



OCTOBER 2023 PRAYER GUIDE

“Sometimes that’s what prayer is--simply inviting God to join us where we actually are, not because He isn’t already here but because inviting Him reminds us it’s true.” – Emily P. Freeman

1 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL PASTOR APPRECIATION

Dear God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. We want to thank you for our pastors in GCI. We thank you for the unwavering faith, selfless service, and steadfast guidance they provide to our spiritual journey. Their tireless commitment to nurturing our souls and leading us closer to you is a blessing beyond measure. May your abundant grace continue to surround and uplift them as they tirelessly serve your flock. In this month of recognition, we offer our heartfelt thanks for their love, wisdom, and dedication.

2 PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13 (CSB)

Paul reminds us of Jesus’ choice to empty himself, taking on the “likeness of humanity.” Paul begins by encouraging us to do the same—empty ourselves of our self-centeredness living into our true identity as image-bearers of God. The joy we experience in emptying ourselves comes from knowing the truth that we are filled with the Holy Spirit, who is working in us and through us to do God’s good work every day. Take a moment or three to consider your answer to this question: How has God shared his joy with you today, this month, this year?

3 GOODNA, QLD, AUSTRALIA

Gracious God, we celebrate the Jesus and the Gospels sections of the ACCM classes that are equipping our local emerging leaders, especially for the young adults that are enrolled. Lord, we thank you for these blessings and the unity of our congregation as we continue to learn and grow in your word. In Jesus’ name, we offer this prayer of praise and gratitude.



**GLENDORA,
CALIFORNIA**

4 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, US

Loving God, we lift our hearts in profound praise as we celebrate the baptism of these nine of your beloved children. Thank you for the faith that has brought them to this sacred moment and for the promise of new life in Christ. May your Holy Spirit continue to guide and protect them, nurturing the seeds of faith sown today, and may their lives be a testament to your grace and love.

5 BIG SANDY, TEXAS, US

Faithful God, we look back with awe at the countless lives touched, the souls transformed, and the unwavering faith that has sustained us through the decades. Lord, we thank you for the visionaries who laid the foundation, the faithful who built upon it, and the generations who have carried your light forward. May your blessings continue to shine upon our congregation, filling our hearts with love, unity, and a renewed commitment to your work.

6 AKRON, OHIO, US

On August 27th we had our annual church picnic. It was a resounding success. People invited others, and we had a powerful time. It was a time of celebration of who God is in our lives. It was great hearing people encouraging others in Christ.

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7 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Faithful God, we praise you for your work in and through our denomination. Please continue to create in us hearts that seek to know and serve you more. Fill us with your joy and uphold us while we participate in Christ's ministry to the world.

8 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL PRAYER FOR MINISTRY WORKERS

Eternal Father, 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.

9 PSALM 19 (MSG)

People show their appreciation for artists by going to museums, collecting pieces for their home, or sharing pieces that move them with those they love. We do not have to be art critics, museum curators, or even artists, to appreciate the masterpiece of God's glory revealed through all creation. David wrote this psalm as a meditation to God, giving thanks for the revelation of his glory surrounding us every day, throughout all the earth. As you take a few moments to experience and explore the creation all around you, use your senses to help you recognize God's glory in what you see, hear, smell, taste, and touch. Maybe even take a walk, bike ride, or drive through your neighborhood to simply enjoy the magnificent revelation of God's glory surrounding you.

10 CHILICOTHE, OHIO, US

Heavenly Father, we come before you with hearts overflowing with gratitude and joy as we celebrate this sacred moment of baptism. May this baptism be the beginning of a journey filled with faith, love, and unwavering devotion to you.

11 GCI-CANADA WORKSHOP

Eternal Father, as we converge for this regional conference, infuse our spirits with your wisdom and love. Open our minds to grasp deeper truths, and mold us more into disciples of your grace. May the teachings and fellowship kindle a fire within, propelling us to share your light in our neighborhoods.

