PRAYER GUIDE

WEEK OF PRAYER

JUNE 7 - 13 2020

Morden Alliance Church



SUNDAY PRAYER GUIDE INTRO

STAFFORD GREER

Welcome to our week of prayer!

In this guide, you will find a short daily devotional from scripture, written by our pastoral staff, along with prayers to help guide you through the week.

Through this week, we will be focusing on the A.C.T.S prayer method as a way to help structure your time with God.

Adoration

This is time spent praising God for who he is. Jesus modelled this in 'The Lord's Prayer' when he begins with, "Our Father in Heaven, Holy is your name." Allow yourself time to praise who God is. If you're familiar with the different attributes of God, (rock, fortress, holy, saviour, good shepherd, shield, strength, merciful, good judge, king, etc.,) take time praising him and listing as many of the attributes of God as possible. Don't skip this step! This strengthens your relationship with God, and prepares your heart for time spent with him.

Confession

Once you have done praising him, begin to confess and repent of your sins. Jesus again instructed us to pray, "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." After spending time praising God for his goodness, we don't need to fear confession! Confession is a welcome relief because we're dealing with a God who is love, who wants to relive us of our sinful burden! Take time to be specific about your sins. Ask the Holy Spirit, whose job it is to convict us of our sin (Jn. 16:8). When he reveals something to you, confess it! Don't worry about missing a sin - the Holy Spirit will lead you appropriately in revealing it to you.

Thanksgiving

Take time to be grateful! Begin to list the specific things you are grateful for. They can be small or big things like the beauty of flowers, the way your child gives you a hug, or how thankful you are to live in the joy of your salvation. Again, be specific here, and let the Holy Spirit reveal areas of your heart where thankfulness flows freely. You'll find that being thankful will clear away your anxiety. It is impossible to be anxious and thankful at the same time.

SUNDAY PRAYER GUIDE INTRO

Supplication

A fancy word for, asking for something. This is where you can bring your requests to God. After spending time praising God's nature, confessing your sin, and being thankful, your list of things to pray for may have changed! As you bring your requests to God, be as specific as you can. Instead of, "I pray people get saved," pray "Jesus work in the life of ______. Give me opportunity and confidence to talk to him/her about you." Or instead of, "please heal my marriage," pray, "Jesus please reveal to me how I can love my spouse in a way that heals our marriage. Please convict me when I allow bitterness to creep into our marriage." When you pray specifically, it gives you a chance to praise God for when he answers your specific prayers!

I pray that this week will equip you with confidence to start praying, to pray differently, to pray with passion, to pray authentically, to pray specifically, and to also hear from God in those same ways. Prayer is more than a to-do list for God. It is a chance to hear from God and deepen your relationship with him.

May you experience a deep measure of God's presence with you this week!

Press on!

Stafford

MONDAY PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

GRAEME JONES

What I'd love for us to do today is to pray with and for the teenagers we have in our community!

Space these sections out throughout your day to allow yourself time to let it sit and percolate in your mind and soul. I've included what I recommend, but operate however works best in your context!

To start this morning, lets set our sights on the One who we're praying to:

- Praise God for His love and care for you
- Praise God for His love and care for our teenagers
- Praise God for being trustworthy
- Praise God that no detail, no person, regardless of age, falls through the cracks

At noon, spend time reflecting and praying on the times we've fallen short in this area:

- Confess the times I've withheld Godly love to others due to their age
- Confess the times I've withheld Godly love to others due to their maturity
- Confess the times we've withheld Godly love to others due to their perceived skill set and abilities

Take a pause mid-afternoon to express thankfulness to God for:

- The teenagers that exist in my family and those whom I share close friendships with
- The teenagers who are a part of our church family
- For those within our church and community who freely give their time to serve and invest in the lives of our teenagers

After dinner, ask God for:

- A renewed excitement and care for the teenagers in Morden
- Our teenagers to find comfort in dealing with the loss of significant milestones amid the pandemic
- · Our teenagers who feel lonely and frustrated due to social distancing measures
- Parents who have been placed with the daunting task of raising up the next generation

I'll talk to you tonight on the livestream!

Graeme

TUESDAY PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

LAURYL CHAMBERLAIN

Matthew 6:5-13

If you have different bible translations, I encourage you to read this passage in all of them. (biblegateway.com also has all of the translations you can choose from, I enjoy NLT, The Message, TLB & NLV)

When I first became a believer, I was very young and I thought it was only about my future. I would go to heaven when I died and that's all it was about. Now that I'm older and have discovered it's so much more than that. My hope is that a relationship with Jesus transforms your daily life right now. It can even transform your past. But Jesus wants relationship with you now. God desires to be in communion with us - communion means close relationship. If prayer is the path we take to be in deep communion with Christ, then we must teach ourselves and those around us, how to pray.

