



“For us, Advent begins in darkness- not a complete and utter darkness- but a palpable one. During Advent the themes of light and darkness are front and center. Within the Advent wreath are candles that generally represent the four weeks of the Advent season as well as the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Jesus Christ. Slowly darkness fades as more candles are lit with each passing week. Let us take time to praise the Lord! The Sunrise has visited us to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, guide our feet into the way of peace.”

DATE	SCRIPTURE	FOR WHOM	PRAYER	APPLICATION
1/1/24	2 Corinthians 4:1-3	Pastor	"Father, today we pray for our Pastors, those who present the Gospel week in and week out in our church. We pray that they would be encouraged to speak what you have spoken to them and that your people might hear your words. Bless them, give them confidence in you, endurance in the journey, and a growing passion for you in their lives. In your Son's name, Amen." (A prayer for our Pastors)	Who is a Pastor, a Christian Leader, a Mentor who has encouraged you in your walk with Jesus?
2	1 Tim. 3:1-2	Elders	"Lord Jesus, the task of leading your church is a high calling. Elders are held to a higher standard, under greater scrutiny, subject to harsher judgment. These men and women you've appointed over our church need our prayers daily. Lord, we lift up our elders to you. Help us to respect and honor them as they direct the affairs of our church. Bless their families, their ministries, their lives. May they lead well as you direct their thoughts and actions. Amen." (A prayer for our Elders)	Who is a leader who makes it easy for you to submit to because they clearly focus their heart, mind and actions on Jesus?

## Daily Prayers

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3	1 Tim. 3:8-9	Deacons	"Lord God, be with our deacons, the hands and feet of our church. Help them in their walk with you that they might keep their focus on you to be nourished, fulfilled, encouraged as they seek to extend your love, your provision for those in need. Give them wisdom as they council those who are struggling in our church and in our community. Thank you, Father, for their faithful obedience. In your Son's name, Amen." (A prayer for our Deacons)	Who is someone who has come to be the hands of Christ in a time of need?
4	Ephesians 4:1	Congregation	Lord, your Apostle Paul had such a love for the local church! He often prayed for it and sought to challenge and encourage it to faithfulness and resolve in the face of whatever persecution they might face. With this example, we seek to pray for our own congregation of Jesus followers at our church. Encourage us to stay the course, to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called. Encourage us, bless us, help us to be reminded of you and your faithfulness as we seek to minister to a hurting world. Amen." (A prayer for our Congregation)	Think of someone you sit around at church. Take a risk and introduce yourself to them this week!
5	Matt. 18:3-4	Children	Lord Jesus, children model for us how we are to live as your faithful people in the Kingdom of Heaven. Thank you for the blessing of every child at our church, and appreciate the significant role they play in our body. We pray that they might remain humble examples of what we need to become. Let them fall so deeply in love with you that they never know a moment, not in a relationship with you. Teach them to follow you, to be faithful, to proclaim your good works to the world. In your name, Amen." (A prayer for our Children)	Say hi to one of the kids in the hallway at church this week.
6	2 Tim. 2:22	Youth	Lord, the teenage years are such a difficult time. The pressures are many, and the temptations great. For those navigating these difficult times, the pathway is often unclear, and the repercussions for wrong decisions and actions can be life-altering. With this in mind, we pray for our youth. Help them to pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, seeking to honor you in their lives. May our church family surround them and lift them up in prayer, encouragement, and support, however, they may need it during this challenging time of life. We pray this in your name, Amen." (A prayer for Youth)	Look for a youth or young adult who is part of our church family and thank them for being at church!

