

Preparing to pray

Throughout the ages people have approached God in many different ways (Acts 17:23). As Christ followers we approach God our Father through Jesus Christ His Son, and God's Word in Matthew 6 gives guidance and instruction. Prayer is about spending time with our Father, trusting Him, and acknowledging His greatness and our need of Him; focusing our thoughts and glorifying our Father as we pray before going through specific, targeted prayer requests.

CONFESSION

Means admit – and agree with God about the sin in our lives; admitting it, confessing it, and turning away from any and all things that dishonor and displease God.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7 ESV)

ADORATION

Means worship – recognizing and acknowledging God for who He is.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he! (Psalm 99:5 ESV)

THANKSGIVING

Means thankful – spending time with God and thanking Him for the forgiveness of sins, and the blessing of being His child, and the privilege of serving Him; thanking Him and naming the blessings one by one.

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV)

SUPPLICATION

Means request – making requests to God on behalf of others, praying for God's will in the lives of family, extended family and friends, people in your sphere of influence: school, workplace and neighborhood, as well as people around the world.

Then hear in heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their plea, and maintain their cause. (1 Kings 8:49 ESV)

Prayer for Anxious Times:

Sovereign God, I rejoice today that You are good and You are great. You care and You can. Help me to walk by faith and not by fear. For the glory of my Savior and King. In Jesus' Name. Amen

REACH UP

***And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.
(Luke 2:7 ESV)***

Pastor Bruce as he teaches

- **Pray for boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God's word.**

2022 Christmas Eve services

- **Pray for services:**
 - **Arden-1:00, 3:00, 5:00pm**
 - **Brevard, East, Hendersonville, Franklin, West-3:00 and 5:00pm**
 - **Espanol- 3:00pm**
- **Pray for wisdom in planning.**
- **Pray for our people to commit to pray for, and invite, those that need to hear the gospel, and for their salvation.**
- **Pray for the Holy Spirit to move, and this Christmas season be different than any before for members and guests alike.**

REACH IN

***As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.
(Proverbs 27:17 ESV)***

Connect Groups

- **Pray for wisdom for teachers.**
- **Pray for a fresh, strong commitment for those already in a group.**
- **Pray for new groups that have formed, and new members that join these groups to see a deepened walk with the Lord.**

Kids, Students, Families

- **Pray for families as they travel and gather during the christmas season.**
- **Pray for the physical and spiritual health of our members and guests.**

REACH OUT

*Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.
(Romans 15:2 ESV)*

Mission/Ministry Opportunities

- **Pray for our December “Big Give” emphasis collection of:**
 - **Coats**
 - **Blankets**
 - **Beanies**
 - **Gloves**
 - **Socks**
 - **For people to come to repentance and faith in Jesus through The Big Give outreach.**
- **Pray for our church plants in Brooklyn, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville and London**
- **Pray for ministry opportunities to open up in South Asia with the Banya people; unreached people group.**
- **Pray for the Bengali speaking Muslims that our South Asia missionaries are trying to engage with the gospel.**
- **Pray for Compassion Day on Sunday, 12/4, the continued partnership with Compassion International, the children served, and for additional children to be sponsored.**
- **Pray for foster families, and the biological parents of the kids in foster care.**
- **Pray for those watching online, and for others as they return to in person services.**
- **Pray for continued ministry opportunities in our 828 communities.**
- **Pray for Vision Day on Sunday, 1/8/23**

Thank you

for praying for the health and safety of our members and staff during the 2022 year. Your fervent prayers are a source of great encouragement.

THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS

Take the time to go back through each of these requests, declaring by faith, asking God to answer our prayers according to His divine will and purpose. Thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers, and for the continued blessings over Biltmore Church.

PRAYER GUIDE

December 2022