The Lord's Prayer was not given to us just as a "sample" of how to pray, it can be used in a way to guide our prayers. I encourage you to pray this on your own today, or, if you have children, do this together with your family. You can read the "instructions" then go around in a circle, each taking turns thinking about these things and praying out loud. There are no "magic words" in prayer. I encourage you, or your children, who might be afraid or intimidated to pray out loud that as you close your eyes, pretend no one else is in the room except Jesus. He wants to hear you, He doesn't care about flowery words or poetic sentences. He just wants to hear you.

(Taken from The Message translation)

Our Father in heaven, reveal who you are.

Spend time praising God in your own words, He loves us beyond comprehension and He is the best Father we could ever imagine.

Set the world right; do what's best - as above, so below.

Ask that His will become yours, invite him to change you and help you become more like Him. Pray for others. Ask God to turn the brokeness, evil and sadness in our world into things that glorify Him. (For an end to the Coronavirus world wide in a way that completely glorifies Him, not man.)

Keep us alive with three square meals.

Ask for provision, physically, emotionally and spiritually. This can be for yourself and/or other people in your life.

Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.

Confess your sins. If you can't think of any, invite God to show you. Maybe something that's a secret, or something that you aren't even aware of that's causing sin in your life. Take this time to forgive others who have wronged you, be sure you are not holding something against anyone.

Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil.

Prayers for protection for yourself and others.

You're in charge! You can do anything you want! You're ablaze in beauty!

Acknowledge who He is. Thank Him for who He is and what He's done in your life.

TUESDAY PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Further Resources:

Song:

"Your Love is Strong" by Jon Foreman

Books:

"Praying the Lord's Prayer" by J.I. Packer

"The Lord and His Prayer" by N.T. Wright

"Can you hear me?" By Brad Jersak (listening prayer)

"Children, Can you hear me?" By Brad Jersak (listening prayer, for children)

Podcasts: We Wonder

WORSHIP WEDNESDAY

HENRY DUECK

Prayer is our communication with God. The form that takes can have a lot of variety. A quick thought towards Him, long peaceful silence with Him, sorrowful groans when words won't come, or songs of joy we shout at the top of our lungs. Today we're focusing on prayers that we sing to God.

Even within "sung" prayers, there is so much variety. Some are pleading, some are love songs, some are shouts of thanks. The Bible's songbook (the book of Psalms) is packed full of all these and more. It's a great place to start when praying with songs.

One of my favourite songs is Psalm 40. Portions of it were put to melody several decades ago by one of my favourite bands, U2. It's a cry for help. A longing for justice and restoration to come to our broken lives and our broken world. It's a cry that resonates with our world in the turmoil we are in right now.

I waited patiently for the Lord, He inclined and heard my cry Be brought me up, out of the pit, Out of the miry clay

I will sing, sing new song, I will sing, sing new song How long, to sing this song, How long, to sing this song How long, how long, how long, To sing this song?

He set my feet upon the rock, And made my footsteps firm Many will see, Many will see and fear

Psalm 57 is another great example. As in many Psalms, it covers so many emotions. This week I sat down at the piano (of which I have very limited knowledge), played two chords back and forth and sang out this ancient song with whatever melody came to me. It brought the words to life in a way that simply reading them doesn't do. Perhaps that is somthing you can try now.

Find a quiet place where you can be alone with God. Lift your voice/instrument to Him in spontaneous song. Sing words from your heart or from scripture. No performance. Just you and God.

WORSHIP WEDNESDAY

Here are some song ideas to get you started, following the A.C.T.S. formula for prayer.

Adoration

- What a Beautiful Name (Hillsong)
- Your Love Oh Lord (Third Day) from Psalm 36

Confession

- Lord I Need You (Matt Maher)
- <u>Brokenness Aside</u> (All Sons & Daughters)

Thanks

- <u>Doxology//Amen</u> (Phil Wickham)
- There is a Redeemer (Keith Green)

Supplication

- 40 (U2) from Psalm 40
- Salvation's Tide (Kristian Stanfill)

THURSDAY CHURCH FAMILY & COMMUNITY

CORINNA FEHR

Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Read Micah 6:1-8

The Israelites have walked away from God and it grieved Him. He reminds them of all the things He has brought them through. Micah tells them God doesn't want them to make more superficial sacrifices. Acting out all the laws and sacrifices out of obligation is not what is important. What God requires is not about rule-following, but rather loving others and caring for their needs out of a love for, and humility before our Heavenly Father.

