



Covenant
Presbyterian
Church



Prayers & Scripture *for Challenging Times*





The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

—**Psalm 23**





I hereby command you:

Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

—**Joshua 1:9**

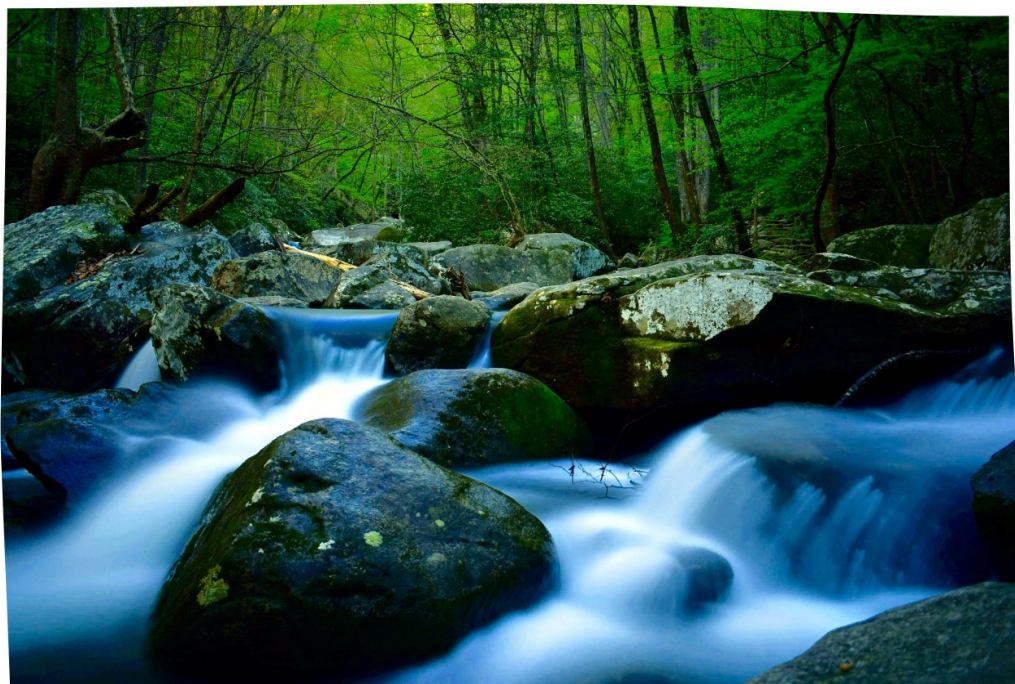
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

—**John 14:27**

Do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

—**Isaiah 41:10**





Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;
O Lord, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.
My soul also is struck with terror,
while you, O Lord—how long?
Turn, O Lord, save my life;
deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.

—**Psalm 6:2-4**

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor
powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all
creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

—**Romans 8:38-39**

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

—**Psalm 46:1-3**



The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!

—**Psalm 27:1, 13-14**

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

—**Philippians 4:6-7**







I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

—**Psalm 121**



For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

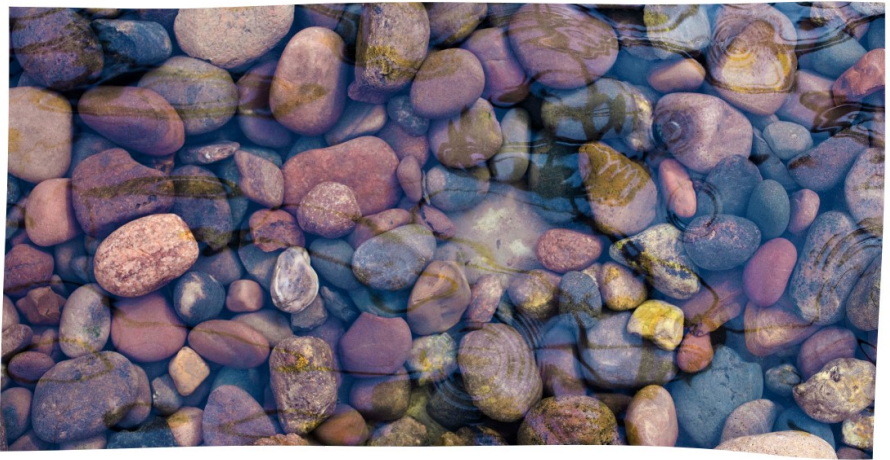
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

—**Ecclesiastes 3:1-8**







Prayers at Times of Sadness

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Surround _____ with your steadfast love and lighten their burden. By the power of your Spirit, free them from distress and give them a new mind and heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ.

Tender God, who embraces us with love, through the ages, you have told us, "Fear not." Whisper it again in our ears, write it on our hearts. Amen.

