

PRAY EVERY DAY August 20, 2023 Resource

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

Praying the Psalms: Psalm 133

A Collect from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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 46:1-7, 26-27; 47:7-10; 48:8-21
- What do you know about how God has blessed Jacob so far in Genesis? How does God bless Jacob in Genesis 46:1-7?
- Who does Jacob bless in Genesis chapters 46 – 49? What do you know or what could you learn from Genesis about how Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, was a blessing to those who suffered from a widespread and lengthy famine?
- God blessed Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and declared that because of God they would be a blessing to all the families of the earth. They were blessed to know God but they were also blessed to be a blessing. The blessing of God is different from what we may think. God's blessings don't run out and there is more than enough for everyone. Christians have also been blessed to know the salvation, presence, and promises of God and to be a blessing to all nations (Matthew 28). Christians don't bless people based merely on availability of possessions, time, abilities, or financing. We bless people with God's grace which is plentiful, available, and freely given. When we have Jesus, we have something good to share. In what ways are God's blessings a challenge for you to believe, understand, or share?
- Pray each day this week: "Holy Spirit, direct me this day and let me be a blessing to someone. Help me to recognize the opportunity you give and allow me to share graciously." When the Holy Spirit gives you the opportunity to bless someone, share God's blessing.

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 118