

LET'S UNITE IN PRAYER!

How easy it is to avoid time in prayer. After all, we're busy people! And prayer is so...hard. It's hard to focus our thoughts, hard to think beyond our day-to-day concerns. Hard. But consider this: there is an actual, real God who is actually, truly listening. In the days leading up to the NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER ON MAY 7, let's take just a couple minutes a day to talk to the God who is there and listening.

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."
1 John 5:14

We invite you to use this guide as a tool to direct your prayers in the days before the National Day of Prayer, and we hope you can join us for the prayer gathering at
12:00 (NOON)
ON MAY 7, 2026
AT THE KALAMAZOO CITY HALL (241 W SOUTH ST).

DAY 1: PRAYER FOR GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Every city, state, or nation has leaders in the spotlight. They may excel or fail. We may express our approval or disapproval. And that is good. But as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is one thing we should never neglect in relation to our public leadership: praying that their relationship with God will be strengthened and that God will give them wisdom and courage to serve well. God is the source of all good things. His wisdom, His policies, His care for others—these are the keys to human thriving and the best tools for governing.

"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere."
James 3:17

DAY 2: PRAYER FOR MILITARY, SAFETY, AND FIGHTING CRIME

When we talk about people who protect and assist us, we use words like front line and first responders. They are the ones who take the brunt of the dangers—known or unknown—that threaten us. It is such an incredibly important assignment! Let's pray for their safety and success as they faithfully serve our country.

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."
Psalm 46:1

DAY 3: PRAYER FOR JOBS, ECONOMY, AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Oh, the hum-drum of daily life! We can be bored to tears, stressed out of our minds, or living the dream, but no matter our situation, how incredible it is that God provides us with the ability to work, produce, create, and survive. Sometimes we think only the "big stuff" warrants a prayer, but let's not forget to pray for the little things, the daily things, that together make up this big thing called life.

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."
Psalm 118:24

DAY 4: PRAYER FOR SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, YOUTH, AND UNBORN

Relationships and education seem to be the center of our lives—pillars that shape who we become and what we strive towards. How important that these foundational areas are laid on the bedrock of Christ and His teachings! Today let's pray for the safety and thriving of our children and families, that their bodies and minds would be shielded from the wicked and that they would grow in their knowledge of and devotion to the Lord!

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

DAY 5: PRAYER FOR RACIAL UNITY AND PEACE

How often our hearts have broken in recent years to see discord among people groups. We human beings have a knack for making a mess, but praise God! He is the great restorer of relationships. Let's take time today to pray for peace and unity among people of different ethnicities—people, we might add, who all share the beautiful, unbelievable honor of being made in the image of God.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."
Galatians 5:22-23

DAY 6: PRAYER FOR UNIFIED BODY OF CHRIST

What makes a good sports team? What makes a beautiful concert? What makes a strong family? What makes an effective church? Unity. God knows the power of working together, but He also knows the self-centered actions that so often emerge and destroy the group. And He gave us a way to remain united by placing Jesus at the head of His church. Let's bend our hearts to the leadership of Jesus and humbly seek peace among all believers, as fellow servants in Christ.

"And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy."
Colossians 1:18

GOD GO WITH YOU!

Life is hard. And confusing. As our week of prayer ends and you return to your regular routine, we encourage you to continue seeking God's guidance in all things. He is real and He is listening. He will give you the wisdom you seek.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."
Proverbs 3:5-6