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7	Proverbs 16:31	Seniors	"Lord God, we thank you for the wisdom and knowledge that you have blessed our seniors within our community. We thank you for the years of faithful service and the dedication they give still as they strive to continue ministry right up until you call them home. Their legacy in you is being carried forward through the children, youth, and young families at our church. As time takes its toll and our earthly bodies begin to bear the signs of a life lived for Jesus, I pray that we would be encouraged, supported, and loved well by our church family. Thank you for those older generations at our church who have been and continue to be a vital part of our church body. We pray for them in your name, Amen." (A prayer for our Seniors)	There are many faithful seniors in our church family—seek to meet a new one this week!
8	1 Thes. 1:5	Those who don't know Jesus	"Lord Jesus, we pray for those who don't know you in our communities, in our families, even in our congregation. We pray that we might live lives that proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. Help your Spirit move in us to share how you have worked in our lives and how you transform us into being people in your likeness. May we be bold, kind, and loving as we seek to spread the good news of your Kingdom in our world. Amen." (A prayer for those who don't know Jesus)	Think about who you work around or who you see frequently who doesn't know Jesus. Pray specifically for them.
9	2 Chron. 20:21-22	Worship Leaders	"Lord, in the spiritual battle we find ourselves in, those who lead us in worship are our company commanders, guiding us into battle against the sin within us and the injustice we face daily in our world. Thank you for those who center our minds and hearts on you. Help encourage them as they lead us into lives of worship, not just during our weekly service, but in every moment of every day. Help them to model well a life lived for you that we might follow them into battle. Amen." (A prayer for our Worship Leaders)	Thank one of the worship leaders for their service and consider telling them how they lead you in worship.
10	Proverbs 31:30	Women's Ministry	"Lord, our church is blessed by women who dedicate their whole lives to you. Thank you that we do not have to look far to find women who model well what it means to be a Proverbs 31 woman. There are women, young and old, who are leading significant ministries in our church, and we thank you for their dedication, their gifting, and their passion for you. May we follow their example and support them in their ministries. Bless our sisters, our mothers, our daughters, oh Lord. Amen." (A prayer for our women)	Who has been a woman who has mentored/blessed you? Thank them!

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11	1 Tim. 6:11	Men's Ministry	"Lord Jesus, you call your men to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness. When we think of what it means to "be a man" in our culture, these aren't often the attributes we think of, but they are what you call your men to exhibit. We pray for the men of our church that they might not get caught up in the expectations of the world but that they might pursue you with all that they are. Bless our brothers, our fathers, our sons. Help enable them to be bold leaders in your Kingdom who seek to submit themselves to you and give themselves for others in love. In your name, Amen." (A prayer for our Men)	Who has been a man who has mentored/blessed you? Thank them!
12	1 Tim. 4:12	Youth Leaders	"Lord, our church is blessed with so many youth workers who work in youth ministry. They are dedicated people passionate about teens growing in their relationship with Jesus. Lord, we pray for their efforts, for their stamina, for wisdom, and for their personal walks with you. We lift them up to you and ask you to bless them and grant them the ability to do that you've called them. In your Son's name, Amen." (A prayer for Youth Workers)	Seek out a Youth leader and pray for them as they minister to the youth of our church family.
13	1 Cor. 16:15	Behind-the-Scenes Workers	"Holy Spirit, there are so many people in our church that work behind the scenes doing ministries that often no one even knows about. Thank you for those called to do the ministries that bless so many, but that often gets overlooked. Bless our brothers and sisters who serve in this capacity and help them to know in their hearts that their service is as valuable to the body of Christ as any other service. Thank you that we all are given different gifts and that all of these gifts are for the entire body to flourish and bring glory to you. Amen."	Keep your eyes peeled for those who are behind the scenes helping in all the different ways needed at our church and make sure they know that you appreciate them and see them and the work they do for our church family.
14	Mk 10:14	Children's Ministry Leaders	"Jesus, you say that the Kingdom of God belongs to the little children. You tell your disciples to allow them to come to you. To work in children's ministry is a difficult and yet rewarding task and we thank you for those you've gifted to serve in this capacity. From those holding babies in the nursery to those praying with the 3-5 year olds, we thank you for them all. May you bless our brothers and sisters who till the soil in the hearts of those who will bring about the next generation of the church. Amen." (A prayer for our Children's Ministry Workers)	Find a children's ministry person and thank them for pastoring our children well!

