

PRAY EVERY DAY November 29, 2020 Resource

Advent Morning Prayer with Zechariah's Holy Spirit filled prayer from Luke 1:68-79, NRSV

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.
He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we,
being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.
And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.
By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Read the Gospel of Luke during Advent with one chapter each day.

November 29, 1st Day of Advent: Luke 1

2nd Day of Advent: Luke 2

3rd Day of Advent: Luke 3

4th Day of Advent: Luke 4

5th Day of Advent: Luke 5

6th Day of Advent: Luke 6

7th Day of Advent: Luke 7

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2020 Challenge

More resources at www.vaumc.org/2020BibleChallenge

November 11 – December 1: “Fruit of the Spirit: Bearing Fruit”

December 2 – 11: “For When the Cares of the World Are Many”

November 30: John 15:8-11

December 4: Psalm 65:9-13

December 1: Psalm 92:12-15

December 5: Psalm 72:12-14

December 2: Psalm 65:1-4

December 6: Psalm 73:23-26

December 3: Psalm 65:5-8

Small Group or Personal Study

Read Luke 1:68-79 every morning as a prayer this week.

Use the questions below for small group or personal study:

- Advent is a season that Christians take to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Two of the ways we can prepare this Advent are prayer and reading through the Gospel of Luke. What other ways have you used to prepare for Jesus in your life?
- Make time for morning prayer during Advent. Whether that morning prayer time be long or just one minute in length, pray Luke 1:68-79 every morning. When do you usually pray? Have you prayed Luke 1:68-79 daily before or is this a new way to practice prayer? What do you like about this prayer and what challenges you? How does praying this prayer in the morning give you grace for your day?
- Read a chapter from Luke every day in Advent and by Christmas Day you will have read all 24 chapters. Daily prayer and scripture reading are one way to make room for God in our lives. What stood out to you from reading a chapter from Luke today?

Spend time in silence
Prayer for others and yourself
The Lord's Prayer

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Call to Pray at Noon Every Day

Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

We thank you for your blessings, past, present and future. You are our rock and the source of our hope in all things and at all times. As Jehovah Jireh, our provider God, we ask you this day to stretch out your mighty hand and eradicate from the face of the earth forever this virus called COVID-19 (coronavirus) that is spreading rapidly from continent to continent.

We also pray that you, Jehovah Rapha, our healing God, would place your hand upon all of those who have been stricken by this virus and restore them to full health. Be with those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. Protect all who are caring for those with this virus and keep them from contracting it themselves. Calm our fears and provide us with your peace that surpasses all understanding. Strengthen us with the joy of the Lord and help us to hold firmly to the hope that only you can provide.

Unify us that we, the Virginia Annual Conference, may be able to experience anew the promise of your presence in and through the unity of our faith, hope and trust in you in the days ahead and forever. We offer this prayer in the mighty name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

A Daily Prayer for Racial Justice and Reconciliation

(The following prayer is offered by the Bishop's Work Group on Racial Justice and Reconciliation.)

O loving God,

We give you thanks for creating the world which is full of diversity
and for making one human family of all the peoples of the earth.

You reign over all the nations and are seated on your holy throne.

You rule over all the peoples without partiality in respect to nations or races

because righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Forgive us for the times when we put walls around us with false pride and racial prejudice.

Forgive us for the times when we were silent in the face of racism, private or institutional.

Open our eyes to see Christ who is in people of every nation and every culture.

Break down the walls that separate us. Set us free from fear, hatred and racism.

Bind us together with the unity of God's love. Restore oneness to the family of God.

We pray in the name of Jesus who came, lived and died for all humanity. Amen.

Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share it this week in small group for support and prayer.

Doxology from Romans 16:25-7, NRSV

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith – to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever! Amen.