

RISEN

Jerusalem was the destination for Jesus, but it was not the end of the journey for his disciples. Now they knew that just as he had set his face to go to Jerusalem, they must set their faces to go to all nations to proclaim his gospel and to call people to repentance and faith in him.

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” — Luke 24:45-47

The journey of Christ to Jerusalem led to the journey of his gospel to the nations, and to us. Now we are on a journey to bring that same gospel to others.

— Sinclair Ferguson, *To Seek and To Save*

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Introduction

The goal of this Resurrection Prayer Guide is this: To be used by the Spirit of God to form us more and more in the image of Christ as we seek the Father in prayer and give ourselves to his Word. In Christ, we are God's children, and by the Spirit we are enabled to cry out, "Abba! Father!" Yet even then, prayer does not come easy to the Christian. We struggle to pour out our hearts because so often we do not have the words. Hence, this prayer guide, filled with prayerful words that come directly from God's Word. It is the hope of the Session that as we listen to and speak God's Word that the Lord Jesus, God's Eternal Word, will shape not only our words to him, but our very lives in his image. So, take up this prayer guide and use it to lead you (or your family – see A Note to Families at the end of this introduction) to God's throne of grace where there is sufficient help in time of need.

Why a Daily Prayer Guide?

God loves rhythm. The same sun rises and sets each day. The same four seasons come and go every year. Yet within this rhythm, we do not experience the same old routine, rather we find the wonder and beauty of God's creativity that orders all that he has made. And the same is true for us, for God's children thrive, not in unprompted spontaneity, but in the ordinary rhythms and seasons of life.

Historically, this truth has been central to the spiritual formation of God's people. It was seen in the holy seasons of Israel, in the daily prayer cycles of the Psalmists and the earliest Christians, and most importantly, in the gatherings of God's people on the Lord's Day. This prayer guide, then, is meant to help us attune our lives to the God-given rhythms of daily prayer. God not only wants our hearts, he also wants our days and our calendars. This is the reason the early church saw fit to shape their days and years by the remembrance of Christ – his return (Advent), his birth (Christmas), his manifestation to the world (Epiphany), his cross (Lent), his Resurrection (Easter), and his gift of the Spirit (Pentecost).

Why A Prayer Guide?

A prayer guide is not meant to squelch our freedom in prayer. On the contrary, it is meant to give us words to pray that those words might become our own. The best way we learn to pray is by being immersed in the biblical language of prayer – speaking these prayers again and again with our lips until what we pray flows directly from our hearts and in turn shapes our lives. So how can this prayer guide help?

1. It encourages us to pray daily and intentionally, giving us words to pray, so that we can start praying immediately without spending undue time wondering where to begin.
2. It shows us how to pray Scripturally, specifically to pray the Psalms (The Prayer Book of the Christian).
3. It helps us to pray together. Even when we are not praying corporately, we can still pray together as we commit to use this guide as a way to shape our common daily prayers. Using this guide serves as a reminder that we belong to a particular community called to seek the one Lord who loved us and gave himself for us on the tree.

A Note to Families

This prayer guide can be a great tool for times of family worship. We suggest that those who are able take turns reading each portion (Scripture readings, prayers, etc.). If your children aren't able to read yet, you could read a line and have them repeat it so that everyone is involved in both hearing and speaking God's word with one another. During the prayers, you may provide a time for kids to contribute even one word or phrase so everyone is praying out loud together. Confession is an opportunity to model confessing sin and being deepened in God's forgiveness to your children. We encourage you to explore how this prayer guide might best help your family's worship and devotion to Christ, seeking to make it joyful rather than drudgery.

Prayers for the Morning

Opening Prayer

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Psalm 118:24

This is the Day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Confession of Sin – Colossians 3:8, 12

Lord Jesus, forgive us for not putting away all anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from our mouths, so as to put on compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, and patience.

Daily Scripture Readings for the Season

Sunday: John 20:1-18

Monday: John 20:24-31

Tuesday: John 21:1-14

Wednesday: John 21:15-25

Thursday: Romans 8:1-11

Friday: Romans 8:12-30

Saturday: Romans 8:31-39

A period of silence follows.

