



GRACE COMMUNION  
INTERNATIONAL

JANUARY 2022

# PRAYER GUIDE

**“Wisdom is not gained by knowing what is right. Wisdom is gained by practicing what is right, and noticing what happens when that practice succeeds and when it fails.” — Barbara Brown Taylor**

## 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sovereign God, we thank you for your faithfulness to us over the past year. We see our need for you, your presence, and your guidance as we look to a new year ahead. We ask that you align our hearts and will with yours. Open our eyes to see those hurting around us and help us to respond with your compassion.

## 2 LOVE AVENUE PRAYER

Your Spirit fills heaven and earth and your Word reaches the ends of the world. We celebrate that our denominational family extends to each corner of the globe. We lift up our members around the world today. Connect us to you and one another. Show us how we can contribute to sharing your good news in the neighborhoods to which you have called us.

## 3 MEDITATION MONDAY: JOHN 1:9

We are confronted during these twelve days of Christmas with the reality that the Light of the world—God himself—took on our human flesh. In Jesus, we find God has entered into the midst of our human experience, into our world darkened even now by evil, sin, and death, and has brought his grace and truth to bear on each and every circumstance of life. Today, where do we feel darkness is reigning? Are there places where we believe God is not present and active? Pause for a moment and picture Jesus' real presence by the Spirit lighting up those dark places.

## 4 GRACE COMMUNION SEMINARY

Spring registration is currently open. Lord, we give you thanks for the varied opportunities we have to learn and grow in faith. We pray for wisdom and strength for the students, teachers, and administrators. May they be equipped for the good works you have for each of them.

## 5 ARIMA, TRINIDAD

We are grateful to have participated in the Christmas reunions of children with their parents through our Prison Ministry. Over a hundred children had the opportunity to see their parents. Please pray for healing as incarceration has led to many fractured and broken family relationships. Please also pray that they will experience Christ's presence and the daily grace you extend to us all.

## 6 EPIPHANY

The God who breathed this world alive and sustains it day by day, whose hands formed the skies and filled the ocean depths, is here with us. Lord, we do not deserve the Savior God born for us, but your mercy is great. Shine your light into our lives today.



# JANUARY 2022



## 7 RICHARDSON, TEXAS

We rejoice over the opportunity to engage with our neighbors through our Christmas song and trailer event. We ask for continued prayers as we build connections and share the love of Christ with those he has called us to serve.

## 8 BRISBANE/GOODNA, AUSTRALIA

Let us join in prayer for the youth camp occurring this weekend. We pray that throughout all the activities and conversations, their faith will be formed and they will draw closer to God.

## 9 LOVE AVENUE PRAYER MAPPING NEIGHBORHOOD

Father, Son, and Spirit, we follow your lead and answer your call as we share your love with our neighbors. Give us the eyes to see and wisdom to respond to the needs we see around us. Fill us with compassion as we join in with the suffering of all who share our city. Grant us peace, favor, and wisdom as we invite our neighbors into deeper relationship with you.



ARIMA, TRINIDAD

## 10 MEDITATION MONDAY: EPHESIANS 1:5

Although Jesus is the sinless Son of God, he identified so solidly with you and me and every other human being that he came to the Jordan River to be baptized for the remission of sins along with everyone else. That was when he heard his heavenly Father's words of blessing and saw the Spirit descend like a dove. Meditate on this mystery: Jesus' human experience is God's gracious way of saying that he delights in us, that we are destined to be his beloved children, that he wants us to be a part of his life, now and forever, and that he will do whatever it takes to get us there.

## 11 GCI-GHANA

We are grateful for Glowen Wombo Kyei-Mensah and her faithful service. We celebrate her ordination and commissioning as Associate Pastor. We pray blessings over her ministry. May you grant her quiet strength, unlimited love, and boundless compassion.

## 12 COTMAN, PHILIPPINES

Loving God, we pray your blessings upon Ric Perez's ordination. May his soul be refreshed with the love of Christ. Fill him with faith for the future.

## 13 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

We are celebrating the regathering our connect group meetings, both online and in-person. We ask that you join us in praying for God's presence to be palpable as we grow in understanding and relationship with him and one another.

## 14 GCI - USA SOUTHEAST

God, we thank you for this group of young adults that are gathering together for the Southeast GCNext retreat. They desire to seek you, fellowship with one another, and discern the ways you have crafted them to participate in your ministry. We ask that you bless them with laughter, wisdom, and insight throughout the retreat and that you prepare the leaders and members of their churches to support them as they return with a renewed energy to participate in Jesus' ministry.

## 15 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Many of our congregations are looking for new facilities. Join us in praying that God will lead us to new locations and that he will provide us with more than just a meeting place, but a space to minister to our neighbors.