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15	Mk 11:17	Prayer Ministries	<p>"Lord, in prayer, we get to be in communion with you individually and corporately as we gather to pray. Today, we pray for our various prayer ministries at our church; the prayer chain, prayer night, prayer ministry on Sunday mornings, Outreach prayer team, and all the other various prayer ministries at our church. Charles</p> <p>Spurgeon used to say that the prayer ministry that occurred every Sunday in the church's basement was the engine room of the whole church. This is still the case. Our church's prayer ministry and the individual prayers of our church family drive our church, and it's impact for the Kingdom. Thank you, Father, for this blessed ministry, and bless those who participate in it. Amen."</p> <p>(A prayer for our Prayer Ministries)</p>	Visit Prayer Night or come up after service on Sunday and pray with the Prayer team this week.
16	Rev. 3:14-18	Spiritual Growth	<p>"Lord, we pray today for the spiritual growth of our congregation. It is very easy to slip into complacency and to be stagnant in our faith. Challenge us, O Lord, that we may press in on you. Devote our hearts to your Word and your minds to meditating on your teaching. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and transform us into your likeness. Amen."</p> <p>(A prayer for our Spiritual Growth)</p>	Reflect on the last year and journal about how God has been growing you Spiritually this year.
17	Eph. 4:30	Spirit-Led	<p>"Father God, as we seek to know your will for our church, for our families, for our ministries in 2021, we pray that your Spirit might lead us in the direction you desire us to go. Help us be obedient, faithful, and devoted to the direction you would lead us. We ask all of this in your name, Amen."</p> <p>(A prayer for the Spirit's Leadership)</p>	Ask the Lord where He might be leading you in this next year. Choose to be obedient to whatever He calls you to do.
18	1 Cor. 14:1	Spiritual Gifts	<p>"Lord, may we pursue you passionately, seeking the filling of your Spirit that we might experience the gifts of joy, peace, and love. We desire to focus our hearts and minds on you that we might be transformed increasingly into your likeness. Thank you for the Spiritual gifts you've blessed our church family with; help us use them for the good of our church body. Amen."</p> <p>(A prayer for Spiritual Gifts)</p>	Consider what gifts God has given you. Consider the gifts He's given others in your community. Let someone know that you see their giftedness being used by God in our church family.
19	1 Peter 1:22	Love/Unity	<p>"King Jesus, thank you for your immeasurable love. Help us to reflect that love to one another from pure hearts. Through love, you give us the unity of Spirit and action in the church. May we be people known for their lovingkindness both with one another and with the surrounding world. Amen."</p> <p>(A prayer for Love and Unity)</p>	Who is someone you need to reach out to in love and share how much you appreciate them?



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20	2 Cor. 9:6-11	Finances	"Lord, you've blessed us with everything we have. We confess that at times we can think that you operate out of scarcity instead of abundance, assuming that you will somehow run out of blessings, so we hold tightly to that which you've given. You bless us that we might be a blessing. May we be cheerful givers, giving glory to the giver of all things. Thank you, Father, for your incredible blessings. Amen." (A prayer for our Finances)	Take a moment and offer up all of your finances to the Lord for Him to use as He sees fit and be obedient to how He calls you to use these blessings He gives.
21	Heb. 13:16	Outreach/ Missions	"Lord Jesus, the work we do for your Kingdom, we are blessed to be able to do in our local community and all over the world. You have been generous with us, and we have been able to be generous in the resources we've been able to use in global and local outreach. Guide us as we do this work, O Lord. May we do that which you have called us to and prayerfully continue to support your ministries here and abroad. Amen." (A prayer for Outreach Ministries)	Go by the Outreach Wall and pray for one of our partners overseas.
22	2 Cor. 12:9	Single Parents	"Jesus, you are perfect and yet came into an imperfect world. The world we navigate is rife with issues, difficulties, situations that are not ideal, and yet, this is where you work. This morning we recognize that there are many single parents in our community who are raising children independently. It is arduous work, and yet it is good work. You have not abandoned the single mother or father; you are present with them. Encourage them, draw them near to you that they may draw their children near to you. May our church family embrace and support these families in the effort of raising godly children who will grow to glorify you. Amen." (A prayer for Single Parents)	Find a single parent in our church and let them know that they are doing a great job raising their children. Offer to help if you are able.
23	Gen. 16:13	Those Hurting	"Father, you are present with us even when we find it hard to see you. Remind those of us who are hurting in this season that you are here, you have blessed us with the body of Christ, and that you are working in the midst of whatever trial we are going through. Draw near to those who are hurting and comfort the hearts of those dealing with loss. We lift these people up to you. In your Son's name, Amen." (A prayer for those Hurting)	Ask God who in our church family could use some extra love and support and be obedient to go where He calls you.
24	Rom. 8:1	Freedom from Sin	"Jesus, our Savior, we praise your name! Through your sacrifice, we are freed from sin! May we not take your sacrifice lightly, and may we be quick to confess and repent of our sins. In you, we are free and can overcome any sin through your Holy Spirit. Let us not get mired in the struggle, but celebrate in our newfound identity in Christ! Glory be to God! Amen!" (A prayer for Freedom from Sin)	Ask God to reveal any unrepentant sin in your life and seek to repent of it, embracing the forgiveness He gives.

