**

“⁷ Hear my voice when I call, LORD; be merciful to me and answer me. ⁸ My heart says of you, ‘Seek his face!’ Your face, LORD, I will seek. ⁹ Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior. ¹⁰ Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me. ¹¹ Teach me your way, LORD; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors. ¹² Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations. ¹³ I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.”

One more time, read the passage again, slowly. What’s resonating with your heart and mind, what’s stirring your soul in these words? Ask the Holy Spirit to draw your attention to the word, or phrase, or idea that he wants you to meditate on. Once again, let the Word shape your prayers for yourself and for others. *Pause and Pray*

- **SONG**

“Build My Life”

VERSE 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
breathe
We live for You

VERSE 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever
breathe
We live for You, we live for You

CHORUS

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in
Your love to those around me

BRIDGE

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You a

- **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)