



## APRIL 2024 PRAYER GUIDE

**“Jesus’s resurrection is the beginning of God’s new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord’s Prayer is about.”**  
— N.T. Wright.

### 1 JOHN 20:1 (NRSVUE)

Have you ever been in the middle of something difficult – something you couldn’t quite understand and seemed too wrong for God to be able to fix? Perhaps you are closer to your stone being rolled away than you think. Mary Magdalene was “going through the motions” of her cultural traditions, caring for the body of someone who had died. She did not know what God had already done, but she was obedient to what he had said. Whatever darkness surrounds you in your current situation, trust in God’s wisdom and know he has already done great things for you. May the “rolled stone” bring rejuvenating transformation to your life and being.

### 2 GCI-GHANA

We joyously celebrate the baptism of six new believers.  
“So, in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”  
Galatians 3:26-27

### 3 GCI-US CENTRAL

Divine guide, we thank you for your presence that illuminated our time together during our Young Adult Chosen retreat. As we now return home, may your grace continue to be the gentle wind that fills our sails, propelling us towards continued discipleship and growth in the light of your wisdom.

### 4 BIG SANDY, TEXAS, US

Lord, who is a friend to all, we thank you for the block party and follow-up event, Easter meal last month. It was a time of joy, community, and togetherness. We’re grateful for the chance to come together as neighbors and friends. As we reflect on the shared meal, we’re reminded of your love and the promise of renewal. Thank you for uniting and transforming us into a community.

### 5 KENOCKEE, MICHIGAN, US

Everlasting God, we celebrate the Seder Dinner we participated in during Holy Week. We rejoice in experiencing the rich traditions and symbolism of the Passover meal, deepening our understanding of your faithfulness throughout history. As we gathered, with 60 eager hearts, we were filled with gratitude for the unity and fellowship that binds us together as a community. May this sacred event be a testament to your enduring love.

### 6 RICHARDSON, TEXAS, US

Faithful one, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude for the Easter egg hunt and the celebration that followed last month. It was a time of joy, community, and togetherness. We’re thankful for the opportunity to gather as neighbors and friends, sharing in the excitement of the hunt and the joy of fellowship. As we think back on those moments, we’re reminded of your love and the promise of new life and renewal that Easter brings. Thank you for bringing us together and transforming us through this community event.





## 7 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.

## 8 JOHN 20:31 (NRSVUE)

Through Jesus' faith, we believe that he is our Savior. There will be times we will have doubt, but Jesus lovingly meets us there just as he did Thomas' doubt. In his Gospel, John shared just a taste of all that Jesus showed them after his resurrection. While we can wonder what else Jesus did, let us be sure to remain present in our wondering, seeking all Jesus is doing now. May we read what is written in the Gospels to strengthen our belief that we are transformed and have abundant life in Jesus' name!

## 9 CINCINNATI, OHIO, US

We are celebrating the encouragement of the Lord as we witness our congregation being the church. We see people praying together often. We see them witnessing to family and friends. Oh, the joy of seeing the church come alive in Christ!

## 10 PRETORIA, RSA

We celebrate the ordination of of Hlali Msiza. Grant him wisdom, strength, and unwavering faith as he embarks on this new journey of ministry. May your Holy Spirit guide his every step, empowering him to be a source of inspiration and guidance to all he serves. We ask for your blessings and anointing upon him, that he may faithfully carry out your work and bring glory to your name.

## 11 SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

Lord, guide us as we prepare for our relaunch. Grant us discernment as we seek to build relationships with our new neighbors in this fresh location. Jesus, may our love for you deepen as we cultivate love for our neighbors and unity among our church family throughout this journey.

## 12 GLENDDORA, CALIFORNIA, US

God of wisdom and love, source of all good, we thank you for Jillian Morrison who was commissioned last month as pastor. May she continue to share your love and truth with those you have placed in her pastoral care.

## 13 TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS

Please join us in praying for wisdom and discernment of our ministry. "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." Philippians 1:9-11

## 14 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.



## 15 1 JOHN 3:2 (MSG)

God knows exactly who you are: his child! There is nothing we can hide from God, nor do we need to fear separation from God. Yes, there will be troubles, but whatever we may endure, experience, and live through, we will have Jesus by our side! Rejoice and sing, dear sisters and brothers, that we are children of God. This is our identity which can never be taken, changed, or diminished. May you embrace who you are, as Christ is conforming you into his image, just as he made you to be.

## 16 GCI-UK & IRELAND

God of truth, we thank you for providing a flexible and accessible platform for theological training through ACCM, allowing leaders to grow in confidence and spiritual attunement without the constraints of traditional academic pathways. Bless the ministers, congregational leaders, and speakers who have embarked on this shared learning journey, enriching their understanding of GCI beliefs and enhancing their practical ministry skills. May ACCM continue to be a beacon of light, empowering individuals to serve and shepherd your people with wisdom and compassion.