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25	Rev. 3:22	Kingdom-Focus	"Father, fix our eyes on you. Let us hear your words. This world seeks to distract us from your Kingdom. It aims to present other things as our focus. It builds idols out of business, wealth, leisure, comfort, or even the American dream. All that matters in the life of those born again is the Kingdom of Heaven and living in light of its truth. Keep our focus on you. May we repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand. In your Son's name and through His sacrifice, Amen." (A prayer for Kingdom-focus)	Consider your calendar/schedule this next year. How can you orchestrate your life to be more Kingdom-minded this next year?
26	Acts 2:47	Evangelistic Efforts	"Lord, you are the one who grows ministries and churches. Our devotion is to your teachings, to fellowship, to prayer, to breaking bread, and through our obedience and your Spirit's movement in people, you bring people into your truth. Please help us to take our role as witnesses to the Kingdom seriously and to speak boldly about what we've seen and heard of you in our own lives. Amen." (A prayer for Evangelism)	Ask the Lord to show you one person you can share your God story with this next year.
27	Gal. 5:14	Neighborhood	"Lord, you have placed this church in this community at this time for a reason. Help us see our neighbors, love them as you love them, and spread the good news of the Kingdom in our community. Bless our neighbors, keep them healthy, and fed. May we be your hands and feet demonstrating your love and provision to them. Draw them close to you, O God. Amen." (A prayer for our Neighbors)	Walk through your neighborhood and pray for those who live near you. Seek to be a blessing where God has placed you.
28	Jer. 29:7	Our City	"Lord, we pray for our city. There is a mission field in our city, a large number of people who don't know it, but who need you. We see them every day, interact with them, do life with them. As we live alongside them, I pray that we might take time to pray for them to reflect your love to them. We desire that they would grow to know you and to live their lives for you so that they may experience the joy, peace, and love that life with you brings." (A prayer for our City)	Pray about the needs of our city and what God might have you do to meet those needs.
29	2 Chron. 7:14	Our Nation	"Father, we pray for our nation. We desire that the church would be a catalyst in bringing about a nation that honors you. Help us to think nationally, but act locally. May we be kind, loving, united, compassionate, and dedicated to honoring you in all that we do. Bless our nation and all nations. Amen." (A prayer for our Nation)	Pray for our nation, regardless of political affiliation, asking God to bless those who He chooses to govern us.