Prayers for Ourselves, Our Church, Our Neighbors & Our World

Use this time for intercessory prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer for the Season

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Prayers for Midday

Opening Prayer

Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Psalm 104:31

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works.

Confession of Sin – Psalm 51:12-15

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

A period of silence follows.

Noontime Reading from Holy Scripture

Sunday: Psalm 1

Monday: Psalm 2

Tuesday: Psalm 16

Wednesday: Psalm 46

Thursday: Psalm 103

Friday: Psalm 121

Saturday: Psalm 150

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer for the Season

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Prayers for the Early Evening

Opening Prayer

Almighty Father, thank you that your Son who died has been raised. By your Spirit may I walk in the newness of his resurrection life. Amen.

Psalm 16:9-11

My heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Confession of Sin – Psalm 32:5

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Daily Scripture Readings for the Season

Sunday: John 20:1-18

Thursday: Romans 8:1-11

Monday: John 20:24-31

Friday: Romans 8:12-30

Tuesday: John 21:1-14

Saturday: Romans 8:31-39

Wednesday: John 21:15-25

A period of silence follows.

Prayers for Ourselves, Our Church, Our Neighbors & Our World

Use this time for intercessory prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Song of the Season

The Songs of the Season are found on pages 12-16.

Prayer for the Season

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Prayers for the Close of the Day

Opening Prayer

Christ is risen! Hallelujah! Praise be to our Risen Lord!

Psalm 4:8

In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

A Reading from Holy Scripture – Isaiah 25:6-8

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

A period of silence follows.

The Nicene Creed

Prayer for the Season

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that we, who have been raised with him, may abide in his presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

A Guide for the Lord's Prayer with Scripture References

*Adapted from the Westminster Larger Catechism
and based on the Lord's Prayer*

Our Father who art in heaven – Let us rejoice that we are children of God, that we may draw near to God as our loving Father and beseech Him on the behalf of ourselves and others, knowing that all is in absolute dependence upon His sovereign care.

1 John 3:1 – See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

Ephesians 1:18 – "...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints..."

Galatians 4:6 – And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

Romans 11:36 – For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Hallowed be thy name – Let us respect our Father as we call upon Him, having hearts which yearn to glorify Him in our thoughts, words, and actions.

1 Peter 1:15-16 – but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Hebrews 12:10 – ...he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

Colossians 1:10a – "...so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him..."

Thy kingdom come – Let us pray that through the propagation of the gospel, all God’s children (both Jew and Gentile) are brought into His church. Let us pray that Christ’s church is sustained in society by civil governing authorities and nurtured by His Word and Spirit through faithful officers who purely dispense the ordinances of Christ. Let us pray for the hastening of Christ’s return and our reigning with Him forever in a kingdom where death, sin, and Satan are destroyed.

Romans 11:25-26 – I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved,

1 Timothy 2:1-2 – First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 – To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:10-11 – And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven – Let us pray that God’s grace softens our hard hearts and makes us able and willing to know, do, and submit to His will in all things.

Psalm 119:1-3 – Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

Romans 12:1-2 – I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Give us this day our daily bread – Let us pray that God sustains our temporal needs as His Fatherly wisdom sees fit, and that we do not seek to use them unlawfully or place our dependence upon our own ingenuity in acquiring those blessings.

Philippians 4:6 – do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

James 4:3 – You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

1 Timothy 6:6-8 – But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us – Let us pray for the grace of God's forgiveness, for ourselves and others, recognizing that all of us are sinners who owe a debt to God's justice we cannot pay. Only God, through the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, acquits us and accepts us in the Beloved. Let us pray that we are filled with God's peace and joy, knowing that He pardons our daily failings and gives us assurance of forgiveness evidenced in our willingness to forgive others.

