

HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER GUIDE

2020 Personal Edition

The People of God are Being Called to Prayer and Service

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

"Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' 'For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.
"Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. {Each} day has enough trouble of its own.

Matt 6:31-34

**Pray for the Advancement & Glory of God's Kingdom
That His will be done on the earth as it is done in heaven**

PRAYER FORCE ONE

Heartland Community Church

A Presbyterian Church in America

Wichita, Kansas

The Vision for Prayer in a Great Time of Need

March 2020

In a matter of a few weeks the Coronavirus has brought the whole world to a standstill. Business and life has shut down to a common enemy that cannot be seen and which easily spreads from person to person. A pandemic can easily lead to pandemonium.

Brothers and sisters we do not live in a closed world. There is inherent good in all that the Lord has promised to us His people, and in all that He has ordained on the Earth. He is drawing near to the Earth and it is shaking (Habakkuk 3:1-6).

Psalm 145 directs our fullest attention to look to the Lord with hopeful expectation. Our strength as His people is to trust and glorify Him and to sing His praises, particularly in the midst of the storm.

Psalm 91 speaks directly to the promise of His loving protection as we are covered under the loving wings and refuge of His pinions to deliver us *“from the deadly pestilence.”*

Only in Jesus Christ can anyone experience such comfort. Only He can truly glorify God in His fullest Glory. And when we are in Him, hidden and protected in His forgiving lovingkindness there is nothing that can separate us from His love, and from entering before His great Throne of Grace where He beckons to hear our prayers – by faith He promises to intercede according to His will!

If you are in Christ, His Spirit is with you right now. Take a moment, to breathe deep, and remember how much He loves you. As a father loves and has compassion for his children, how much more our Heavenly Father delights and shows compassion to those who fear Him (Psalm 103:13)!

Please take a few minutes and read these two Psalms below. Read them to your children and loved ones, and then just keep on reading. And then pray with them. Done in Christ’s Name and in His power it will change their life.

This guide is formatted to begin with God preparing our hearts to hear Him. Dangers of the world are profound and they are significant, but the intention here is to focus not on the worlds concerns, but on Him and the promises He has given us as we read and pray His Word.

Psalm 145 (ESV) Great Is the LORD!

A Song of Praise of David

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ² Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable!

⁴ One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. ⁵ On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

⁶ They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. ⁷ They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. ¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, ¹² to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.

¹⁴ The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. ¹⁶ You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹ He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. ²⁰ The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

²¹ My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Psalm 91 (ESV) A Song of Praise of David

My Refuge and My Fortress

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” ³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴ He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. ⁸ You will only look with your eyes, and see the recompense of the wicked.

⁹ Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place— the Most High, who is my refuge — ¹⁰ no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. ¹² On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

¹⁴ “Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. ¹⁵ When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him, and show him my salvation.”

Both Psalms from English Standard Version (ESV)

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HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER GUIDE

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The Goal and Hope Using this Prayer Guide

1. To awaken all members of Heartland Community Church during this time of crisis and upheaval to the necessity and power of prayer and the incorporation of Scripture and its truth in prayer, as the basis for which God will manifest His will by changing lives that bear an abundance of fruit for His purposes, Kingdom and glory.
2. We hope this prayer focus will increase our vision and strengthen our focus of what God wants us to be and do for the future so that as a Body we are united, strong in faith, intentional in prayer, and empowered to action; that we might discover and witness His good Hand of providence and deliverance at this time.
3. We hope the Lord will strengthen the development of a vibrant, diversified and growing prayer ministry at Heartland whose fruit will be evident in every area of ministry.
4. We hope that as Heartland is currently known to be a church strong in the proclamation of the Word and doctrine, family and community that in time we will also be known as a Church of vibrant answered prayer.

7 Areas for Personal & Corporate Prayer Focus:

- **Repentance, Revival & Transformation**
- **Living in the New World of the Coronavirus Pandemic**
- **Government & Military**
- **Family**
- **Church**
- **Economy**
- **Society & Culture**

Instructions: *“Make the Kingdom of God a Priority”*

Please use this guide in any way you want that facilitates your prayers for the areas listed. Whatever you pray, do so in relation to the advancement of God’s Kingdom and for His glory.

John P. Sartelle, Senior Pastor of Tates Creek Presbyterian Church in Lexington Kentucky writes,

“In your prayers make the Kingdom of God a priority. Most of us as individual Christians aim our prayers at our own personal welfare. Jesus said in every part of our lives we are to “seek first the kingdom of God”. Make the welfare of the kingdom of God a priority in your requests.”

May 2009 Table Talk Magazine, Pg 45

PREPARATION

(Read the verses as a Prayer)

Repentance & Restoration:

Judgment, Humility, Prayer, Repentance, Forgiveness, Healing & Restoration

¹² Then the LORD appeared to Solomon at night and said to him, "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice.

¹³ "If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people,¹⁴ and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chr 7:12-14

Awakening & Transformation:

Illumination, Awakening, Resurrection, Renewal, Empowerment, Instruction, Joy & Thanksgiving

¹³ But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. ¹⁴ For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;
Eph 5:13-20

Service & Perseverance:

Divine Strength, Protection, Battle-Ready, Focused, Unwavering in Truth & Wisdom, Righteousness, Preparation, Faithful, Protection & Perseverance

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual {forces} of wickedness in the heavenly {places.}

¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil {one.} ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,
Eph 6:10-18

REPENTANCE – REVIVAL - TRANSFORMATION

For your personal life, the life of your family, friends and the Church in general.

Spend time in repentance, coming before the Lord confessing your fears, concerns, short fallings and struggles, committing to a change of heart. Ask for direction and strength in the name of Jesus. Be encouraged to bow to your knees in submission to God's authority and grace.

Lord Jesus, Give me a deeper repentance, a horror of sin, a dread of its approach; Help me chastely to flee it, and jealously to resolve that my heart shall be thine alone. Give me a deeper trust, that I may lose myself to find myself in thee, the ground of my rest, the spring of my being. Give me a deeper knowledge of thyself as Savior, Master, Lord and King. Give me deeper power in private prayer, more sweetness in thy Word, more steadfast grip on its truth. Give me deeper holiness in speech, thought, action, and let me not seek moral virtue apart from thee.

Plough deep in me, great Lord, heavenly Husbandman, that my being may be a tilled field, that roots of grace spreading far and wide, until thou alone art seen in me, thy beauty golden like summer harvest, thy fruitfulness as autumn plenty. I have no Master but thee, no law but thy will, no delight but thyself, no wealth but that thou blessest, no peace but that thou makest me, I have nothing but that I receive from thee, I can be nothing but that grace adorns me, Quarry me deep, dear Lord, and then fill me to overflowing with living water.

"The Deeps" Puritan Prayers from The Valley of Vision Pg 134

- Father, please grant repentance to us your people, that I might stop any unbridled sin to run its course in my life, in my family, in our Church and in our land.
- Please grant illumination and conviction to us your people who often sin without conscious awareness that we violate your Law. Please meet us at the Cross and forgive us at that place where Jesus bled as the Lamb of God to be the pardon for our sin. Remove our blood guiltiness and our shame. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and sustain me with a willing heart, O great Spring of life and joy!
- O God would it be that you show your divine favor to us your people and raise us up to be a mighty nation, spreading the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to all families, peoples, and to all nations throughout the earth.

Rev 5:9-10

⁹ *And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood {men} from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.*

¹⁰ *"And Thou hast made them {to be} a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."*

- Would it be that Merciful Father, your Spirit move across the face of the earth as on the first day of creation and that Your people would rise up in righteousness and spring forth in faithfulness to magnify the Holy Name of Jesus. Move us by your Spirit that we might magnify your works, bear fruit that will last and be filled with your everlasting joy!
- Loving Father may your Son so shine upon us and awaken us from our sleep. To eat of the heavenly Word and strengthen us through the power of prayer and the incorporation of Scripture in our hearts that it might take permanent residence so that the Word of Christ would dwell richly within us. To the end that you will manifest your will by changing lives that produce an abundance of fruit unto your glorious purposes, Kingdom and glory.

Heavenly Father, we come before you now Lord, lifting our voices in prayer. Let it be a sweet song in your ears and a sweet aroma for you God. We thank you for this time to come together as a nation and lay our burdens and lives at your feet. Hear the cries of our heart Lord as we call on you for direction and intercession for the future of this country. You are our Lord and Savior. Thank you for hearing our prayers.

In Jesus' name, AMEN.

