

Friday (continued)

As you spend time in prayer today, picture yourself at the foot of the cross. What do you see and hear as you look at Christ? At the people around you? Spend time talking to Jesus today about His sacrifice for you. If you have not yet personally told God that you receive this sacrifice as His gift to you, why not do so today?

Saturday

Please pray the prayer of Christ for our church today. Pray that the Easter services will be anointed by God. Pray for opportunities to invite people to Easter services this weekend!

Prayer Updates

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Bettye Smith – diagnosis not known

Gloria Heiss – hospice care, cancer

Harlaine Roome – back surgery at UCSF 3/23

Irvin Smith – long-term recovery. Cards may be sent to:
Kindred Hospital, Rm. 405, 2800 Benedict Dr., San Leandro, 94577

Karla Bogard – recovering from major, experimental cancer surgery

Recent hospitalizations / surgeries: Celia Brown, August “Bob” Gubser, Nancy Bittinger, Joseph Carota, Kimberly Mills, Trudi Jackson

HOME WITH THE LORD

Heartfelt prayer is extended to Sheena Layne and family in the sudden loss of her sister and brother-in-law, **Brittany and Arthur Carroll**, resulting from a tragic car accident. Pray each member of the family will understand that they are not alone in their grieving; God truly cares, along with many others.

A dear TLC shut-in, **Marlene Butler**, passed peacefully into the presence of the Lord. There will be a memorial service 2pm, Sunday, April 15th, at Twin Lakes Church.

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups — call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center.



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GETTING READY FOR EASTER ^{WEEK} ③

THE { PRAYER } OF Jesus FOR YOU

Jesus prayed for _____ the night he was betrayed
“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also **for those who will believe in me through their message.**” John 17:20 (NIV)

Jesus is praying for me _____
“Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God **and is interceding for us.**” Romans 8:34 (NIV)

Four ways Jesus is praying for me (John 17:11-20):

1. For _____
“Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, **that they may be one, even as we are one.** While I was with them, **I kept them** in your name, which you have given me. **I have guarded them**, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, **that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.**”
John 17:11-13 (ESV)

Jesus starts and ends his prayer with this emphasis! See John 17:21-23

2. For _____
“I have given them **your word** and **the world** has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. **My prayer is not** that you take them out of the world but **my prayer is** that you **protect them from the evil one.**” John 17:14-15 (NIV)

Jesus wants me to live _____!

3. For _____
“They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **Sanctify them** by the truth; **your word is truth.**” John 17:16-17 (NIV)

Jesus wants me to live by the _____ not the _____

4. For _____
“In the same way that You gave me a mission in the world, **I give them a mission** in the world.” John 17:18 (MSG)

Jesus wants me to know I’m on a _____!

Two questions about getting ready for Easter:

1. Am I _____ ?

2. Am I _____ ?

March 31 & April 1, 2007 • Message by René Schlaepfer

My Prayer

Heavenly Father, I want to pray what Jesus prays:

For unity

I can struggle with attitudes that divide instead of unite

Help your church to be unified

So people are drawn to You by our love

For security

I can struggle with fears and anxieties

Help me remember I'm under your ultimate protection

So I can live unafraid

For purity

I can struggle to lead a holy life

Help me trust your Word and not the world

So I stay beautifully distinct from the world that surrounds me

For priority

I can get focused on life's many tasks

Help me remember I'm called to a purpose

So I stay focused on my mission to love people as you do.

I pray for those you are already calling

Lead me to them so I can invite them to the celebration

And when they are here,

May they see in all of us

the unity, security, purity, and priority

You prayed we would have.

In the name of Jesus we confidently pray,

Amen

Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this week's topic

Monday

Read John 17:11-19. What part of the message this past weekend hit home for you?

René pointed out that Jesus prayed for **you** just hours before his crucifixion (Jesus says so specifically in verse 20) and prays for you even now in heaven. How does that impact you? What difference should that make in your daily life?

Which of the four points from the message did you really need to hear the most at this point in your life?

Pray the closing prayer from church this past weekend included with these notes. We can know we are praying in God's will when we pray the prayer Jesus prayed!

Tuesday

Read John 17:20-23. Jesus starts and ends his prayer for us with a plea for unity. When is living in unity with your Christian brothers and sisters particularly hard for you?

How can you contribute to the “complete unity” Jesus prays for here?

According to these verses, what will happen when we live in complete unity?

What kind of unity exists between the Father and Jesus that we should copy?

Ask God today to show you if there are any relationships you need to work on so that you can be part of the answer to the prayer of Jesus. Pray for the other churches in our county — that they will have a fruitful Easter weekend!

Wednesday

Read John 17:15 again, as well as John 10:27-29 and Luke 12:4-6. What do these verses teach about God's protection of you?

Jesus is not saying God will protect us from any harm. He himself came to harm on the cross! So, according to these verses, what kind of protection from God is Jesus speaking of?

How has God protected you in your past, and how will God protect you in your future?

Thank God today for His protection for you. Think of a way that He has specifically protected you and praise Him for it. Think of His protection for your soul eternally and praise Him for that!

Thursday

Today I'll ask you to read a longer portion of Scripture in preparation for Good Friday and Easter. Read John 18. What particularly impressed you as you read this today?

How does Jesus' decision to “drink the cup” help you in your obedience to God?

There are times when all of us are like Peter. Yet Jesus died for his sins, even as Peter was denying Him! Thank God today for His mercy for you, too! Pray for opportunities to invite people to Easter services this weekend!

Friday

Again today I'll ask you to read a longer portion of Scripture in preparation for tonight's Good Friday service and the Easter services this weekend. Read John 19. What are you particularly impressed with as you read this today?

over 



Memory Verse

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.” John 17:20,21b