## 17 RIVER ROAD, OREGON, US

Gracious God, we thank you for the baptism into your body last month. May our new sister in Christ experience the new and abundant life we have in you.







## 18 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, US

Emmanuel, we are grateful for the joyous moments shared during our annual neighborhood fun day. Thank you for the laughter, games, and cherished memories created as neighbors came together. As we reflect on this day of celebration, we ask for your continued blessings upon the relationships formed, that they may deepen and flourish in the days ahead. Guide us, Lord, to live out your purpose for the church as we strive to love one another and serve our community with compassion and kindness.

## 19 GCI-LATIN AMERICA

Heavenly Father, with hearts full of anticipation and gratitude, we lift up our preparation for the launch of the Ministry Training Center (MTC) in Latin America. We thank you for guiding us in developing the first two courses and for providing clarity in identifying materials for the upcoming phases. As we embark on this journey, we seek your wisdom and blessing upon every aspect of the program rollout. May our meetings this weekend be instrumental in aligning our vision and ensuring a successful launch of the MTC. Grant us unity, wisdom, and discernment as we move forward in service to your kingdom.

## 20 RAYONG, THAILAND

Gracious God, we lift our ministry in Rayong, Thailand, before you, asking for a deeper understanding of your will and wisdom. Just as Paul prayed in Colossians, we seek to walk in a manner worthy of you, bearing fruit in every good work. May our efforts be pleasing to you as we strive to increase in knowledge and love for you. Bless our endeavors to serve your people and bring glory to your name.

"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." - Colossians 1:9-10

## 21 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.

## 22 JOHN 10:11 NRSVUE)

We are a part of the one flock, humankind, protected and cared for by our shepherd, Jesus Christ. Yet, we are also sheep divided by many influences – not unlike how the Jews and Gentiles were from different folds. How will we all get along? Focusing, of course, on Jesus and his unity. Remember that the same voice, who called us out of our darkness and into the light, is speaking to others too. As we listen to and follow our shepherd, may we not concern ourselves with what makes us different than others. Rather, may we rejoice in the diversity with which our kind God made us.

## 23 GCI-AUSTRALIA

Our good shepherd, we thank you for the gifts of leadership you have bestowed upon your church. As we reflect on Ephesians 4, we pray for our ministry in Australia, that we may faithfully equip the saints for the work of building up the body of Christ. Grant us unity of faith and knowledge, that we may grow into the fullness of Christ. May our ministry be a testament to your grace and a reflection of your love.

"And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." - Ephesians 4:11-13

## 24 GCI-RSA

Gracious God, we gather with hearts filled with joy and gratitude for the two precious souls who responded to your loving embrace and were baptized. We celebrate the new life they have found in Christ and the promise of redemption that baptism symbolizes. May their journeys be filled with faith, hope, and love, and may their lives be a shining testament to your grace.

## 25 MORULENG, MALAWI

Holy One, we humbly seek your blessing on the ordination of Lucas Morolong. Grant him wisdom, strength, and unwavering faith as he dedicates his life in service to your people. May your Spirit guide his path and may his work be a reflection of your love and grace.



## 26 CLEVELAND, OHIO, US

Loving God, we lift up the LiLY Women's Retreat happening in our Cleveland congregation this weekend. We ask for your presence to fill the gathering with your love and grace. May it be a time of meaningful worship, genuine fellowship, and profound connection with Jesus for all who attend. Bless each woman with moments of spiritual renewal and encouragement as they seek you together.

## 27 PRAYER FOR PEACE

Holy God, in your 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.





## 28 SURREY, BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA

Merciful Father, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude and praise for the success of the Family Day Carnival hosted by GC Surrey in British Columbia, Canada. Thank you for the opportunity to bring joy and connection to our community on this special holiday. We rejoice in the dedication of our volunteers who worked tirelessly to prepare and serve, spreading love and kindness in your name. Bless each person who attended, and may the memories created and the bonds formed continue to nurture relationships and bring glory to your name.

## 29 JOHN 15:2 (NRSVUE)

Jesus has told us he came to give us abundant life. Our transformation by Christ may come from his loving and careful pruning. It is no wonder then that to bear more fruit, at times, we must endure some pain. We are not perfect, and Christ is working towards making us more like him with every trim. This is a wonderful reminder that we are not responsible for anyone else's transformation or fruit bearing. Neither are we truly even in control of our own. Rather, we are given an opportunity to respond to God's transformation of us. Are you experiencing hurt or pain from God's pruning? Take some time to sit with it. Focus on the fruit you are bearing and how God is allowing you to bear more of it.

## 30 WOODBINE, GEORGIA, US

We rejoice with you, Jesus, and celebrate the baptism in our congregation last month. As your precious child emerges from the depths, may your Holy Spirit infuse them with strength, courage, and unwavering devotion. May their lives be testimonies of your redeeming love.



**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.**