1 John 4:16-21

We love because He first loved us.

Nicky Gumbel writes,

"Love attracts others to the person of Jesus. Loving God and loving one another in Jesus' name must be our overall ambition above all others. That is the kind of love that can change the world."

Prayer Points:

Praise God for his faithfulness to you, your family, your church and your community.

Confess if you've walked away from God or if made your walk with him more about following rules out of obligation while neglecting people around you.

Ask God to show you how you can "act justly, show mercy, and walk humbly with Him".

Follow through with what God asks you to do.

Pray for those who are struggling (emotionally, physically, financially) in our church family and in our community, help where you can, & show love towards others.

THURSDAY CHURCH FAMILY & COMMUNITY

A Few Practical Ideas:

Phone someone from church who you haven't seen for long time (they might be lonely).

Make arrangements to pick up some food at church and bring it to a person/family who might need some encouragement.

Donate groceries to our church's food bank (or any other community food bank): along with the usual non-perishable items, we have a need for smaller jars of peanut butter, crackers, cans of food with pull-off lids or microwaveable pouches (people who live in hotel rooms or in tents don't always have can-openers or large storage places).

Say hello to random people in public, take time to really see them.

Speak up when you see injustice, don't turn away, support those who are being bullied or persecuted.

FRIDAY

SCRIPTURE DEVOTIONAL: ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

"Then the angel showed me Jeshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord . The Accuser, Satan, was there at the angel's right hand, making accusations against Jeshua. And the Lord said to Satan, "I, the Lord, reject your accusations, Satan. Yes, the Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebukes you. This man is like a burning stick that has been snatched from the fire."

Jeshua's clothing was filthy as he stood there before the angel. So the angel said to the others standing there, "Take off his filthy clothes." And turning to Jeshua he said, "See, I have taken away your sins, and now I am giving you these fine new clothes."

Then I said, "They should also place a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean priestly turban on his head and dressed him in new clothes while the angel of the Lord stood by.

Then the angel of the Lord spoke very solemnly to Jeshua and said, "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: If you follow my ways and carefully serve me, then you will be given authority over my Temple and its courtyards. I will let you walk among these others standing here.

"Listen to me, O Jeshua the high priest, and all you other priests. You are symbols of things to come. Soon I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. Now look at the jewel I have set before Jeshua, a single stone with seven facets. I will engrave an inscription on it, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, and I will remove the sins of this land in a single day.

"And on that day, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, each of you will invite your neighbor to sit with you peacefully under your own grapevine and fig tree." Zechariah 3:1-10

Have you ever felt that you aren't worthy to pray? That you're too messed up, broken, or sinful or that God would reject you out of disgust if you were to approach him? Perhaps, you've felt that prayer is only something you can do after you've cleaned yourself up a bit, managed some of those bad behaviours, and waited long enough that God might forget your sin? I sure have.

That kind of thinking and feeling is what Satan offers you. In fact, the name, Satan, literally means "the accuser." He wants to derail your intimacy with God by pointing out your sin and 'dirty clothes.' To listen to his accusations is to forget that God knows all about your sin, and still snatches you from the fire. God is the one who has redeemed and saved you. He has given you new hope and a fresh start and he alone is the one who can render a verdict of your worth and value! To that, he says, "See I have taken away your sins, and now I am giving you these fine new clothes." Do not let the accuser take this truth from you. Cling to the identity God has given you and move away from shame towards intimacy with your Heavenly Father.

FRIDAY

SCRIPTURE DEVOTIONAL: ZECHARIAH 3:1-10

Using the A.C.T.S. framework, pray through Zechariah 3:1-10.

Adoration:

- Thank God for his love and mercy for how he deals with you, a sinful person
- Praise him that he rejects Satan's accusations against you
- Praise him for his position of power that he reigns over all of creation
- Praise his power to save and redeem

Confession:

- Take time to confess your sins. While Satan the accuser wants to shame and condemn for your sins, the Holy Spirit is given to you to reveal and convict you of them. Use the Holy Spirit's conviction to confess and repent of your sins before God.
- Remember, there is no condemnation for those in Christ (Rom. 8:1), so confession is a chance to find freedom from the sin you have been harbouring.
- Ask, "Holy Spirit, please reveal to me the areas of my heart you want to free from sin." Wait and listen to what he is revealing to you. When these areas come to mind, say, "Jesus I confess my sin of ______. I repent of these thoughts/actions and seek your forgiveness. Thank you that you forgive."
- When you feel accused of a sin, take the time to turn that accusation into repentance. It is only when you confess and repent of sin, can you find freedom from it. Unconfessed sin will always become shame and accusations.