12 SAGINAW, MICHIGAN, US

God Almighty, we thank you for your presence with us during our Thursday night connect groups. Let our conversations be filled with grace, love, and mutual encouragement, fostering deep bonds of friendship and unity. May this group be a place where we can share our joys and burdens, lifting each other up in prayer and support. Lord, guide our discussions and reflections, that we may leave this gathering with hearts aflame for your word and with a deeper, more intimate connection to you and our fellow believers.



13 AMARILLO, TEXAS, US

Sovereign God, we celebrate the anniversary of the establishment of our congregation! We thank you for the ways you have revealed yourself to us and through us into our neighborhood. As we stand on this sacred threshold, we offer our praise and thanks for your unwavering presence in our journey. We pray that our church may remain a beacon of hope and a source of inspiration for all who seek your grace.

14 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Gracious God, we pray for a vibrant missional heartbeat to permeate GCI congregations. We are blessed, so help us to be a blessing to the world.

15 GRACE COMMUNION SENIOR MEMBERS

Lord, we lift up the senior members of our congregations. We are blessed by their example and ability to equip us. Help us benefit from their wisdom and understanding. Help them receive the strength and power you've promised. May they put their hope in you and be renewed in the process.

16 PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9 (CSB)

Pray about everything – really! Paul admonishes his readers to present their requests to God through prayer and petition with thanksgiving. Celebrate with God, acknowledge the peace of Christ which guards your heart and mind, and rejoice! No, not all experiences in life are joyful, helpful, wanted, or even understood. We will experience suffering. But Paul reminds us to also dwell on our experiences of truth, justice, mercy, honor, love. How will you dwell on these “whatevers” Paul shares? What are some ways in which you rejoice in knowing God is near to you? How can you share the joy of the Lord today?

17 RIVER ROAD, OREGON, US

Giver of life, we lift our voices in celebration of the new life and faith awakened by our four newly baptized brothers and sisters. May their lives be a testament to your boundless mercy and grace, shining as beacons of hope and love in this world. We offer this prayer of praise and gratitude, knowing that heaven itself rejoices with us on this blessed day.

18 GCI-US WEST

Gracious and heavenly Father, we have hearts overflowing in praise and gratitude for the recent Connecting and Bonding women's conference that has enriched our lives and deepened our faith. May the lessons learned, and the bonds formed continue to bear fruit in our lives, as we go forth with renewed passion and purpose to serve you and others.

19 BLANTYRE, MALAWI

Lord, we express our gratitude for the resounding laughter that filled the youth camp, the enduring friendships that blossomed, and the contagious joy that emanated from the hearts of each child. We thank you for the faith you instilled, the hope you cultivated, and the love you fostered in these moments. Illuminate our path, O Lord, so that we may continue to be a steadfast source of inspiration and care.



20 BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Loving God, we celebrate your movement in and through our recent Outside the Walls event. Through your grace, we united the Avenues of Faith, Love, and Hope, bringing children together for a joy-filled afternoon. Your presence was palpable in the laughter of kids on the inflatable slide, the delight of the bubble game, the creativity at the cookie decorating station, the enlightenment through puppet-driven Bible stories, and the sheer excitement of bingo. We are profoundly grateful for the new families introduced to our church, the meaningful connections fostered, and the inspiration that led onlookers to join our Sunday service. We praise you for our dedicated members, youth, servers, pastors, and all participants who approached this event with open hearts, demonstrating the love of Christ. Lord, continue to guide us as we strive to build relationships and extend your love beyond our walls.

21 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Lord, in you we see the beauty of community. Help our leadership teams around the world to reflect your unity and be led by the Spirit to participate in building your kingdom.

22 CINCINNATI, OHIO, US

Creator, your presence was palpable during our fall festival in the smiles, the games played, and the bonds of community strengthened. We cherish this beautiful tapestry of memories, a testament to your grace and the spirit of togetherness. Lord, may the blessings of this festival linger in our hearts, serving as a reminder of the beauty that emerges when we come together with our neighbors in love and celebration.

