

Gather + Grow + Glorify + Nurturing God's Mission – 24 hour Prayer Vigil

This Prayer Vigil is a time for our community of faith to come before God to acknowledge that we are the body of Christ, and to ask for God's guidance and presence as we contemplate and complete our commitments. Even if you are alone in the sanctuary, this is a community time, for this prayer vigil is an act of our entire congregation.

Prayer cards are available that "cover" most of all the prayer requests received. The same prayers are found on the suggested prayer sheets. Feel free to make use of the Bibles provided. Prayers can be found in the hymnal as well. Or just read hymns and pray through them.

As you spend time in prayer, be certain to thank God for all that God has done for you and for our congregation, and ask for God's guidance in your own life and in the congregation's life. Here are some Bible texts for reflection and some possible subjects to pray about for yourself and for the congregation as a whole...

1. Gratitude to God for His grace and blessings - (Psalm 103:1-5) *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all His benefits-who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as your live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

2. Deeper trust in God - (Proverbs 3:5-6) *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.*

3. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's Guidance - (John 14:26) *But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.*

4. Strength for God's mission through St. Peter Lutheran Church & School - (Matthew 28:18-20) *And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

5. Discerning what God wants to do through you and through St. Peter Lutheran Church & School (Ephesians 3:20) *Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

6. Financial support of St. Peace Lutheran Church & School and our goal of paying down our debt - (2 Corinthians 9:7-8) *Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough, you may share abundantly in every good work.*

7. Fears about the debt load, future growth, and other challenges (Philippians 4:6-8) *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplications with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.*

8. Unity among members of the congregation - (Ephesians 4:1-3) *I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

9. Perseverance and mutual support as we serve God together - (Galatians 6:9-10) *So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.*

10. Deeper experience of God’s love (Psalm 36:7-9) *How precious is Your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of Your wings. They feast on the abundance of Your house, and You give them drink from the river of Your delights. For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.*

11. Rededication of your life to God (Romans 12:1-2) *I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, 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 renewing of your minds so that you may discern what is the will of God-what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

12. The ministries of our congregation, our leaders and participants - (Ephesians 4:11-13) *The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.*

13. The 4G Leadership team and the commitment service to come - (1 Peter 5:6-10) *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, support, strengthen and establish you.*

14. Pastor and Teaching staff and all who work her at St. Peter - (1 Thessalonians 5:12-15) *But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.*

“Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing”

Give thanks in all circumstances! This is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)