Thanksgiving:

- Thank God that you are like Joshua like a stick snatched from the fire.
- Thank God for how He has been working in your life. Thank him for the blessings you've received from him the "fine new clothes" that replaced your old sinful ones.
- Think back on the answered prayers you've prayed in the past. Praise God and thank him for his faithfulness

Supplication:

- Bring your cares to God. After spending time praising his name, confessing sins, and being thankful, chances are the worries that you bring to him now will have changed.
- Pray, by name, for unsaved friends and family members that need to encounter a God that saves.
- Pray that they too, can experience the joy of being snatched from the fire.
- Pray for the broken and soft heart that would allow you to be able to sit "peacefully under a grapevine" with your neighbour. Who is your neighbour? (Check out Luke 10:25-37)
- Pray that our church would be open to Holy Spirit's leading and power, that we wouldn't resist where he leads.
- Pray that it starts in your own life, "Holy Spirit, I invite you to fill me with your presence so that I can be used for the Father's glory. Soften and break my heart so my life reflects your Kingdom here on earth."



JUNE 2020: PRAYER WALK or DRIVE

Prayer Walk A - Follow the map

(About a 30 minute walk unless you stop to pray)

"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way." Ps. 25:9

"...Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvellous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own."

Jeremiah 33:2-3

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Listen and discern Holy Spirit leadings and pray accordingly.

If the HS gives you a word, picture or scripture for MAC/community, please share with Mac staff.

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*Walk to **Morden park** ... spend time praising and worshiping God for his creation, lifting his name on high.

"Let the word of Christ live in you richly, flooding you with all wisdom. Apply the Scriptures as you teach and instruct one another with the Psalms, and with festive praises, and with prophetic songs given to you spontaneously by the Spirit, so sing to God with all your hearts! Let every activity of your lives and every word that comes from your lips be drenched with the beauty of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. And bring your constant praise to God the Father because of what Christ has done for you!" Colossians 3:16-17

*Maple Leaf School ... pray for our children, youth and all school staff. Particularly the stress/anxiety Covid has caused. Pray for our grads/future.

*RCMP ... pray for our police force, medical staff, firefighters, etc. Safety in our community. Pray against addiction, drugs and sexual immorality.

*MAC ... staff/board to discern Gods vision. Let our light shine brightly before others. Matthew 5:14-16. Pray for the lost and others who come to mind.

Thank you for joining in! Together ... lets eagerly await for the fruit of this season to begin to burst forth.

JUNE 2020: PRAYER WALK or DRIVE

Prayer Walk B - Follow the map

(About a 20 minute walk unless you stop for prayer)

"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. Ps. 25:9

"...Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvellous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own."

Jeremiah 33:2-3

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Listen/discern Holy Spirit leadings and pray accordingly. If the HS gives you a word, picture or scripture for MAC/community, please share with Mac staff.

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*Morden Motor Inn/Georges restaurant ... for businesses in our city, especially those hit hard during Covid. Pray for them to prosper.