23 MATTHEW 22:34-46 (MSG)

Jesus said, "Love others as well as you love yourself." Often, we can hear these words and swing to two different extremes. Either we love ourselves well, boasting in God and all we have achieved "on our own" because of our love for God, or we go above and beyond for others to show them love. Then we can end up not taking care of ourselves and burning out, sometimes even resenting God for all we "had to give up" to love others. Yet, when we follow the first commandment Jesus shared, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence" first, then God equips us to embrace and understand the second command. As we are filled with God's love, wisdom, and mission, we can then see others more clearly as our sisters and brothers, and as dearly loved children of God, just like us. How is God calling you to balance your love for self and love for others? What passion, prayers, and intelligence has he given you to live life on mission with him?

24 MUSOMA, TANZANIA

Loving God, we thank you for the faith that has led twenty individuals to this sacred moment of baptism, for the new beginnings, and for the unity of purpose in our community. May their journeys be marked by your grace, their paths illuminated by your light, and their lives a testimony to your boundless love. Lord, as we commemorate this milestone, we lift our voices in praise, knowing that heaven rejoices with us.

25 RIVER ROAD, OREGON, US

Jesus, we thank you for inviting us to participate with you in your mission of sharing the good news that you are our Savior. Your divine hand was evident as we participated in our neighborhood event for first responders. Especially in the conversations shared, the bonds strengthened, and the unity that blossomed. We thank you for the opportunity to extend our love and support to those who serve our community tirelessly.

26 GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA, US

Gracious God, we come before you with hearts overflowing in profound gratitude for the delightful and successful neighborhood game night we recently enjoyed. Your presence was felt in the spirit of camaraderie, in the bonds of friendship forged, and in the unity that prevailed.

27 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, US

We are preparing for our neighborhood trunk or treat. There will be trunk competitions, costume contests, carnival games, food trucks, and more! Please pray that the Lord will bless and guide our efforts and provide opportunities to deepen our relationships with our neighbors.



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28 GCI-US SOUTHEAST

Heavenly Father, as we reflect on our rich history and celebrate our anniversary, we acknowledge your unwavering presence, your provision, and your faithfulness throughout the years. We offer our deepest gratitude for the leaders, members, and friends who have played a part in our journey, and we look forward with hope and anticipation to the future. Lord, bless us with continued unity, purpose, and a burning passion to serve you and our community for many more years to come.

29 GCI-US FRIENDSGIVING

Christ, in you we experience unity and joy. As several congregations within our fellowship come together next month to host Friendsgiving meals. We thank you for the spirit of togetherness that transcends boundaries and differences, reminding us that we are all part of your greater family. Bless these gatherings, Lord, as we share in the warmth of fellowship, the joy of laughter, and the abundance of your provision. May these meals be a reflection of your love, fostering deeper connections among us and strengthening the bonds that tie our faith communities together.

30 1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-8 (NLT)

We have been created and designed for relationships with others. God created us in his image and placed the desire for connection within our souls. Paul's letter is one of thanksgiving for the opportunity God gave him and those who taught alongside him, to live life together. Not as greater or less than each other, but as family, nurturing and delighting in sharing the gospel as they lived each day together. Paul boasted about being messengers on mission with Jesus, seeking only to please God as they travelled and lived. We don't need to seek places away from the world, hiding our good news! Rather, we can rejoice and participate with Jesus right where he has already placed us. Who around you—friend, family, co-worker, neighbor, community member—is God nudging you to get to know better?

31 TAGAYTAY, LUZON, PHILIPPINES

We come before you with hearts filled with gratitude for the abundant blessings of this fruitful retreat that has brought us, as church leaders, closer together. As we embark on the journey ahead, we humbly ask for your continued guidance and wisdom. Help us to sustain this collaborative spirit, rooted in our shared purpose and dedication to your work. May the lessons learned, and the unity forged during this time lead us to take impactful actions that advance your kingdom and glorify your name.



Would your church like to be included in a future Prayer Guide?

PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@GCI.ORG](mailto:info@gci.org) WITH DETAILS AND PHOTOS.