LIVING IN THE NEW WORLD OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

A Global Assault Upon the Entire World

We have never seen anything like this. We have never felt globally so vulnerable and helpless. All Nations have never faced at one time a single powerful enemy in full stealth mode, invisibly attack everyone's health, even when we feel normal and healthy. It settles in and may linger for some days before unleashing its venom. For many it will regrettably and very mercilessly take their lives. This is a time of genuine sobriety. We must ponder our situation and then be still before the Lord trusting and resting in Him.

Our health is at risk, but this enemy is also on the full attack of our very livelihood and means to provide for ourselves and our families. Reality: Businesses are being shut down, job lay offs are rampant, schools are shutting down, stores are empty of common essential goods, and the ability to create revenue has ceased. Rapidly everyday our circle of exposure and life has been reduced from groups no larger than 1,000 from 250 to 5 people to no person to person contact, to complete isolation. A growing number of areas and nations of the world are now under full shut down in order to wait it out and allow the pandemic cases to curve down in number, and mutate into something less formidable.

Words like "*COVID-19*," "*Hubei province*," "*pandemic*," "*person to person transmission*," "*asymptomatic*," "*self-isolate*," "*shedding virus*," and "*social distancing*," have been quickly assimilated in our daily language. It's easy to over react and lose our focus. It is very easy to panic and become fearful and terrified. These are all common responses. What are we as Christians and families to do? There are so many changes happening at the same time. It's too much, too fast to comprehend enough to know what to do.

What Should We Do?

We should do what we always should do. Seek the favor, protection and wisdom of the Lord. Trust Him and do what is necessary to reduce our exposure and risk. God is eternal and never changes, even though our world is changing constantly and right now free falling. The Lord is faithful and has used pandemic viruses, or as known in the ancient world, *deadly pestilences* to bring not only ungodly nations to repentance and restoration, but His own people to do the same. For those who continually fight against Him it leads to their judgment; but for those who seek His loving protection through confession, seeking forgiveness, repentance and restoration there is eternal life. The "*fear of the Lord*" really means something, as much as the "*lovingkindness of the Lord*." A fierce threatening storm when you're fully exposed without protection generates great fear; but there is something about its awesome magnitude, power and unique "*otherness*" from our own normal experience that strangely draws us to itself with wonder and awe. Such as it is when one stands before the face of God.

This we do know: Anything of this size and magnitude rarely happens globally. When it did in the ancient world, two things we could be certain about according to Holy Scripture: God was ultimately superintending and controlling it. However, other manifestations were also involved: *“the rulers, the powers, the world forces of this present darkness, and the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places”* always play their roll for the set purpose to destroy and cause desolation.

Where is God in all this? He is eternally present. In fact, He is so eternal in His nature, He fully ordains it all, but always with a much greater purpose leading ultimately to His glory; and usually beyond what man in his finite and limited understanding can comprehend. His reasons for doing things like this would fill up myriads and myriads of paper with innumerable interconnected contingencies that we could not possibly understand anyway. That is because God is infinite and eternal. Reality: Death happens. Scripture says our days are all numbered before our birth. He ordained them all for a purpose. He is going to use these things to work in your life and the lives of everyone.

Our solution however requires simple attention to His Word, faith the size of a little mustard seed, and the willingness to seek His face begging for his intervention in our world. He actually very much cares for each one of us, for all those who call on His Name. He cares so much for you He was willing to send His only Son as a living sacrifice in order that His ultimate judgment would not fall on you, but on His perfect, obedient and loving Son, Jesus Christ. He also sends you His Holy Spirit to comfort you and to fill you with love and wisdom. He has provided His Word so that His knowledge will grow into wisdom so that ultimately you will come to know Him and the unfathomable depths of His understanding so that you will be able to fully trust in Him completely.

We need to turn our fear into action. The first thing a very distressed little toddler does is cry out, raising little arms upward to be picked up by someone a lot bigger in whom there is full trust. That is the way we should be with our Father in heaven. He is *“Abba, Father!”* Cry out to Him. Don’t wait. Don’t be embarrassed. You need answers. Freely express your heart. *A bruised reed he will not break And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will faithfully bring forth justice.”* (Isa 42:3) He always has a plan and He specifically has designed one just for you.

God in Heaven, Hear My Prayer

Father, *“I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. ² Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. ³ Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable!* (Ps 145:1-3)

¹³ *Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. O Lord you are faithful in all Your words and kind in all Your works. ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. ¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. ¹⁶ You open your hand; you*

satisfy the desire of every living thing. ¹⁷ The Lord is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. ¹⁸ The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

(Ps 145:13-18)

¹⁹ He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. ²⁰ The Lord preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. ²¹ My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever. (Ps 145:19-21) I desire to know you, and to see Your hand of providence work in my life. Give me eyes to see and ears to hear what you want me to see and hear that I might have Your understanding. Give my children that same grace and favor that they may know You in ways that would have never happened if it wasn't for this plague.

Your Word says, "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." ¹ Father with all my heart I seek You! Bring me into the depths of your listening ear, into the eternal light of Your countenance that I might be comforted. "At night my soul longs for You, Indeed, my spirit within me seeks You diligently; For when the earth experiences Your judgments, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness." ² It is true Father. Most learn righteousness in the course of Your judgments. Take heed Father, protect me from Your judgments on the earth. You know I love you.

Lord Jesus you have also said, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened." ³ (1. Jer 29:13; 2. Isa 26:9; 3. Matt 7:7-8)

Before Your throne of grace far above, I humbly ask that you conform my heart to the rhythms and beat of Your heart. May Your will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give me what I seek. It is You I seek! Help me find my way and open the doors that confront me that I cannot open, so that I can find the greater treasure, the greater reward.

Father, this Coronavirus is not unlike the deadly pestilences of old when You came near the earth to make judgments and to lift up and raise Your people to Yourself. If it would please You, and glorify You, protect my life and my family, those who are close to me and those for whom I pray for. Keep me from this pestilence. Do not let it come near to me or my loved ones.

If it is in Your will that the virus should come upon me or one of my family members are exposed and it begins to take effect, in Your mercy, lessen its blow. Keep me from severe and prolonged fever and pain, keep my lungs clear and give me Your strength to endure and overcome it. Give me the perseverance to endure its course, and may You have free discourse within me to speak to my heart, give me divine comfort and hold me that I might sense Your precious arms of love and grace around me.

For I want to faithfully hang onto Your every Word of promise. I believe by doing so, You are pleased because Your favor rests on me and my family. You have said, *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.* You are ² "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." ³ For You will deliver me from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴ You will cover me with Your pinions,

and under Your wings I will find refuge; Your faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

⁵ *I will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. May it be true that*
⁷ *A thousand may fall at my side, ten thousand at my right hand, but it will not come near me.* ⁸ *I will only look with my eyes, and see the recompense of the wicked.*

⁹ *Because I have made You, the Lord, my dwelling place— the Most High, who is my refuge — Father, you have said,¹⁰ no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. May it come to pass in your protection of my family, my friends, our church, our neighbors, as a witness of Your unfailing love!*

¹¹ *For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.* ¹² *On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.* ¹³ *You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.”* Guard my life in all my ways, bear me up, and let me tread on powers greater than myself that can kill the threat and take away the poison of the bite.

I hold You fast to you in love; deliver me. Protect me because I know Your Name.

¹⁴ *“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows My Name.* ¹⁵ *When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.* ¹⁶ *With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.”* May it be so Father. May it be so. In Jesus Name!

A Call to Action During These Days

Pastor George has recently written to our congregation that we are not going to formally meet together for a period of time, which may be extended depending on the situation, so as not to infect others by having groups meeting together. We don't know who may be carrying the virus. While we believe that the assembling of the saints is of the utmost importance (Heb.10:24-25) we must also be concerned for others *“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”* (Phil. 2:4) We are to love our neighbor as ourselves and one way we can do that is to limit our exposure to one another.

Second, we have many who are currently ill or have compromised immune systems. We need to do everything we can to not expose those most vulnerable. This is an extremely aggressive virus and easily transmitted. We do not want to succumb to paranoia, but we do want to be cognizant of our role in protecting the vulnerable and immune-compromised individuals in our families, neighborhoods, workplaces, etc. Our willingness to do this is another way we can show love for our neighbors.