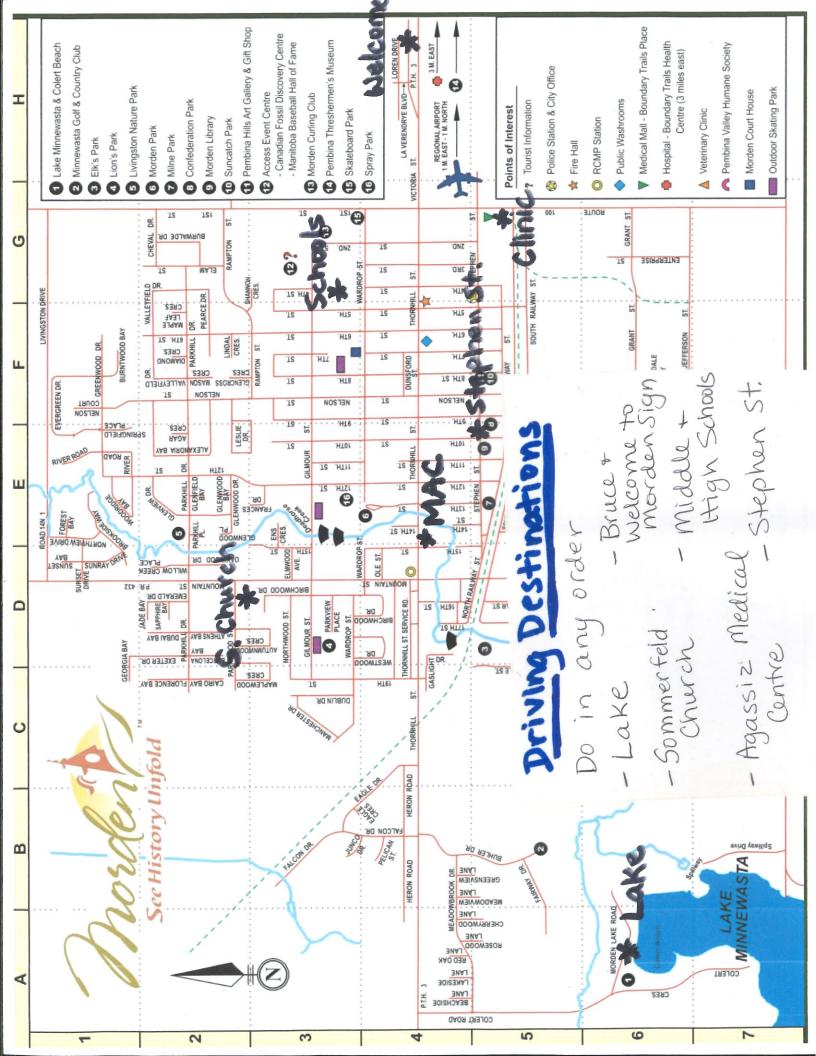
*YFC ... for this organization (staff/youth/vulnerable) and other non profit ministries (PCC, pregnancy care, etc). To be impactful to those they meet.

*Ambassador Baptist Church ... for all churches in Morden to exceed their expectations, people come to Christ, unity in our community churches.

*MAC ... Praise God lifting His name on high. "Let the word of Christ live in you richly, flooding you with all wisdom. Apply the Scriptures as you teach and instruct one another with the Psalms, and with festive praises, and with prophetic songs given to you spontaneously by the Spirit, so sing to God with all your hearts! Let every activity of your lives and every word that comes from your lips be drenched with the beauty of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. And bring your constant praise to God the Father because of what Christ has done for you!" Colossians 3:16-17 ...Pray for staff/board to discern Gods vision. Let our light shine brightly

Thank you for joining in! Together ... lets eagerly await for the fruit of this season to begin to burst forth.

before others. Matthew 5:14-16. Pray for the lost/others who come to mind.



JUNE 2020: PRAYER WALK or DRIVE

Prayer Drive - Follow the map

"He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. Ps. 25:9

"...Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvellous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own."

Jeremiah 33:2-3

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Listen and discern Holy Spirit leadings. If the HS gives you a word, picture or scripture for MAC/community, please share with Mac staff.

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**Lake Minnewasta ... spend time praising and worshiping God for his creation, lifting his name on high. "Let the word of Christ live in you richly, flooding you with all wisdom. Apply the Scriptures as you teach and instruct one another with the Psalms, and with festive praises, and with prophetic songs given to you spontaneously by the Spirit, so sing to God with all your hearts! Let every activity of your lives and every word that comes from your lips be drenched with the beauty of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. And bring your constant praise to God the Father because of what Christ has done for you!" Colossians 3:16-17

Pray for MAC ... staff/board to discern Gods vision. Let our light shine brightly before others. Matthew 5:14-16. The lost/others who come to mind.

- *Sommerfeld Church ... pray for all churches in Morden to exceed their expectations, people come to Christ, unity in our community churches.
- *Agassiz Medical Centre ... for medical staff, police force, firefighters, etc. Provide safety, strength and wisdom.
- *Bruce the mosasaur the welcome to Morden sign ... pray we be known as a safe and welcoming community. That the Holy Spirit would be welcome into peoples homes and lives. Healing in families and marriages.
- *Middle School and High School ... pray for the children and youth of community, help in dealing with stress due to schooling at home. Pray for graduates/future.
- *Stephen Street ... pray for businesses, especially those hit hard by Covid. Be given creative ideas, wisdom and for them to prosper.

Thank you for joining in!

Together ... lets eagerly await for the fruit of this season to begin to burst forth.