



FIRST
PRES



24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

Prayer Guide 2021

*Make this your common practice:
Confess your sins to each other and
pray for each other so that you can
live together whole and healed. The
prayer of a person living right with
God is something powerful to be
reckoned with. Elijah, for instance,
human just like us, prayed hard that
it wouldn't rain, and it didn't—not
a drop for three and a half years.
Then he prayed that it would rain,
and it did. The showers came and
everything started growing again.*

James 5:16-18, The Message

THANK YOU for participating in our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil beginning the evening of Maundy Thursday. Praying together during this time helps us lean into Christ's suffering on the cross in preparation for celebrating His resurrection. It unites each of us in a larger prayer movement. And it also provides a needed opportunity to bring to the Lord our cares and concerns during the current pandemic.

Attached is a list of prayer requests for our First Pres ministries, and for our community and country. Please add to it your own needs, as well as the needs of others around you. To make this time as meaningful as possible, you may want to begin with a personal time of prayer by using the helpful acronym ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving and seeking, or making requests). You're encouraged to continue utilizing this prayer guide in the days ahead.

For Our Church Children: We hope children will also participate in our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil. You may want to light a candle with your child to make this a special prayer time. The five-finger prayer tool from the book *Twinkle, Twinkle, Hear My Prayers* may be helpful for smaller children. Find the 2-minute video here: youtu.be/lihBCI_A4x4 .

WORSHIP MINISTRY

- For those entering our spaces throughout this Easter weekend, that they'll encounter the presence of the Lord in a mighty way through worship.
- That many would come through our doors that have yet to receive Jesus as their Lord and would be clearly given the greatest message of hope for their lives.

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

- That everyone who calls First Pres home will actively walk life with other brothers and sisters in Christ, continually growing in the knowledge of God and the fruit of the Spirit.
- That the Spirit would pour out a revival of healthy friendships grounded in Christ across the church family where we joyfully love one another deeply in our pursuit of living as the children of God.

FAMILY MINISTRY

- That as families head back to new rhythms, they would find ways to include faith more than ever before.
- That the Family Ministry team would thrive and flourish in a new season of transition.

FIRST PRES FELLOWS

- That the Lord would provide long-term work for several of this year's Fellows so they can stay in Colorado Springs and with First Pres. Pray that they would become core leaders for our new Young Adults Ministry.
- That several First Pres members would step up to be host families for next year's Fellows. We probably need 10 host families.

CARING MINISTRY

- That God would use the efforts of all our wonderful Caring Ministry volunteers as His loving touch upon our members, so that no one will hurt alone.
- That those who've lost a loved one during this difficult season would be drawn to and ministered by this spring's Grief Workshop.

MISSIONS MINISTRY

- For all our global and local mission partners impacted by COVID, that God would provide for their ministry needs despite restrictions in gathering, cost of goods and services increasing (particularly overseas), and health challenges within organizations.
- For our local mission partner Crossfire Ministries, that those who come for food find comfort and that the move into the new building goes well.

EVANGELISM AND YOUNG ADULTS

- That our people will invite non-believers into conversations at our Alpha course after Easter, and they will take a step across a threshold toward faith in Christ.
- For a group of about 30 people in their early 20s that has begun to gather around First Pres, that this spark would grow into a significant flame and God would empower these young people to lay a foundation for the next generation of our church.

NATIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for all in our country and world who are sickened by COVID-19. Pray that those who've lost loved ones would experience comfort, and that those with this virus would experience healing.
- Pray for healthcare workers who continue to pour out so much to save lives and support their communities, that they'll have strength for what's required of them and opportunities for restoration and renewal.
- Pray that vaccination efforts in our country and around the world would continue to progress swiftly.
- Pray for those who are currently unemployed during this pandemic, and for business owners who are struggling to keep their businesses viable, that their needs would be met, and they would find peace and strength in God.
- Pray for those who guard our safety (police, fire, military), that they would be protected and honored.
- Pray for teachers, parents and children, that they would experience the Lord's strength, encouragement and resilience during all the current learning challenges.
- Pray for God's wisdom to guide our local, state and national leaders in their decisions on our behalf, and for His Spirit to create a willingness to lead in unity. Pray that our government would be just and honorable, fear God, and act out of love for one another.
- Pray that all who are experiencing loss during this pandemic (weddings, vacations, family gatherings, etc.) would experience God's comfort and find meaning in Him.
- Pray that this time of physical separation would lead to more intentional times of relational connection and a deepening intentionality to living each day.

- Pray for reconciliation, love and compassion with racial divisions, as well as for greater willingness and ability to better understand and reach out to those different from us.
- Pray for the deep divisions in our nation right now, that we would all show proper respect and honor to one another regardless of political or ideological differences of opinion.
- Pray for the peace and prosperity of our city, and that we as individuals and as a church would be light and life for every person who lives here.
- Pray for victims of natural disasters (fire, flooding, hurricane, etc.), that they'll experience God's care and restoration during their time of distress.
- Pray for peace across our world, that as countries battle COVID-19 together, greater respect and collaborative relationships would emerge.
- Pray that people would humble themselves, seek God's face and turn from sinful ways that separate them from God and from others.

PRAYER is our *first* resort in times of need. You are invited to email your prayer requests to prayer@firstprescos.org, or to share your need on our online Prayer Wall at my.firstprescos.org/prayer.



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