PRAY! *Father we pray for You to have mercy on our families, church, city, nation and world. We pray and ask you to be merciful and powerful for those who have*

been infected, for families of those who have died and for those living in fear. We pray for our healthcare professionals and their spouses and families who put their lives on the line to care for the sick. We pray for the First Responders the same thing, whom are called to help in a time of crisis. We lift up our police force, the firemen, and the National Guard. Protect them and their families. Grant they might have times of rest when things are in such an upheaval. Help us to contact those we know in these professions and to encourage them with words that give comfort and hope. We pray You will guide the Heartland task force and leaders to have wisdom to know what to do and when.

WITNESS! For years we have been praying for opportunities to share Christ with our neighbors here in Wichita. God has given us a pandemic! We have the privilege of taking the message of hope and peace to those who are fearful. We have the message of life for those who are afraid of death. We have the message of peace to those who are full of anxiety. May we take full advantage of this great gift from God to speak the truth.

***Father,** may these things begin to form and come to pass that the message of the Gospel, a message of hope and peace will reach their ears and hearts. Use us to bring the message of peace to those who are hungry to hear it.*

Pastor Brad Hanson has recently written: “*May we be ready to give a reason for the hope which is ours in Christ*” (1 Peter 3:15). Living under the cloud of the epidemic confronts people with the reality of sickness and death. Some are experiencing their first serious thoughts about their own mortality. As Christians, we should not fear to talk about death, and offer the hope of the Gospel.”

***Father,** give us the joyous courage to speak to them openly about matters of life and death, faith, judgment and salvation. Please give us the wisdom to listen well, speak less, and offer the hope that is only found in the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Pastor Brad continues, “We should likewise be prepared to witness anger and frustration as people struggle to deal with a new normal, if normal there can be. Scripture reminds us that a quiet answer turns away wrath (Proverbs 15:1), and our compassion can go a long way to diffuse such reactions. We should be the first to acknowledge our own anger and fears, for we know that it was for people like us that Christ died and rose again (Titus 3:4-7).”

“Given the reality of quarantines, our face-to-face meetings with others may be few. It will take a certain boldness to seize those moments to ask a question or to strike up a conversation. But we must prepare ourselves for whatever comes our way in this season of uncertainty. “*Always being prepared*” is the Bible’s reminder that the happiness and hope which people long for is ours to offer others. May the Lord find us ready to be faithful witnesses of the Gospel.”

Father, give us Your grace and power to *be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of Your might.*¹¹ We will “*Put on the full armor of God, that we may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.*”¹² *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual {forces} of wickedness in the heavenly {places.}*¹³ *Therefore, we resolve to take up the full armor of God, that we may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.*

We will¹⁴ *Stand firm therefore, having girded our loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,*¹⁵ *and having shod our feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;*¹⁶ *in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which we will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil {one.}* We will¹⁷ *take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*

¹⁸ *With all prayer and petition we will pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, to be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints. We*¹⁹ *{pray} that utterance may be given to us in the opening of our mouths, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,*²⁰ *that in {proclaiming} it we may speak boldly, as we ought to speak. (Ephesians 6: 10-19)*

SERVE! The economic impact on our city could be huge. We need to be aware of those around us who may be hurting. Many may lose their jobs. Many families with both parents, or a single parent working now have no one to care for their children. Many children who depend on meals at school may now find themselves hungry. Many without insurance may need help with medical care. God has opened the door to us to be involved in the lives of people, not only at Heartland, but at Clark Elementary school, and Park Elementary school where **Matt Kratz**, a 5th grade teacher and one of our deacons is ministering daily to kids, and their families in the powerful Name of Jesus Christ.

Father, *make us aware of those around us who have viably challenging issues with money, food, necessities that are not available, like care for others kids who parents have to work, for those who are hungry and need additional sustenance that we have in our power to provide as a witness of Your great love. Open the doors that you want us to walk through to do your will. Give us the time, patience and will power to minister to others needs.*

So we go ahead with great trust and confidence in our God. He is the Almighty, Sovereign, Lord of the universe and Head of His church. Not even hell itself can prevail against it. So let us not lose hope, and let us not lose sight of our great opportunity to be His church.

When the Reformer, Martin Luther, was dealing with **The Black Death plague**, he wrote these wise words that can help us today:

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence.

"If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others.

"If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above.

"See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash no foolhardy and does not tempt God."

Luther's Works Volume 43 pg 132 the letter "Whether one may flee from a Deadly Plague" written to Rev. Dr. John Hess

THE GOVERNMENT & MILITARY

Rom 13:1-7

¹ Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.² Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

³ For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same; ⁴ for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil.

⁵ Wherefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for {rulers} are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.⁷ Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax {is due;} custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor. (NAS)

We are to submit to governing authorities in so far as until the government commands us to do what Scripture prohibits, or prohibits us from doing what Scripture commands.

Government: The Nation and State:

Father, during these last number or weeks, we daily see and hear the directives that are being given by President Trump and Vice-President Pence with all their support medical teams and expert groupings that have been put together for the well being of our citizens and country. Please give them Your divine wisdom and superintend their words, thoughts, decisions and actions. Many will rise up and criticize their efforts, and they may make some bad decisions, but they are the ones whom You have put in charge to lead at this time and in this hour. For all that we have been through in this last election cycle, and the efforts of many to defame and challenge the present Presidency, it is President Trump and his cabinet who are at the helm. Therefore, having witnessed the outcome of all these trials and debates more than ever we pray for their wisdom and actions they take, which may prove to be fairly severe for us as a Nation. Your Word is clear that we are to be law-abiding and seeking others to do the same through our corporate witness as the Body of Christ. We pray You will give us much more than the services and benefits our government can provide. We need your wisdom and courage in this time of crisis. Nothing can replace the sincere expressions of love and care we as Your Body can provide not only to our friends but our neighbors and our community.

Father, move on us to be united in our care for one another and may You be glorified in doing what only You can do to bring warring factions and political parties deeply divided together in a united front to a common enemy. Some have been praying this adversarial conflict between political parties cease, and it appears a common enemy greater than any human or nation can control, may be Your provision in answer of that prayer.

Promotion of Christian values and influences in the following areas:

- We pray Father God that you will establish your righteousness and justice and that your Church will be given the freedom to continue to do the will of the Lord: For the free discourse to discuss and teach the Bible, to openly share ones faith and the evangelize the lost and to do so in the freedom of homes, churches, schools and the work place without discrimination.

1 Tim 2:1-4

¹ First of all, then, I urge that entreaties {and} prayers, petitions {and} thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,² for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (NAS)

Executive and Legislative Branch

- We pray that God, you will protect our way of life, asking that you would install in office men and women who are committed to serving their constituents with integrity. We commit to pray for our elections, beseeching you Father to prompt our fellow citizens to become involved in this process. Voting is both a duty and a privilege, and the outcomes of our political races are critical in determining the future course of our nation.
- We pray for our elected officials: national, state and locally, appointed judges, and our local police force.

Exodus 18:21

"But select capable men from all the people –men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain –and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens."

- We pray that those officials who are Christian believers be given Your wisdom and that they would attend to the many serious issues at hand and have the courage to stand against falsehood and injustice. Use their words and arguments to win the hearts and minds of the opposition to bring and establish righteousness in our beloved State and Nation.

1 Kings 3:28

"When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice." (NIV)

Congress

- God may your hand of wisdom and guidance remain upon each segment of our society, and through Your Spirit, may believers be inspired to "*pray continually*" (I Thessalonians 5:17). We are assured that You as the Almighty hear our petitions. As people from coast to coast we lift our voices in prayer, repentance and humility, and know that you can do exceeding abundantly more than anything we think or ask for you are the Lord and nothing can undermine your

sovereign will. As a Body we come together before Your throne with these words on our lips and in our hearts, "God bless America!" We pray for our leaders, as well as the judges in our courts. We ask you to grant them wisdom to act with integrity

Proverbs 11:3

"The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."

Ephesians 1:18

"I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called –His holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance."

Judicial Branch

- The concepts our Founding Fathers have had a profound impact on the United States and the culture at large. These men and women established a nearly foolproof system of government; its checks and balances are among the most noteworthy aspects of our republic. Our executive, legislative and judicial branches, when functioning as they were designed, champion our liberties and prevent our government from becoming tyrannical and oppressive. By and large, however, the American people are sadly uninformed about democratic principles and their role in safeguarding our freedoms. What's more, the clearly defined lines between the three branches of government are becoming blurred, and United States citizens may pay the price. Father we pray for clarity to come forward and that our country become united as one nation under God.

Colossians 3:2

"Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth."

Psalms 33:11

"But the Lord's plans stand firm forever; his intentions can never be shaken."