Romans 3:19, 23 – Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 3:24-25 – and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

Psalm 51:7 – Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Matthew 18:34-35 – And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil – Let us pray that God would so overrule the sinfulness of our flesh and the power of the world and Satan that we are kept from being tempted to sin. Let us pray that when we are tempted, God powerfully enables us to stand in that time of temptation. Let us pray that when we do fall God raises us to recovery and uses our fall for our sanctification, that our salvation may be perfected. And let us pray for the day when we may be fully freed from sin and evil forever. For God's **is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

John 17:15 – I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.

Psalm 51:10 – Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

1 Peter 5:8-10 – Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Songs of the Season

Christ is Risen

Let no one caught in sin remain
Inside the lie of inward shame
But fix our eyes upon the cross
And run to Him who showed great love
And bled for us
Freely You've bled for us

*Christ is risen from the dead
Trampling over death by death
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave
Christ is risen from the dead
We are one with Him again
Come awake come awake
Come and rise up from the grave*

Beneath the weight of all our sin
You bowed to none but heaven's will
No scheme of hell no scoffer's crown
No burden great can hold You down
In strength You reign
Forever let Your church proclaim (*Chorus*)

O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Singing O death where is your sting
O hell where is your victory
O church come stand in the light
Our God is not dead; He's alive! He's alive! (*Chorus*)



It is Finished, Part II

Hark, the voice of love and mercy,
Sounds aloud from Calvary!
See, it rends the rocks asunder,
Shakes the earth and veils the sky!
“It is finished, It is finished,”
Hear the dying Savior cry.
“It is finished, It is finished,”
Hear the dying Savior cry.

“It is finished,” O what pleasure,
Do these charming words afford.
Heavenly blessings, without measure,
Flow to us from Christ the Lord.
“It is finished, it is finished,”
Saints the dying words record.
“It is finished, it is finished,”
Saints the dying words record.

Finished all the types and shadows,
Of the ceremonial law;
Finished all that God had promised;
Death and hell no more shall awe.
“It is finished, it is finished,”
Saints from hence your comfort draw.
“It is finished, it is finished,”
Saints from hence your comfort draw.

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs;
Join to sing the pleasing theme;
Saints on earth and all in heaven,
Join to praise Immanuel’s name.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory to the bleeding lamb!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory to the bleeding lamb!



Death Was Arrested

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name
My mourning grew quiet my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began

*Oh Your grace so free washes over me
You have made me new now life begins with You
It's Your endless love pouring down on us
You have made us new now life begins with You*

Released from my chains I'm a pris'ner no more
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore
He canceled my debt and He called me His friend
When death was arrested and my life began (*Chorus*)

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though Heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began (*Chorus*)

Oh we're free free forever we're free
Come join the song of all the redeemed
Yes we're free free forever amen
When death was arrested and my life began (Repeat)

When death was arrested and my life began
When death was arrested and my life began



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It Was Finished Upon That Cross

How I love the voice of Jesus
On the Cross of Calvary
He declares his work is finished
He has spoken this hope to me
Though the sun had ceased its shining
Though the war appeared as lost
Christ had triumphed over evil
It was finished upon that Cross

Now the curse it has been broken
Jesus paid the price for me
Full the pardon He has offered
Great the welcome that I receive
Boldly I approach my Father
Clothed in Jesus' righteousness
There is no more guilt to carry
It was finished upon that Cross

Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed (*Repeat*)

Yes He rose that we would be free indeed
Free from ev'ry plan of darkness
Free to live and free to love
Death is dead and Christ is risen
It was finished upon that Cross

Onward to eternal glory
To my Saviour and my God
I rejoice in Jesus' victory
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross



Across the Lands

You're the Word of God the Father
From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory;
Let the land and seas rejoice!

*You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out
Across the lands.*

Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry;
With a word You stilled the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free! *(Chorus)*

With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven,
Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father,
Interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home! *(Chorus)*

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God;
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made.

Who, for us and for our salvation,
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven,
and sits on the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory,
to judge the living and the dead;
His kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and Giver of Life;
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped
and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Fort Worth Presbyterian Church