God of compassion, you have given us Jesus Christ, the great physician, who made the broken whole and healed the sick. I pray for _____. Touch their/my wounds, relieve their/my hurts, and grant us all wholeness of life through Jesus our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Lord of all health, you are the source of our life and our fulfillment in death. Be for _____ now comfort in the midst of pain, strength to transform weakness, and light to brighten darkness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dearest Lord, there is so much that I do not understand and so much that frightens me. I don't know what today will bring or what will happen tomorrow. Give the courage and strength to face each day, knowing that you are here beside me. I know that you hold today and all my days in your strong hands. Amen.

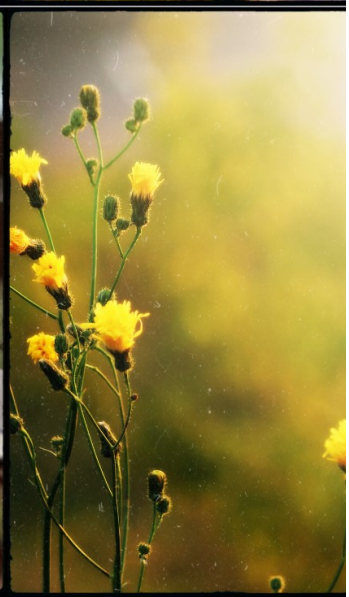
Prayers at the Time of Death

Almighty God, by rising from the grave, Jesus has conquered the power of death and he leads us to abundant and eternal life. Comfort _____ as their life on earth comes to an end. Give them a vision of your eternal glory, where pain and tears are gone, where death shall be no more. We pray in the name of Jesus who came to bring life to the world. Amen.

Loving God, our creator and redeemer, you are our strength and our hope. You have given us _____ to know and love in our shared journey on earth. Uphold us now as their life on earth comes to an end. Reassure us that nothing, not even death, can separate us from your love. Comfort us in our sadness and grant us your peace. Help us, even with our grief, to have hope in resurrection, through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.







Morning Prayers

The morning light is a wake-up call from you, O Lord. You make me see that a new day has begun. You call me to start fresh and rejoice in this gift of time. May the hours of my day be filled with calming spirits and gratitude in my heart for all that you have blessed me with. Amen.

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, be our starting point and our haven, and accompany us in this day's journey. Give us courage and hope in challenging times. Use our hands to do the work of your creation, and use our lives to bring to others the new life you give this world in Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all. Humble us and teach us your ways. Amen.

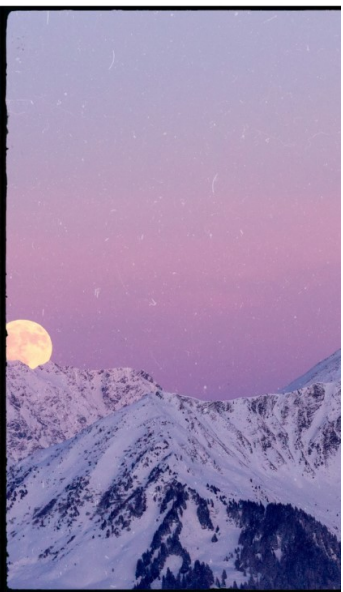
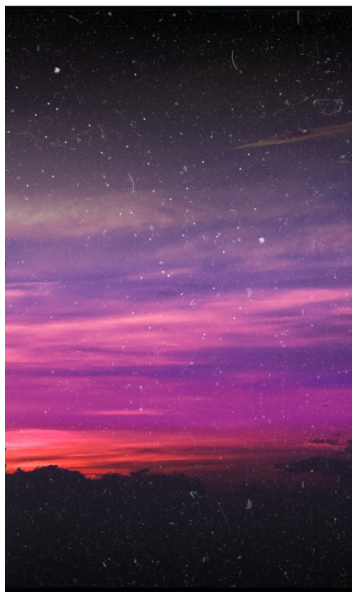


Evening Prayers

The dark sky helps me to close my eyes to go to sleep, O God. Grant me restful slumber, I pray. Remind me that the light of your love still burns bright even through the night. Let your words of comfort wrap themselves around me like a blanket until the dawn of tomorrow comes. Amen.

O God, you have brought us through this day to a time of reflection and rest. Calm our souls within us, and give us a sense of your peace that will refresh us, even in challenging times. Keep us close to Christ that we may be closer to one another because of his wondrous love. Give us rest for tonight and strength for the journey tomorrow, knowing that no matter what your love is always with us. Amen.

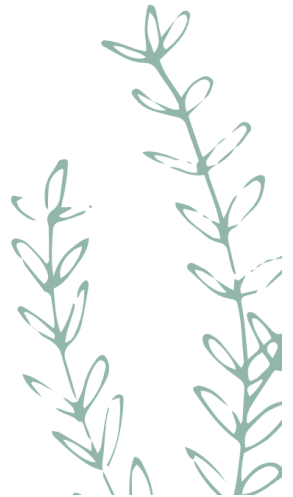






The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.



Learning God's Love

Living God's Love



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