John 16:13

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future."

Our Country's Freedoms Under the Constitution:

- Lord, it is our hope and prayer that the U.S. Government will return to uphold our constitutional rights and the freedoms our country was founded on. We pray you would honor our desire to secure the constitutional rights we still have as a means to procure Your righteousness and Your Kingdom and the protection of the Church.
- If it pleases You we ask that we as Christian citizens rise up to exercise our constitutional rights including free speech, the right to protest and the right to vote in order to bring about Biblical righteousness and justice to our society.
- We dearly pray that You O Lord will bring enlightenment on the issue of separation of Church and State. We affirm that Christ is Lord and King over His

Church, that He will grow and build up His Church no matter what government or which secularists are in control. We pray the culture will come to desire the great value and influence of the Church in its proper role with the State and that it become common knowledge that 'separation' was never intended to be the illegal removal of God from the culture.

- We pray for our public and government schools, the state and local school boards and their policies that Christian administrators and teachers to be bold and positive witnesses and influence on students. It is our hope and prayer that you provide a safe environment for learning in the public sector. That God would grant wisdom to schools and teachers in developing on-line courses to continue education and not be a detriment to our students.

Ps 33:12-22

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance. ¹³ The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; ¹⁴ From His dwelling place He looks out On all the inhabitants of the earth, ¹⁵ He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works.

¹⁶ The king is not saved by a mighty army; a warrior is not delivered by great strength. ¹⁷ A horse is a false hope for victory; nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength. ¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope for His lovingkindness, ¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. ²¹ For our heart rejoices in Him, because we trust in His holy name. ²² Let Thy lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee. (NAS)

The Military:

- We pray God that you would protect our country and citizens from terrorists by having their plans thwarted and exposed and that they be apprehended and brought to justice.
- We also pray that in your good providence you will guide our military leaders with godly wisdom, integrity and courage.

II Chronicles 32:6-8

"He appointed military officers over the people and assembled them before him in the square at the city gate and encouraged them with these words: 'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles.' And the people gained confidence from what Hezekiah the king of Judah said."

- We pray for Your divine protection for believers who serve in battle, on the front lines and around the world, that they would execute their orders with all diligence and be guarded in their hearts trusting in Your sovereign governance, grace, care and love.

- Many of our military who are members of our church struggle financially and with their time while serving the nation. Many are operating on very limited funds and resources. We pray that Lord You would provide in visible ways for all their provisions for their spouses and children and that you would lighten their load and burden that weighs heavily on a number of our service men in the Air Force and Military.

Psalm 57:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed"

Psalm 59:1

"Deliver me from my enemies, O God; protect me from those who rise up against me."

- We pray that the spouses of our military personnel would be strengthened with knowledge and wisdom to raise their families without the support and presence of their spouses who can only be there intermittently.
- That the children of our believing military personnel would be provided the emotional support, godly and Biblical instruction, training, love and care they need through family, friends and the Body reaching out to them.

Proverbs 2:8

"...for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones."

- We beseech you Almighty God that our U.S. military actions from the media are relayed fairly and impartially to the country. Our troops are deserving of our gratitude and respect. We pray for accurate reporting that will play an important role in rallying the American people around our brave servicemen and women.
- We pray for the constitutional protection of our Christian brothers and sisters who are targeted by radical hate groups and Islamic groups who unabashedly hate Christ and His Church. The former are legally supported by the ACLU, federally appointed judges, the liberal media and liberal suppressive government agencies. It is our prayer that if and when such attacks of violence occur that you will be merciful to our beloved brethren and keep them out of harms way in your providential love and oversight, and that the evil designs of these groups and powers be dissolved and removed. If in your providence they prevail, then lead us into following your glorious will as we know your care and protection are not always given in this world in order that our attention and focus will always be looking forward to a time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth and when righteousness will be fully manifested to the praise of God and of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Psalm 5:11

"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you."

Please pray for our military personnel by name who are members or affiliated in association with our Body

THE FAMILY

Strengthening Singles & Families to be Christ Centered:

PRAYER: Jesus, through your Holy Spirit we pray for our families to be preserved as the Lord intended: under the marital union of one man and one woman devoted to each other and to our children in our home. That we would be responsible, caring, and nurturing adults; loving parents and grandparents so that our children will recognize and know your love through our lives. We love you, but praise God that you first loved us. What a divine glorious plan that as Christ loved his Church and gave himself for her, willing to die so that we might be holy and blameless in your sight, we too and in the same manner as husbands will in practice love our wives; and as the Bride of Christ submits herself unto your loving care, so may we as wives submit to our husbands in lovingkindness to them:

FOR PERSONAL & SINGLES: Gracious Father, in your promises to us, may grace and peace be multiplied to us, your Body in all the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; Open our eyes to see that your divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of God who called us by your own glory and excellence. For by these you have granted to us your precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them we might become partakers of {the} divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

Now for this very reason also, I pray applying all diligence, in my faith, supply moral excellence, and in my moral excellence, knowledge; and in my knowledge, self-control, and in my self-control, perseverance, and in my perseverance, godliness; and in my godliness, brotherly kindness, and in my brotherly kindness, love. For it is your promise that if these {qualities} are ours and are increasing, that they will render us neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks these {qualities} is blind {or} short-sighted, having forgotten {his} purification from his former sins.

Therefore, as your Body, we will be all the more diligent to make certain about your calling and choosing us; for it is your promise that as long as we practice these things, we will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to us. Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God our Father. Praise your holy name!
(2 Pet 1:2-11)

FOR A MAN: Lord Almighty, make me into a man strong in faith, dutiful in purpose, intentional in prayer, strong in leadership, and filled with the knowledge of God in all spiritual wisdom and understanding so that I might walk in a manner worthy of your Name and be pleasing to you in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power according to your glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and

patience; I joyously give thanks to you Father for qualifying me to share in the inheritance of all the Saints in Light. Praise be to your Name! *(Col 1:9-12)*

FOR A WOMAN: Heavenly Father, in the power of Christ, chosen of God, holy and beloved in your sight, I fully commit to put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with others, and forgiving others, and if I have a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave me, so also I will them. And beyond all these things I will put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

I pray to let the peace of Christ rule in my heart, to which indeed I have been called with others to be of one body; and I will be thankful. I pray that the word of Christ will richly dwell within me with all wisdom, that we might teach and admonish one another and with psalms {and} hymns {and} spiritual songs, and sing with thankfulness in our hearts to God. Whatever I do in word or deed, I will do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to you my God and Father. *(Col 3:12-17)*

MARRIED: Father, grant to us fidelity in our marriage. Keep my heart pure and undefiled so that my hearts joy is to fully give of myself to my Beloved that you have given me. That my eyes and my heart will not stray to another, and that faithfulness, integrity and the honor of Christ will be the hallmark of my life.

HUSBAND: Lord Jesus, move through me so that I would have the courage and confidence to be the head of my wife and my family. That I would love my wife, just as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless. So I commit with all my heart to love her and give up my life for her well being and nurture her as I would my own body. *(Eph 5:23-30)*

Eph 5:25-27: *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; ²⁶ that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.*

WIFE: Father of Glory, in the fear of Christ, let me be a woman of excellence, whose worth is far greater than any priceless earthly gift; that the heart of my husband will trust in me so that he will have no lack of gain. Let me do him good and never do evil all the days of my life. Let me be diligent and work with my hands in delight. Gird me with strength and make my arms strong; grant me purpose to provide for my family, live in dignity and to be hopeful for the future, to speak wisdom and teach kindness, to look well to the ways of my household and never eat the bread of idleness. I commit to be subject to my husband in honor of your commands and will commit to respect him in the power of your strength. *(Proverbs 31 in part, Eph 5: 22, 33)*

BEARING CHILDREN:

Ps 127:3-5

Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; the fruit of the womb is a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. ⁵ How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they shall not be ashamed, when they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Father, please bless those mothers who are carrying their child in the womb and give them healthy pregnancies and may their births be normal and fully protected in delivery by Your intervening Hand. Give much grace and patience to those starting out in their young marriages with little children. Give them Your internal power to deal with all the challenges they face raising little children, and may they do so in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord.

PARENTS: Fortify us to be parents who faithfully teach and train up our children in the knowledge, admonition and fear of the Lord; to nurture them to be strong in the Lord and to love his ways. To teach them of the covenantal promises made to our Biblical fathers in the faith and which carry down to our children to the 3rd and 4th generation. Make pathways that we will have access to our children's hearts to teach the truth contained in the Word of God and to demonstrate the Love of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the hope that your Word will not return to you void, but will accomplish what you desire, to the end that we will go out with joy, and be led forth with peace to the glory and desire of Jesus Christ!

