

PRAY EVERY DAY August 13, 2023 Resource

What is one takeaway from the worship service that God is giving you this week?

Praying the Psalms: Psalm 67

A Collect from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Bible in a Year with KUMC

This plan is available at KUMC and on the church website. This plan can be started at any time.

Small Group or personal study

- Read Genesis 35:1-15
- God has had a plan and blessing for Jacob since before his birth. In Genesis 35, it is God who calls Jacob to build an altar and worship the LORD at Bethel (the house of God). God has always been ready for Jacob. The question is, will Jacob be ready for God? Similarly, God has always had a plan and blessing for you in Jesus Christ. Are you ready for all God has for you?
- When Jacob took his family up to worship they prepared first. They rid themselves from “foreign gods”, bathed, and put on new clothes. It was noted earlier in Jacob’s story that Rachel had stolen her father’s household gods, so there were other items of worship among them. All those were buried under an oak tree so they could go up to the living God. Christians forsake other gods and put away sinful ways at the cross of Jesus so that we might be raised to new life. Are there any things, gods, or practices you need to bury so you can fully embrace Jesus Christ?
- God appeared to Jacob and his family at Bethel. God repeats the new name “Israel” for Jacob and the blessings that were shared with Abraham and Isaac are shared with Jacob and his family. Jacob is not alone claiming the LORD as his God, but his family and servants are claiming God. Together they hear the blessings and promise God will have for them as the people of God and Israel. As Christians we do not only get God in our life, but all the people who have put faith in the LORD. Christians also join in the promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to be a blessing to the families of the earth. We get a whole lot of people to share God with and to bless in God’s name. Are we ready for God who joins us together with people in Jesus Christ and sends us forth in the Spirit’s power to bless all we meet?

Spend time in silence

Prayer for others and yourself

The Lord’s Prayer

Wrestling with God for 40 Days in Prayer (July 16-August 24)

Consider these questions (from Bishop Will Willimon) in prayer each day and journal in your notebook.

- Where is the hope for our congregation?
- Lord, what are your plans for us now?
- How can our congregation discover what Christ is up to in our neighborhood and how can we hitch on to what Christ is doing?
- What part of your mission, Jesus, have you assigned to our congregation?

- How can we stop doing some of the things we have been doing so we can start doing some of the things God wants us to do?
- What are some appropriate goals and mission strategies for us in this moment?
- What sort of pastoral leadership is required now to keep up with Christ as he strides into his future?

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?

Praying the Psalms: Psalm 46