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30	John 17:11-23	Our World	"Father, though we are not of this world, we are in this world. We are not to be so focused on heaven that we neglect the beautiful, good world that you created. Lord, we pray for our world and for all those who have yet to give their lives to you. We pray that we might be your hands and feet to all people of all nations. Help us see others as you see them and to bless them as you've blessed us. In your Son's name, Amen." (A prayer for our World)	Pray for the world, especially those who don't know Jesus. Seek to support Global Missions in any way you are able.
31	1 John 4:1; 2 Cor. 2:11	Protection from the Enemy	"Lord, it is so easy to be led astray. Just as you taught us to pray, we pray that you would protect us from the evil one. Give us wisdom, discernment, and absolute reliance on you. Humble us that we might submit to your leading and not seek to lead on our own. Protect us from the spiritual attacks that will certainly come as we seek to live as your people in this world. Amen." (A prayer against Spiritual Attack)	Seek to know the voice of the Lord and listen to His voice instead of the tempting voice of the enemy.
2/1/24	Acts 9:1-2	N/A	"Lord, before our encounter with you, we lived our lives in a way that seemed right to us but it only led to pain and to destruction. We lived with purpose but it was our own. Forgive us, Lord. We thank you for your patient mercy. Amen."	Consider what you were in pursuit of before you encountered Jesus. Where would that road have led?
2	Acts 9:3	N/A	"King Jesus, we thank you that you do not leave us to our own way, that you pursue after us, passionately, patiently. You are ever faithful and filled with mercy and grace. Thank you for being our Light in the darkness. Amen."	Thank the Lord for His work in your life, starting with how He revealed Himself to you in the first place.
3	Acts 9:4	N/A	"Lord, when we choose to follow our own way, we end up using people for our own gain and in so doing, we persecute You. Forgive us, Lord, for how we've treated those made in your image. Against you alone have we sinned... Amen."	Consider this past week. How have you mistreated those who are made in the image of God? Ask for forgiveness.
4	Acts 9:5a	N/A	"Lord, when we encounter You, Your truth, Your Light, all else falls away. We cannot continue to pursue after the things of this world. They are shallow, hollow, empty. In light of who You are, we recognize that we do not belong on the throne of our lives. Forgive us, Lord, for trying to live as if we knew better than You. Amen."	How are you trying to control your life? What are you continuing to refuse to give over to Him?
5	Acts 9:5b-6	N/A	"Lord, our desire is to hear your voice that we may obediently follow. Speak Lord and may we have ears to hear. Amen."	What is God calling you to do? Are you stepping out in faith to follow Him? What keeps you from faithfully and obediently following where He would lead?
6	Acts 9:7-9a	N/A	"Lord, perhaps we've encountered you, we've seen your Light, but we are fearful. In light of the reality of your Kingdom, everything we thought we knew has changed. Perhaps we are in awe, stricken silent by it all. Give us wisdom to pause, to listen, to focus on you during this time. Amen."	Consider all that God is. Be drawn up into worship as you consider Him.



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7	Acts 9:9b	N/A	“Lord, sometimes in light of You we must take some time to just sit and be, to fast and pray. We don’t do so because you command it, but because it is a natural response to place ourselves in a place where we can hear from you. Help guide us Lord. Speak that we might hear. Amen.”	Take some time this week to fast and pray for a day, an hour, a few minutes. Listen to the Lord.
8	Acts 9:10	N/A	“Lord, may we say, like Ananias, “Hinani, Lord!” May we respond with a conviction to follow wherever You may lead. Guide us Lord. Amen.”	Where is God leading you today? How will you be a blessing to others?
9	Acts 9:11-12	N/A	“Lord, often we do not understand the directions you give. They don’t seem to make sense in our finite minds. Help us, Lord, to trust you and your ways even when they don’t make sense to us. Amen.”	In what way do you need to follow Jesus this week, especially when it doesn’t make sense from a worldly perspective?
10	Acts 9:13-14	N/A	“Lord, thank you that we are able to question you, that we can voice our fears to you and that you do not condemn us for doing so. If we are afraid, may we bring it to you. May we trust you, Lord, with our fears and with our lives. Amen.”	What are you afraid of? Have you taken it to the Lord? If not, why not?
11	Acts 9:15-16	N/A	“Lord, you’ve said that to follow you it will cost us our lives. Some of us, many of us, perhaps did not consider that cost when we made this choice. Perhaps we are still seeking to hold onto our lives while receiving only a little bit of your Lordship over our lives. We are unfit to seek to share the throne. It is yours alone. Remind us of this truth and may we choose to abdicate it in our own lives that you might rule, O Lord. Amen.”	Where do you still try to control your life and not allow the Lord to be King over it? Repent of this sinfulness and seek to trust Him.
12	Acts 9:17	N/A	“Lord, Ananias gives us such an example to follow. All Saul has done to the early church is persecute it and here Ananias calls him “Brother.” We have been hurt far less than this and have cut brothers and sisters in Christ out of the family. Forgive us, Lord, for not trusting you, for not being patient with others as you work in their lives and in ours. Guide us toward unity, Lord. Amen.”	Who have you cut out of your life? Who have you not sought unity with in the church body? How have you caused division in the church? Repent. And allow God to work in these situations.
13	Acts 9:18-19	N/A	“Lord, when we commit to living our lives for you, it may take us a few moments to ponder all that this means. There will be areas of our lives that we do not know how to give over to you. May we move slowly, intentionally and yet faithfully and obediently. Humble us, Lord. May we seek to live every aspect of our lives for you. Amen.	Take a moment to consider Lent this year, how will you prepare for it so that it doesn’t just pass like another season.