(Ps 22:6, Eph 2: 12, Isa 55:11)

Ps 34:11-18

¹¹ *Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. ¹² Who is the man who desires life, and loves {length of} days that he may see good? ¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit. ¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. ¹⁵ The eye^s of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are {open} to their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷ {The righteous} cry and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

Prov 1:7-9

⁷ *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. ⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and do not forsake your mother's teaching; ⁹ Indeed, they are a graceful wreath to your head, and ornaments about your neck.*

CHILDREN: O Abba Father, thank you for my parents who love me and take such good care of me and provide many things that I might be comforted in them and joyful in you. I know they seek my best interest, want me to be strong in you and for that I am so thankful and appreciative. Help me through my conflicts, bring forgiveness and restoration to us, give me your grace to love them and to obey them with all my heart that I might taste and know the full joy of Jesus Christ,

just as he was a faithful son whose joy was to be fully obedient to you Father.
Lead me that I might know you Lord Jesus in all your fullness and truth.

Eph 6:1-3

¹ Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), ³ that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

John 15:10-11

¹⁰ "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love. ¹¹ "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and {that} your joy may be made full.

- Father we pray that as parents we will faithfully teach our children and provide for their full education. Please grant us the wisdom to faithfully teach the Word of God, the good doctrines of grace, and the faithful catechisms of our faith; to be examples of those who are diligent to do what we say and to lead our children in the paths of truth, honor, righteousness, purity, loveliness, valuing good reputation, excellence and all things worthy of praise. (Phil 4:8-9)
- In the hope of your covenantal promises to be fulfilled, please Father, in your good providence, provide the resources for our children's education, spiritual development and growth. Lead us to develop and implement excellent Bible-based home schools and private Christian schools that glorify Jesus Christ. Give us the strength and divine wisdom to come along side the teachers and administrators in public education for the sake of our children.

FAMILIES IN DISTRESS: Merciful Father, our God who provides, our hearts go out to many of us who at this time have either lost their jobs and means to support themselves and their families, or their jobs and provisions are greatly threatened to be terminated through layoffs and severe economic stresses. There are a number who are struggling to keep their bills paid and to provide food for their families. We beseech you O Great Lord to provide new means for making it through these very difficult hard times by leading them faithfully to find jobs, work, and employment. We are most grateful for our deacons and the faithful members of the Mercy Team who are making monies available to provide necessary assistance, but the needs only grow more with each passing month. We pray that you would open the hearts of those who have means to help assist their efforts so that greater financial giving can be established to provide food, clothing and shelter for those going through desperate times.

Acts 2:42-47

⁴² And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ and they {began} selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as

anyone might have need. ⁴⁶ And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- We also know that times like these create formidable challenges and stresses on marriages and families who are weighed down by the heaviness of financial burdens. We pray your divine intervention in these families who are suffering such trials. They need your power, help and provisions to make it through. Strengthen them in faith and love and secure for them a hope for the future.

Phil 4:11-13

¹¹ Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. ¹² I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

¹³ I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

- Merciful God, there are a number of marriages that for other reasons are struggling due to the normal stresses of life and from the effects of sin. O Father, please come to their rescue. Give them a heart to be transformed by your sovereign power and grace given through the Holy Spirit and through the promises and power of your Word. Give them hearts that are quick to forgive and to repent so that healing can come to their broken hearts. Help support the children who often suffer for the difficulties incurred by their parents. Lead the children to find forgiveness and healing with their parents and with each other. Please be merciful and come to their rescue we pray.

Ps 34:15-22

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are {open} to their cry. ¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷ {The righteous} cry and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit. ¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the LORD delivers him out of them all. ²⁰ He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken. ²¹ Evil shall slay the wicked; and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. ²² The LORD redeems the soul of His servants; and none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

FAMILY MINISTRIES & PRO-FAMILY LEGISLATION

- Sovereign Lord, we live in a land that seeks to denigrate your good Word, who hate the promises of God, reject Jesus Christ and love death more than life. We ask you to intercede and through the faithful and courageous witness of the your people, work even in the hearts of the unfaithful to promote the knowledge that Biblically and most reasonably marriage is only between a man and a woman, and the fruit rewarded in marriage is the bearing, adopting and raising of children in the Lord. We pray that in your Name you would reveal Yourself through Your Word and light to give loving understanding to those who are confused as to their own gender, and who they are as individuals, that they

might find their identify in Christ as a follower of Him; those who struggle with same sex attraction give power to persevere in their struggles against sin and temptation and to develop and nurture healthy relationships with each gender; and for those who are in homosexual relationships reveal to them Your will and desire for their lives. Empower them to break the yoke of their bondage of sin, that they may find true freedom in obedience to You.

- We pray that you would work through our elected leaders, legislatures and the members of our judicial system as they consider proposed legislation and various court cases related to marriage and the family. The life of our nation depends upon it. It is imperative that your people remain diligent in intercession for these concerns. We pray that your good influence will affect families in this country so that they will follow the Christians as examples of living out godly values and principles.

THE CHURCH

Eph 2:13-14a,17 22

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, ¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through Him we (both) have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, ²⁰ having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner {stone} ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

The Church at Large

- O Lord, how far your churches have strayed from the truth in your Word and have added to it their own teachings of men. For this reason, our fellow believers are weak in the knowledge of Christ and have little taste for the delights and nourishment of your Word. We beseech you Father in the Name of Jesus Christ that across the land you would bring a new hunger and revival upon all evangelical and reformed churches. We pray that there would be a new outpouring of your Holy Spirit for a modern day reformation and revival. That the members of your Body, the Lampstands who are your witnesses would run back and embrace the Scriptures, abandon their false, man-inspired teachings and seek the knowledge and treasures of the Scriptures alone, in order that they would discover the beauty and power of the whole council of God contained in the Old and New Testaments. That faithful ministers and elders of the Word would faithfully and boldly proclaim the doctrines of grace and adherence to the true gospel of Jesus Christ; that the fruit of your Word would lead men and women to true repentance and changed lives leading toward godliness, which is the true power to sustain and grow the Kingdom of God. It is only in your Church will there be a stabilizing force and power to bring about true righteousness and justice to our society and culture, and to the entire world. The gospel of peace will always prevail over the terror and hatred cast by the true infidels.

Deut 4:1-9

¹ "And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I am teaching you to perform, in order that you may live and go in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ² "You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. ³ "Your eyes have seen what the LORD has done in the case of Baal-peor, for all the men who followed Baal-peor, the LORD your God has destroyed them from among you. ⁴ "But you who held fast to the LORD your God are alive today, every one of you.

⁵ "See, I have taught you statutes and judgments just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do thus in the land where you are entering to possess it. ⁶ "So keep

and do {them} for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'⁷ "For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him?⁸ "Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?

⁹ "Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons.

- Father of Glory, we pray your church will be enlightened to develop a global view for the Kingdom of God through the establishment and growth of Bible-based churches, Christian missions, godly discipleship and an increased burden for the lost. We ask that you burden our hearts to be devoted to do what is good and to seek out and care for the weak, and to stimulate a faithful witness by word and deed to the unbelievers who are lost.

Matt 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- We lift up and pray for the courage and faithful witness of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are being persecuted by suppressive governments, regimes and religious powers, and that through their suffering, the true power of God would be realized, and that your Church would grow even stronger and more influential in their respective cultures across the earth.
- We pray O Heavenly Father that you prepare your people here in this country to mobilize their strengths to endure cultural ridicule, suppressive governmental regulation and to overcome the rising tide of Islamic suppression in our land by the humble yet dynamic victory of bold visible Christian faith, witness, proclamation and practice done in the powerful name of Jesus Christ.

John 17:13-19

¹³ "But now I come to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy made full in themselves. ¹⁴ "I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ "I do not ask Thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil {one.} ¹⁶ "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ "Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth. ¹⁸ "As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

- Father, so many churches across our land have been overcome by the cultural mandates of the age, reversing the roles of leadership to the authority of

woman, many of whom mean well to serve you, but who at the same time like oxen kicking the goads of the ox cart, seek to undermine the headship you have clearly given in male headship. We pray you will make the churches strong by raising men of courage, valor, truth, and integrity into positions of leadership, and to allow the women the happiness to serve their husbands, their families and the church in works of mercy and necessity, sustaining the church in powerful prayer and to find comfort and high esteem in their God given roles as women.