## 16 LOVE AVENUE PRAYER MAKING FRIENDS

Jesus, it is your person and presence that compels us to love. Empower us through your love to listen, care, and engage with our neighbors. Help us to see the unique ways they bear your image and to be curious in discovering how you are working in their lives.

## 17 MEDITATION MONDAY: JOHN 2:5

Mary, the mother of Jesus, had learned during her years of relationship with her son that she could trust him to do what was needed in each situation. Once, when at a wedding where they had run out of wine, Mary asked Jesus for his help. She told the servants to do whatever he asked them to do. At first it did not make sense to the servants to do it, but when they did fill the jars with water, they soon had plenty of wine to serve. No matter who you are, Jesus invites you to participate in what he is doing. What is he asking you to do? Why not go do it right now?

## 18 BOKOD, PHILIPPINES

Our loving Father, we thank you for our faithful fellowship in Bokod and their recent anniversary celebration. Continue to guide the members as they shine your light and love into their community.

## 19 GCI-GHANA

Father, we praise you for how you have gifted Samuel Ayeh Ofori. As we celebrate his ordination, fill him with your power, love, and discipline to join with you in ministry. May he be filled with your joy and directed by you, Holy Spirit.

## 20 GCI-GHANA

Gracious God, we pray your blessings upon Mawuena Banga Balidin. We celebrate his ordination. May he honor you as he joyfully joins in the ministry you have prepared for them.

## 21 GCI CONGREGATIONS

Pray that our church family will be united in our worship of God, fellowship with one another, and ministry to the community. Ask God to help believers confront and remove issues and problems that threaten this unity.

## 22 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd. We pray that you inspire our pastors and leaders with your vision for each flock. Give them eyes to see your provision and ears to hear where their communities are calling in need. Lead our congregations where you would have us go.



## 23 LOVE AVENUE PRAYER MISSIONAL ACTIVITIES

God, we know that you are a sending God. Keep our hearts and minds open so that we willingly seek to touch those outside the four walls of the church. Inspire and equip us to create spaces where your love will be experienced.

## 24 MEDITATION MONDAY: PSALM 19:1A, 3-4A

The message of the good news of Jesus Christ is not meant just for a few isolated people. At the birth of Christ, the angels filled the heavens with praise, declaring to the shepherds that God was, in Christ, bringing about his peace for all people. The expanse of the heavens tells us of the glory of God. The expanse of his self-sacrificial offering in the incarnation and the atonement tells us of his love. As you embrace the beauty of a starlit night, experiencing the wonder of God's magnificence in his creation, take a moment in silence to also experience the wonder of God's presence in you now by his Holy Spirit.

## 25 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Creator, we are grateful for all our Avenue Champions. Thank you for the gifts you have given them. Help them as they develop, equip, and lead the ministry workers on their team. May your love and grace overflow from them as they minister.



BOKOD, PHILIPPINES

## 26 GCI-KENYA

We are praising God for the ordination of Kahaki Kimani. Teach her, Lord, to serve you, seek rest in you, and to do your will. May your love and grace overflow through her into the life of the congregation and the neighborhood.

## 27 GCI-LATIN AMERICA

Lord, have your way as our teams gather for 5 Voices training. Give us insight into the ways you have intentionally formed each of us and unite us into one body as we participate with you in ministry.

## 28 PAMPANGA, PHILIPPINES

We are praising God for the ordination of Nemecio Benoz. Teach him, Lord, to serve you, seek rest in you, and to do your will. May your love and grace overflow through him into the life of the congregation and the neighborhood.

## 29 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA

We are celebrating the dedication of our new church facility and Ministry Training Center (MTC). Join us in praying it will be a place of peace for our neighbors to enjoy and experience love and relationship. It is wonderful for GCI to have facilities that represent the glory of our marvelous Triune God. Our prayer is that our congregations serve as lighthouses in our neighborhoods, engaging our neighbors with the overflowing love of Jesus and the good news that they are included in his life and love.

## 30 MINDORO, PHILIPPINES

We joyously celebrate eleven baptisms.

"We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Romans 6:4

## 31 MEDITATION MONDAY: JEREMIAH 1:6-7

It's easy to brush off an inclination in our hearts towards doing an act of mercy or service. Our hearts and minds are flooded with reasons that we are unable to love or serve another. Instead of listening to the lies which tell us we are unable to do what God desires, we need to focus on the One who is present in us and with us at all times by his Spirit. In Christ, our heritage, our personality, our education, or any human restriction we may try to place on ourselves does not limit God's power at work through us. Now, keeping this in mind, what does God want you to say yes to?

**DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE AN EVENT, CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER REQUEST, OR PRAISE REPORT YOU WOULD LIKE INCLUDED IN NEXT MONTH'S PRAYER GUIDE OR OTHER GCI PUBLICATIONS?**

**Please email [info@gci.org](mailto:info@gci.org) with details and photos.**