# HOLY WEEK OF PRAYER

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#### **WELCOME!**

We're so glad you've joined us this week. The Holy Week of Prayer exists to help us interact with God. Each year we distinguish a week to be nourished by, realign with, listen to and speak with our Creator. Setting aside space and time, we learn to pray as Jesus taught and we experience what God intends.

#### **HOW TO PRAY**

We welcome you to pray however you like: silently, out loud, in written form, sitting still, walking around, etc. We have provided paper, pens and Bibles for your convenience.

However you pray, we simply ask that you be considerate of those around you in loving service and respect.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Prayer is interaction with the living God, and such interaction might seem daunting. Thankfully, Jesus taught us how to pray.

You will note a broad structure that runs throughout the week; The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6, Luke 11). Jesus' prayer should give direction and shape to how we pray and what we pray.

### **SCHEDULE**



### Palm Sunday\*

6:30p | Worship Evening (Auditorium)



#### Holy Week\*

6:30a-7:30a | Morning Prayer & Prayer Rooms Open



9:00a-4:00p | Prayer Rooms Open

6:30p-9:30p | Evening Prayer & Prayer Rooms Open

\*Location: Fort Langley Campus



#### **Good Friday**

10:00a -12:00p | Fort Langley's Stations of Holy Week (Fort Langley Community Hall)



#### **Easter Sunday**

APR 16 Fort Langley Gatherings 8:00a, 9:15a, 10:30a, 11:45a

Willoughby Gathering 9:30a



### READINGS & RESPONSE | RECEIVING PRAYER

During Evening Prayer in the auditorium (Monday – Thursday) we'll hear occasional readings from scripture with a song of response following each. Our Prayer Team would also be happy to pray for you in the auditorium.

Please feel free to ask for prayer at any time.

#### **MATTHEW 6:9-13**

"Our Father in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, forgive us our sins, as we also have forgiven others.
And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

### **PRAYER ROOMS**

Each room is dedicated to a part of The Lord's Prayer and we invite you to move through them accordingly. We have described each room and how it connects to The Lord's Prayer in this guide and you will find more information in the rooms themselves.

We hope you find the structure helpful rather than ridged, so simply use as needed.

#### AUDITORIUM

"Our Father in heaven, holy is your name."
"For yours is the kingdom and the power and glory forever. Amen"

Music, scripture readings and response, and open prayer.

#### **MEETING ROOM**

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven."

Prayer for our church, communities surrounding us and the world.

### **UPPER ROOM**

"Give us this day our daily bread."

Spirit fullness, listening prayer and personal needs.

### YOUTH CENTRE

"Forgive us our sins as we also have forgiven others, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."

Prayer for healing, forgiveness, wholeness. Communion will be available to partake in.



# AUDITORIUM

"Our Father in heaven, holy is your name."

"For yours is the kingdom and the power and glory forever. Amen"

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# **WELCOME!**

How do you start a conversation? By using someone's name. To be known is to be named. This is where we begin: with who? - not what? why? how? when?

Sometimes we lose sight of this and make prayer something other than a relationship and conversation - a welcoming, intimate, safe relationship with Father. Our Father is kind, patient, and the Creator of all things.

When we realize that he is this kind of Dad (and not some distant, angry tyrant) there is a paradigm shift. We can't move on to the rest of the prayer unless we remember God's character in the opening address. And we know God's character because Jesus demonstrates it.

For someone to be holy, it means they are treasured – above all things, perfect, and highly valuable. God's name represents his character. God's character is pure and he himself is a treasure.

- Meet with God as a person, not an idea or something to bend to your will.
- With Jesus in mind, be open and invite God's Spirit to show you who he is.
- Thank, appreciate, praise God for who he is and all he reigns over.

# MEETING ROOM

# "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven."

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# **WELCOME!**

This is the right order of things - God's kingdom, not ours. Not 'forgive me,' or 'I need this or that', though this will come in time. Not, 'what's God's will for my life?' but, 'what's God's will and how does my life fit into that?'

So many of us are hurried and tired, sure that everything depends on the kingdoms we've built and must operate and achieve in. Jesus' prayer changes all that.

We begin with the premise that God is up to something. He is very much at work in the world. He is on the throne. His rule looks different than we might expect, as he disrupts and subverts things through love, service and

humility. We learn that we are a part of something much bigger than our singular lives.

This prayer enlists us in the kingdom mission. Jesus says this is how you should pray, but also how you should live. To pray "your kingdom come, your will be done" is to align yourself with God's mission in the world and that the kingdom of God would come into fullness over evil, sin, suffering, pain, tears, brokenness and bondage.

By praying in this way we become kingdom people, praying for and bringing about renewal for a world "God so loved..." (John 3:16)

- Pray for all the places and people who need the light and love of God so desperately.
- Pray for Fort Langley, Willoughby, the Lower Mainland and Canada.
- Pray for our Global Workers and the places they serve.
- Pray for local churches, leaders and governments.

# UPPER ROOM

# "Give us this day our daily bread."

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# **WELCOME!**

As children of God (our Father), and co-conspirators with the King (kingdom come), we will be taken care of. This is a daily provision, a trust relationship. God is concerned about our needs and this prayer shows us the best place to express them.

"God knows our desires in order that we may turn them into prayer; in order that they may be sorted out, straightened out, untangled and reaffirmed... In bringing them into the prayer within the setting of the earlier petitions for God's honour, his kingdom and his will, it asks

for our desires to be satisfied in God's way and God's time. And, since God himself is most truly the object of our hunger, this clause asks that we may be fed with God himself.

Once we put the prayer for daily bread within the whole kingdom-prayer where it belongs, to turn then to the specific things we honestly need right now is not trivial. It is precisely what children do when they love and trust the one they call Father."

(Wright, The Lord and His Prayer)

- Ask to be filled with God, the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
- Ask what God has to say to you, what "bread" he has for you today.
- Ask for what you need, bringing personal concerns God.

# **YOUTH CENTRE**

# "Forgive us our sins as we also have forgiven others, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."

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# **WELCOME!**

Once we ask God for what we need (and grace is chief among those needs) we are immediately faced with what others need from us – which is also grace. How can we deny forgiveness or bread to others, in view of what Jesus does for us? Yet this is what we do all the time, and Jesus warns against it in the parable of the unmerciful debtor (Matthew 18.21-35). Forgiveness is in our hands, as part of the kingdom mission.

Jesus asked that he be delivered in Gethsemane (Luke 22:42), but the answer he got was "no". We can ask to be

delivered because Jesus was not. So we ask that God lead us away from tribulation or trial or hardship and that we be rescued from the works of evil in the world. Of course, there is evil outside and, at times, evil in us. We need rescue from both for we are a part of the world, not outside of it.

The cross and resurrection is where it started, and stands as a reminder, amidst all the darkness the world can muster, that God has made a way and will finish what he has started.

- Find the grace and love of Jesus, and extend that same grace to others.
- Pray for God to rescue us from the evil in the world, both from outside and within.
- Receive communion to remember who God is (through Jesus) and what he's done.