1 Tim 2:11-15

¹¹ Let a woman quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. ¹² But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. ¹³ For it was Adam who was first created, {and} then Eve. ¹⁴ And {it was} not Adam {who} was deceived, but the woman being quite deceived, fell into transgression. ¹⁵ But {women} shall be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

1 Cor 11:2-3

² Now I praise you because you remember me in everything, and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you. ³ But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.

1 Cor 11:7-9

⁷ For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. ⁸ For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; ⁹ for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

Titus 1:5-6

⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you might set in order what remains, and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, ⁶ {namely,} if any man be above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion.

Heartland Community Church

“We exist to glorify God and enjoy Him forever as we gratefully worship Him, lovingly disciple His people and eagerly evangelize the lost”

- Dear Lord, thank you for raising up and establishing our church at Heartland. Thank you for all the families and people who comprise this growing, diversified and vibrant Body of believers. We praise you for all your provisions, our pastors, elders, deacons, coordinators and the many men, women and children who do their part to serve the Body of Christ in the fullness of love and in good deeds. We thank you for our rich tradition and heritage and pray we will never abandon, but only strengthen our roots in the evangelical faith of the Reformed Church. We thank you that our teachers, elders and pastors highly honor the Word of God and the doctrines and traditions of the living faith which we live by.

Eph 4:11-16

¹¹ And He gave some {as} apostles, and some {as} prophets, and some {as} evangelists, and some {as} pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of

service, to the building up of the body of Christ;¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all {aspects} into Him, who is the head, {even} Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Leadership

- Abba Father, we ask you to help strengthen all the leaders and servants of this Body. We pray that you would grant us, according to the riches of Your glory, to be strengthened with power through Your Spirit in the inner man; so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith; {and} that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that we may be filled up to all the fullness of God. *(Eph 3:16-19)*

Please review the list of Elders and Deacons on Page 44 in the Appendix at the back of the Prayer Guide.

Senior Pastor George & Vicki Granberry

Father, we cannot thank you enough for the life long ministry of **Pastor George and Vicki** who have lovingly and faithfully served the Body of Christ at Heartland for over 27 years. They are a wonderful man and woman of God, a beautiful team, have faithfully raised godly children and are a model of a godly marriage. Through their long service and perseverance they have demonstrated what a true man and woman of integrity, faithfulness, fortitude, honor and godliness looks like. **Pastor George** continually has faithfully preached and taught Your Word and under his pastorate care are better people for it having been very blessed by both their ministries. We pray you will lead them to discover, know and confirm where the next phase in ministry is for them. Open up doors of opportunity as they seek to build up the Body of Christ in the capacities you have gifted them.

Pastor Search Team

Father, we pray that you will lead the Pastor Search Team to find the next Senior Pastor of Heartland to replace Pastor George. May he be a man of prayer who is keenly aware of his own desperate need for a Savior. May he be a man who has abandoned himself to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and is passionate about letting the Gospel rule over how he views himself and others. May he be an impassioned preacher, a servant leader, a collaborative visionary, a relational shepherd and a man who sees himself as one grateful beggar eager to show all of us, we are all truly beggars in great need of the Bread of Life in Jesus Christ. Give the members of the PST wise discernment and focus as they seek to find the Pastor of Your choosing for the ministry of Heartland.

Church Ministries

- Father we pray for the many Heartland ministries, the pastors, elders, deacons and the men and women who are in charge of them and who faithfully serve to minister Your Word and Your Hands of service in our lives. We pray for each of them; that God would faithfully and powerfully work in their lives and within each ministry for the advancement of His Kingdom.
- **Adult Education Team:** We are grateful for the work of **Pastors Richard and Gary** in guiding and encouraging the Adult Education Team members to be guided by Your Hand to provide a full curriculum of a variety of subjects for our Sunday School Adult classes that meet throughout the year.
- **Children's Education Team:** We are grateful for **Daniel and Megan Gensch** and their team of volunteers for their leadership to build, design, oversee and actively participate in the Children's Education Team and in teaching and leading our Children's Sunday School classes and the Worshipers in Training ministry.
- **Bible Study & Miscellaneous Groups:** Lord Jesus, we are grateful for the many Groups and Studies that are active in the church; for the numerous women and men discipleship, mentoring and prayer groups that are active within and outside the church walls. We pray you would enrich and deepen the spiritual life of each one and to unite us together in our service and worship of you.

Titus 2:3-8

³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips, nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, ⁴ that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ {to be} sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be dishonored. ⁶ Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; ⁷ in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, {with} purity in doctrine, dignified, ⁸ sound {in} speech which is beyond reproach, in order that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

Missionaries & Missions

- Lord we thank you for raising up our faithful and courageous missionaries that we are honored to call our brothers and sisters whom we have aligned ourselves with for the establishment of your Kingdom in this world: to reach every tribe, tongue and nation on the Earth for Jesus Christ. We pray that you would protect every family and individual who has dedicated their lives to serve you in the fullest capacity of ministry. We ask that you greatly bless your message through their faithful witness both in the preaching and teaching of the Word, but also in the practice of demonstrating Christian charity and exercising a divine love for the unlovable, the lost and the dying. Thank you for their faithful labors and righteous fruit on the behalf of others in the Name of Christ. May they be richly rewarded for their faithful service to you as your obedient children. May the people whom they minister to have ears to hear and eyes to see and a mind to understand the blessings of the gospel message they are hearing, and that many would come to have trust and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- We are thankful for **Pastor Richard** who serves diligently to head our Missions Team who do all the hard work keeping in contact with our Missionaries and working with them tirelessly so that our people are actively made aware of the ministries we are supporting throughout the world.

Please pray for each of our Missionaries; that God would faithfully and powerfully work in their lives for the advancement of His Kingdom. If you don't have a copy of the current Missionary Prayer Book, let Pastor George know and we would be happy to email you a copy for your use.

1 Pet 2:11-12

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul. ¹² Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe {them,} glorify God in the day of visitation.

- Lord, we are also most grateful for the many missions that we support that we have aligned ourselves with to further your Kingdom. We pray for their continued operations and fruitfulness in your service. May your name and the power of the gospel be declared boldly and may many good works bearing fruit for your Kingdom be rendered.

John 15:7-8

⁷ "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ "By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and {so} prove to be My disciples.

Youth Ministry

- Gracious Father, we do pray for wisdom as to how best to train up and direct our youth at Heartland. We pray that as the youth have opportunities to be ministered to that they in turn seek to minister to others both in the Body and outside the Church. With the diversity of ideas as to how best lead the high school and middle school ministries, we pray for collective unity in understanding what will be the best plan for our Church. Thank you for **Pastor Gary** and those who assist him who are working with our youth to strengthen their faith and to encourage them in the Lord. Please give them wisdom and discernment as they seek to minister to our young people.

2 Tim 2:22-26

²² Now flee from youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love } and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. ²³ But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, ²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses {and escape} from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

Community Groups

- Thank you for our active Community Groups that have been established and continue to grow in size and in the knowledge and nurture of Your Word, our service and ministry in the lives of others. Help us to love, serve and encourage one another not only within our church, but seek to meet the spiritual and material needs of our community. We pray Father that you will enrich and deepen our unity and community as brothers and sisters in Christ who seek to fellowship life on life with one another and to encourage each other in love and good deeds.

Heb 10:23-25

²³ *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;* ²⁴ *and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,* ²⁵ *not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging {one another} and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.*

Stewardship

- Lord Jesus, we are thankful for all your many provisions that you have created for us to have this facility and beautiful sanctuary. We are grateful for our association with the Classical School of Wichita, and pray that you would richly bless their leaders and teachers in teaching, disseminating and linking the Word of God in the children's education curriculums. We are very grateful for your many provisions. We enjoy our place of worship and education forged together with common commitments and goals. All in all that You would be glorified in these efforts. We pray that the elders and deacons will lead the congregation with wisdom to be good stewards of all your provisions. Please grant the Session and Deaconate to have godly wisdom as they seek to be proactive to service and care for the facility. Please bless our congregation to know the joy of being a generous giver not only in money but in their time in service to the fellowship.

Spiritual Development

- Father we truly pray for our Church that Christ would empower us and draw us to Yourself and to be used to reach our world for Christ, so that every man with all wisdom, striving according to His power will be found complete in Christ.

