



GRACE COMMUNION
INTERNATIONAL

APRIL 2022 PRAYER GUIDE

“To fail to pray, then, is not to merely break some religious rule—it is a failure to treat God as God.” — Tim Keller

1 BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, USA

Jesus, we rejoice in your presence in Melvin McKee, Jr.'s life and celebrate his ordination. Give him a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his ministry.

2 PRAYER FOR PEACE

Holy God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, by the power of your love, lead us to a clearer vision of your presence, and lead the nations into ways of unity and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

3 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, USA

Father, Son, and Spirit as we gather for the launch within our new facility, we acknowledge that it is the people gathered, not the building, that form your church. May your kingdom be furthered by our congregation's presence in this neighborhood. May your love be experienced by our neighbors. May this be a place where, as we gather week to week, we are filled with your Spirit and sent out to share the good news of who you are.



4 MEDITATION MONDAY: ISAIAH 43:16

When we look around us, often our focus is on how bad things are. We may even wonder how we will ever move forward, much less survive. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God made a way for us through these experiences to the other side. Jesus Christ forged a path for us in our human flesh by living our life, dying our death, and rising again. We trust him to walk us safely by his Spirit through the seas and mighty waters of our lives. Imagine yourself holding his hand and walking safely with him through your troubles. Take a deep breath and experience his peace.

5 PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, USA

Heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Experiencing your love and creativity in the world inspires us to worship. We thank you for our youth who lead us in worship. Root them in the truth of your love for them, and give them eyes to see your grace in their lives.

6 POLOKWANE, SOUTH AFRICA

Gracious God, in perfect assurance of Your presence among us. We pray your blessings upon Sewela Rosina Rapetsoa, as we celebrate her ordination. May she honor you as she joyfully joins with you in the ministry you prepared for her.



7 GCI - CANADA

Let us remember our co-laborers in Canada today, and ask God to continue to transform their ministry.

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of hosts." Zechariah 4:6

8 GCI - AFRICA

Join us in praying for God's inspiration and presence in our Regional Conferences across Africa this month. Join us in lifting up our time together, that we will share joyful fellowship, best practices for ministry, and the love of our Triune God with one another. May we abide in Your love during our time together.

9 CINCINNATI, OHIO

We are grateful to be able to serve our community. We have resumed our summer outreach of hosting a community yard sale and allowing neighbors to set up their own stalls to sell their goods. We pray that during the events, our neighbors and guests will feel safe and welcomed in our church facility.

10 PALM SUNDAY

Almighty and ever living God, in your tender love for the human race, you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *

11 MONDAY HOLY WEEK

Almighty God, whose dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*

12 TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son, you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*.

13 WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Lord God, whose blessed Son, our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

14 MAUNDY THURSDAY

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen*

15 GOOD FRIDAY

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *

16 HOLY SATURDAY

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so may we await with him the coming of the third day and rise with him to newness of life, he who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *

17 EASTER SUNDAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *

18 MEDITATION MONDAY: ACTS 10:38

What a joyful day we celebrate when we come together and contemplate the resurrection of our Lord! One moment his disciples were grieving, devastated by loss, and the next, they were filled with joy because he was alive. It is good to be reminded that Jesus is alive. We are called to share this good news with others and to participate with him in bringing his kingdom here on earth. But we are incapable of doing any of this apart from God's presence in us and with us by his Spirit. In silence, breath in the fresh air of the Spirit. Realize God is with you and in you!

19 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, USA

We thank you, Jesus, for your love that compels us to love our neighbors. We experienced your joy through our Pizza Party event at the apartment complex near our facility. We celebrate the neighbors from that event that joined our connect group that meets in the apartment complex. We ask that you continue to increase our love and knowledge of our Triune God and one another.

20 TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS

Father, thank you for the diversity that enriches our precious fellowship. We thank you for our congregation. We are grateful for our leaders and members. Thank you for the work your Spirit does through us as we bear witness to your Son.

21 RICHARDSON, TEXAS, USA

Lord, we marvel at the ways you include us in your ministry. We thank you for the new members who attended our Next Steps lunch. It was a special time of welcoming them into our fellowship, sharing our mission, vision, and values, as well as outlining opportunities to participate in Church Life. May our great God continue to form and grow us into the expression of church he is calling us to be.

22 CLEVELAND, OHIO

Let us lift up the Lily Women's Retreat being hosted in our Cleveland congregation this weekend. May it be a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, and connection with Jesus for all who attend.



23 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Today we pray for the upcoming generation. Give them hope and a future. Remind these young people that no matter what their circumstances are, you knew and planned for them before they were even born. Give them the passion to live with a deep sense of purpose as your beloved children.

24 GRACE COMMUNION MINISTRY TEAMS

Gracious God, it is a joy to join in your ministry. We thank you for all the volunteers who have answered your call to serve in GCI congregations. We ask that you sustain them, and may they experience your love in meaningful ways. We pray for fresh starts after a year of many new challenges. Fill your people anew with energy and passion for your name.

25 MEDITATION MONDAY: PSALM 118:17

This morning, did the alarm wake you up? Did your pet nudge you awake? Why did you get out of bed this morning? Take a moment to reflect on the reality that you've been given another day in which you are able to participate in what God is doing in this world, another day when you can tell others about what he's done for us in giving us eternal life. Everyone has been included in an intimate relationship with him in which they can experience real life, the zōē life we were given through Jesus in the Spirit. Who might you share this good news with today?

26 GRACE COMMUNION SEMINARY

It is registration time for the summer semester. 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.

27 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

We continue to praise God for the time of connectivity and inspiration during of 2021 Denominational Celebration. As we begin to plan for our gathering in 2023, join us in asking God for his innovation and intentionality in the planning process.

28 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, USA

Father God, we rejoiced in the way you have formed and gifted Ceeja Malmkar. We celebrate her ordination; and ask that you continue to direct her steps and equip her for the good work you have prepared for her. Bless her ministry to enrich the body of Christ.



29 GCI-USA SOUTHEAST

Our souls hunger and thirst for you, O God. Fill the time of our pastors' retreat with your presence and peace. May both the pastors and their spouses experience rest and renewal during our time tother.

30 BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Please join us in praying for the church leadership as we meet with Superintendent Heber Ticas to discuss healthy rhythms of church over the next few days. Our prayer is from Philippians 1:9-11:

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"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

***Holy Week Prayers are from the Book of Common Prayer: Episcopal Church. (1979). The Book of common prayer and administration of the sacraments and other rites and ceremonies of the church: together with the Psalter or Psalms of David according to the use of the Episcopal Church. New York: Seabury Press**

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 with details and photos.