Col 1:25-29

²⁵ *Of {this church} I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, that I might fully carry out the {preaching of} the word of God,* ²⁶ *{that is,} the mystery which has been hidden from the {past} ages and generations; but has now been manifested to His saints,* ²⁷ *to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.* ²⁸ *And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.* ²⁹ *And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.*

Eph 3:20-21

²⁰ *Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,* ²¹ *to Him {be} the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.*

THE ECONOMY

Promotion of Christian and Biblical Principles and Ethics in Business

- Sovereign Lord, we pray for businesses that provide much of the employment for our people and the opportunity for business owners to provide for others. In this climate, we pray for executives with strong ethics who are especially deserving of our recognition and patronage. Also we pray that God will provide corporate America with business leaders who are committed to conducting themselves honorably. We pray God that you will raise up your ambassadors in the workplace.

Matthew 5:14-16

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

Galatians 6:9

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

- Father, we pray for Christian businesses, the owners and their employees to be prosperous and generous, so that they will have plenty to provide for their families and to give to others in need for the sake and in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ. Help the managers of these businesses to be wise in their behavior, righteousness, justice and equity and adjust quickly to the present market conditions so that they can better survive the economic downturn, and maintain their necessary customer or clientele base.

Proverbs 1:1-3

¹ The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: ² To know wisdom and instruction, to discern the sayings of understanding, ³ To receive instruction in wise behavior, righteousness, justice and equity;

Proverbs 29:2

"When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice; when the wicked rule, the people groan."

Exodus 31:3-5

"...and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts –to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship."

Unemployment

- Heavenly Father, as we have previously prayed for our people, there are unemployment issues with several families and individuals in our church. Please guide them to either find new jobs, or lead them to create new jobs and businesses. May your gracious and multiple blessings be on these families and individuals to provide divine opportunities and to grow and prosper in securing employment or in starting their own small business. Please provide for your people these needs and may they find the joy of the Lord to be their strength. May they find hope and peace as they turn to you for their well being. May this

be a time in which they will draw close to your lovingkindness and find rest and peace for their souls.

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows lie sea billow roll; whatever my lot, though has taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come. Let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin – O the bliss of this glorious thought! – my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so" – it is well with my soul. It is well, It is well, Praise God, it is well with my soul.

Governmental Policies and Mandates

- O Father, what great changes have occurred so quickly in the last few weeks with the impact of the Coronavirus turning our world upside down. The stock market has experienced radical almost violent spikes up and down day after day creating an environment of great instability. It is also an election year so for some they are looking forward to change while others hope our government stays on task and serves the needs of our citizens. Promises for healthcare, increased governmental entitlements and a better way of life being dependent on our government to provide the needs of the people is the government of choice for many of our citizens. For many these claims for changes bring little peace, with the greater threat that over time the freedoms we have enjoyed, the liberties our country were founded on and the way of life we have enjoyed for generations will be threatened. Most would agree that changes needed have to take place, but many also hope for a prosperous future stressing a good honest days work for a fair wage.

For many, our hearts are restless and for many our hopes are diminished. The changes of government between the last and present administrations have created rising tensions between very different forms of government. Please give our elected officials great wisdom in these matters. Let them remember the mistakes of the past, and to not so quickly disregard history and the former ways of the world that brought evil and chaos, for the sake of their own political gain. May your Spirit sovereignly bring about your complete will and that there be a great conviction of sin and repentance to all of us, most particularly to those who have been elected and to those who have been appointed to offices that were intended to be a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863

- O Precious Lord, we do want to place our total trust in your sovereign care for we know that the true agenda for this planet is the spread and growth of your Kingdom where the Lord Jesus Christ reigns in absolute power and authority. Through these trials and difficult days ahead we need to know your will in all things so that we will do the right things to honor and glorify you. If this present administrative agenda to create expanded government power is not your will, then please let the electorate and their representatives rise up to overturn the excessive taxation legislation and the new explosive national debt mandates. If on the other hand, these things are very much your will, for the sake of your Kingdom and the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, may your will be done, not ours.

Luke 1:49-55

⁴⁹ *"For the Mighty One has done great things for me; and holy is His name. ⁵⁰ "And His mercy is upon generation after generation toward those who fear Him. ⁵¹ "He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered {those who were} proud in the thoughts of their heart. ⁵² "He has brought down rulers from {their} thrones, and has exalted those who were humble. ⁵³ "He has filled the hungry with good things; and sent away the rich empty-handed. ⁵⁴ "He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy, ⁵⁵ As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever."*

Matt 26:38-39

³⁸ *Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." ³⁹ And He went a little beyond {them,} and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as Thou wilt."*

Healthcare

- Father, we are thankful for the good healthcare we have traditionally enjoyed in this great country of ours. Times have changed and many are without good healthcare and have little options to choose from. We pray that our healthcare providers will have God's divine wisdom greater than their own when it comes to their patients, particularly those of the elect, and that they would have the ability to diagnose accurately the causes of illness and pain and provide proper medication to remedy healing. We pray that the medical care provided for in the country will not lose its integrity with the continued policy changes that are at work. May the hearts of those so skilled who show mercy to the hurting and the suffering be so rewarded in much greater portion. May we all be willing to reach out and help our brethren who suffer in this world, that we might live in the power of your grace and mercy.

Rom 12:6-21

⁶ And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, {let each exercise them accordingly if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; ⁷ if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, ¹³ contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and curse not. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

¹⁷ Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. ¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath {of God,} for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

²⁰ "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- We also pray for those believers and the poor who have very poor or are without health insurance, that you would lead them to find what affordable health care insurance is available.

SOCIETY & CULTURE

We pray for the Kingdom of God and the true saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ to advance within every segment and major sphere of Society and Culture:

We pray Father that the eyes and hearts of your children and the people of this land come to discover the solid foundation of truth found only in the Word of God, and that the notions of people seeking after their own arbitrary 'truth' be seen for what it is, a chaotic expression of disorder without foundation and any lasting strength. Trusting and leaning on ones own understanding or trusting only in one's 'heart' is the pathway for despair, loss and without the blessing of God's revealed will. It is also the loss of civilized order and harmony that affects all nations and cultures. Please God hear our prayers.

Prov 3:5-8

⁵ *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding* ⁶ *In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight* ⁷ *Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil* ⁸ *It will be healing to your body, and refreshment to your bones.*

Jer 17:5-10

⁵ *Thus says the LORD, "Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind, And makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD* ⁶ *"For he will be like a bush in the desert and will not see when prosperity comes, but will live in stony wastes in the wilderness, a land of salt without inhabitant.*

⁷ *"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose trust is the LORD.* ⁸ *"For he will be like a tree planted by the water, that extends its roots by a stream and will not fear when the heat comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will not be anxious in a year of drought nor cease to yield fruit.*

⁹ *"The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?" ¹⁰ "I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the results of his deeds.*

Intercessions Made to Reclaim the Media & the Arts for Christ:

- Father, in the history of our western culture most of the greatest art ever created, the greatest music ever written, the greatest stories ever scribed and performed, and the greatest poems ever penned all came from the hands of Christian artists, musicians, and authors who had the love and creativity of the Lord in their hearts and minds. In these last few decades much that was esteemed good, is now esteemed bad, the profane has become the fad, and evil is glorified over that which is pure, lovely and good. But you O Lord are raising a great army of believers who have been instructed in the truth, and who recognize and can create that which is holy, good and beautiful. Raise the excellence of these artisans, musicians and writers up to great prominence and respect so that one day, we pray, you will reclaim the arts and the media and bring true beauty back to our culture and world.

- The media and arts of today play a major role of influence in our culture. We pray that the actors, musicians and athletes our young people seek to emulate will be convicted of their ways and seek to be men and women of honor and integrity, so that they might portray virtue and goodness. We pray that more of Hollywood's celebrities will discover and produce works that will be worthy of our respect and admiration. We ask you Lord to strengthen and embolden any Christians players on teams or coaching staffs that we watch to be good role models for others to follow. Nothing is too difficult for you O God and though that industry often seems unprincipled, we know that you are able to use the media to accomplish your purposes. We ask that that things will come to pass in your good providence that will aspire the arts and the media to truth and that will reflect good moral values.

Proverbs 12:9-22

"⁹ Better to be a nobody and yet have a servant than pretend to be somebody and have no food. ¹⁰ A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal, but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel. ¹¹ He who works his land will have abundant food, but he who chases fantasies lacks judgment. ¹² The wicked desire the plunder of evil men, but the root of the righteous flourishes. ¹³ An evil man is trapped by his sinful talk, but a righteous man escapes trouble. ¹⁴ From the fruit of his lips a man if filled with good things as surely as the work of his hands rewards him. ¹⁵ The way of a fools seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice. ¹⁶ A fool shows his annoyance at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult. ¹⁷ A truthful witness gives honest testimony, but a false witness tells lies. ¹⁸ Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. ¹⁹ Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment. ²⁰ There is deceit in the hearts of those who plot evil, but joy for those who promote peace. ²¹ No harm befalls the righteous, but the wicked have their fill of trouble. ²² The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful."

Ephesians 4:29

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Matthew 12:36-37

"But I tell you that men will have to give account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

Philippians 4:8

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable –if anything is excellent or praiseworthy –think about such things."

- Father, there are many serious sins of our world, but one of the most devastating that has infiltrated your church has been the demise of the cultural fiber advanced by the sexual revolution of the 1960's and the advent of today's internet pornography. Many good Christian men and women, pastors and leaders have fallen victim to its enticements and they and their families have greatly suffered. Please bring the power of your Word to fruition starting in your church. Curtail the madness and stop the pornography that invades our world

through the internet, films and magazine industries. And certainly help us, your people restore our fallen brethren and to shun this evil entirely from our lives.

Titus 2:11-3:8

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope-- the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

¹⁵ These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

3:1 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, ² to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. ³ At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

⁸ This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Overturing Atheistic-Humanistic Education and Influence:

- We pray O Lord for our nation's public school teachers, administrators and students. We ask you to raise up a new generation of dedicated educators who will commit themselves not only to an honest, accurate presentation of all subject matter, but who will also serve as positive role models for their students. In addition, we pray that our local school boards will make decisions to enhance curricula that is honoring to Biblical values and principles, and that those materials used to spread liberal atheistic, humanistic, and homosexual agendas across the country be abrogated. We also pray for safety, morally sound instruction and wholesome environments.

Deuteronomy 11:18-19

"Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Psalms 34:7

"The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them."

Matthew 19:14

“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’”

Psalms 90:16-17

“May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us –yes, establish the work of our hands.”

- We pray that teachers in public schools be allowed to critically evaluate evolutionary premises for the greater purposes of scientific inquiry without incrimination, and that intelligent design/creationism evidences be allowed to offset disparate and disproven evolutionary concepts.

2 Pet 3:3-6

³ Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with {their} mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For {ever} since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

⁵ For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God {the} heavens existed long ago and {the} earth was formed out of water and by water, ⁶ through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water.

Abortion, Infanticide & Murder

- We pray that the secular and Christian cultures be awakened to take action against the treachery, devastation and horror that abortion, infanticide and murder are inherently evil' no matter what laws are in place to support those practices.
- We beseech you Lord that our culture see clearly that a human life begins at conception and is to be honored, dignified and worthy of its life as we are created in the image of God who creates and gives life.

Ps 139:13-18

¹³ For Thou didst form my inward parts; Thou didst weave me in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Thy works, and my soul knows it very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from Thee, when I was made in secret, {and} skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Thine eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained {for me} when as yet there was not one of them. ¹⁷ How precious also are Thy thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with Thee. (NAS)

- Father, in your providence You have limited the legalized practices of abortion in Wichita and are working throughout the nation to reveal those who endanger women's lives for the sake of making money from their dire situations. We pray that locally the Christian Pro-life ministries be united and honor Christ in their

work. We know that there may be those who rise up to defend abortion rights, but in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask that their plans be thwarted and that you would bring the heinous practice of abortion to an end, particularly in this country. May You work in the hearts of the people of our nation that they would see clearly the tragedy of how abortion ruins and grieves the hearts of those who turn to it as their answer, and bring the people of this great nation to a state of repentance and sorrow for what they have made legal. Reverse this trend to destroy life and may people's eyes be enlightened to see what they are doing so that they would honor life rather than death for the convenience of their own preferences. Remove this blight from our midst and work in the hearts of those who provide these services so that their hearts be converted and that they greatly repent of their sin and practice, to the end that the abortion industry will be no more and that nothing be reestablished in its place. If the hearts of those who provide these services are hardened to the things of the Lord, then recompense their sin according to your will.

Ps 69:22-28

²² *May their table before them become a snare; and when they are in peace, {may it become} a trap.* ²³ *May their eyes grow dim so that they cannot see, and make their loins shake continually.* ²⁴ *Pour out Thine indignation on them, and may Thy burning anger overtake them.* ²⁵ *May their camp be desolate; may none dwell in their tents.* ²⁶ *For they have persecuted him whom Thou thyself hast smitten, and they tell of the pain of those whom Thou hast wounded.* ²⁷ *Do Thou add iniquity to their iniquity, and may they not come into Thy righteousness.* ²⁸ *May they be blotted out of the book of life, and may they not be recorded with the righteous.*

Ps 37:7-11

⁷ *Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.* ⁸ *Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; do not fret, {it leads} only to evildoing.* ⁹ *For evildoers will be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.*

¹⁰ *Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more; and you will look carefully for his place, and he will not be {there.}* ¹¹ *But the humble will inherit the land, and will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.*

Unethical Genetic and Biotechnology Research

- Father, we pray that Christian medical experts and practitioners become a united voice in their opposition to embryonic stem cell research, and Christians at large would demand greater ethical evaluation to biotechnology such as cloning, genetic engineering and other new technologies that devalue human life and dignity. That governing bodies take seriously these concerns for the moral protection of human life.

Ps 127:3-5

³ *Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; the fruit of the womb is a reward.* ⁴ *Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth.* ⁵ *How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they shall not be ashamed, when they speak with their enemies in the gate.(NAS)*

- Our Great God and Savior, may justice be maintained and exercised by our courts and governing authorities for the common good of our society.
- In your good providence, raise up strong and dedicated local Christian groups and communities throughout our city, around the state and country who are not ashamed of the gospel and the Lord Jesus Christ and who will stand out as a light on a hill and be the basis for reversing and transforming worldly cultural trends.

Isa 2:2-3

² Now it will come about that In the last days, the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it.

³ And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways, and that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (NAS)

In Conclusion:

- We thank you with great joy for your attention to our prayers and for your great faithfulness to us your people. Blessed be God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

Ps 34:1-22

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear it and rejoice.

³ O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. ⁵ They looked to Him and were radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. ⁶ This poor man cried and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. ⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them. ⁸ O taste and see that the LORD is good; how blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

⁹ O fear the LORD, you His saints; for to those who fear Him, there is no want. ¹⁰ The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; but they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing.

¹¹ Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² Who is the man who desires life, and loves {length of} days that he may see good?

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are {open} to their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

¹⁷ {The righteous} cry and the LORD hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

²⁰ He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.

²¹ Evil shall slay the wicked; and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²² The LORD redeems the soul of His servants; and none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

Appendix

Heartland Leadership

PASTORS, ELDERS & DEACONS

Senior Pastor:

George Granberry

Associate Pastors:

Richard Brueck &
Gary Goodrich

Elders:

David Alexander
George Bruce
Jeff Dugger
Jeff Flora
Gary Gensch
Bryan Hanning
Ron Johnson

John McConeghey
Jeff Morris
Matt Phillips
Stan Sheldon
Morton Vigilius
LaVerne Waalkes

Deacons:

Owen Bergen
Phil Challans
Dan De Jong
Ryan Frost
Brian Gensch
Stephen Granberry
Chris Jackson

Matt Kratz
Brandon Layton
Barry Malcom
Tom Paine
Terry Peterson
Jeff Stout
Jeff Waalkes

PLEASE PRAY FOR GOD TO KEEP OUR ELDERS AND DEACONS:

- PURE FROM SEXUAL SIN & FORTIFIED AGAINST WORLDLY TEMPTATIONS (Matt. 26:41)
- DEVOTED TO A SOLID, JOYFUL, CHRIST EXALTING MARRIAGE (Eph. 5:25, 28)
- FREE FROM GREED (I Tim. 3:3)
- HUMBLY OBEDIENT IN SERVICE AND NOT PRIDEFULLY CONDESCENDING. (Phil. 2:5-8)
- TRUE TO THE HOLY SCRIPTURES AND DOCTRINALLY FAITHFUL (Titus 1:9, I Tim 4:16)
- COURAGEOUSLY BOLD TO PROCLAIM CHRIST'S LIFE, DEATH & RESURRECTION (Eph 6:19)
- FULL OF PRAYER, ALERT, VISIONARY AND ENERGETICALLY CREATIVE (Col. 4:2-4)