

December 2018

DAILY PRAYER CALENDAR

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The December prayers have been written by Missions Ministries.

The Upper Room, a daily devotional guide for United Methodists, provides a devotional reading for each of the days of December that goes with each of the Scripture readings and prayers on this month's prayer calendar. The devotional for each day will enrich your quiet time with the Lord in the month of December.



CHURCH OF THE
SERVANT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>30 <i>Psalm 16:1-11</i> Lord God, you created a beautiful world for us to enjoy. Give us the wisdom to seek this beauty by going to those places that are quiet and serene, so we can contemplate the magnificence of your creation. Dear God, we are awestruck by your artistry through the beauty of our earth. Thank you for this gift.</p>	<p>31 <i>Acts 2:41-47</i> Dear Lord, help us to understand the spiritual power of sharing through the ministry of small groups. Such groups share their experience that my help us solve the problems of life in the way that your teachings have instructed us. Help us understand that the Holy Spirit helps these groups understand and accept the power of Christian life.</p>	<p><i>PRAYER WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE...</i></p> <p><i>PRAY ANYTIME, ANYWHERE!</i></p>				<p>1 <i>Philippians 1:3-11</i> Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of people who remember me in their prayers. Thank you for the way that others lift me up and remind me of your grace. Continue to remind me to be that person to others in their time of need. Allow my focus on others to take the focus off of myself.</p>
<p>2 <i>Isaiah 9:1-7</i> God, we recognize the difference between darkness and light in our lives especially this time of year and in the darkness of winter. This season of Advent reminds us of hope. For years and years you have always brought to humanity. Where help is needed today let your light shine.</p>	<p>3 <i>Exodus 15:1-6</i> Holy God, just as Moses and the Israelites sang praises because you brought salvation and strength in the wilderness, let me sing a praise of celebration in anticipation of celebrating the birth of Jesus this season. If I find myself in a wilderness, reveal to me their reality of celebration that it is my reality.</p>	<p>4 <i>Psalm 19:1-6</i> Lord, help me to live upright for you. See my heart yearning to be an offering of love and abundance in the lives of others. Search me and know me. Teach me and grow me. Attune my spirit to yours to know that all things come from you so that everything that flows out of me is from you.</p>	<p>5 <i>1 Chronicles 29:14-18</i> Lord Jesus, when I feel overwhelmed by the world remind me of these words that tell me I can have your peace in the midst of persecution because you have conquered the world. I take up your courage, your faith and your trust of the Father and I choose to live in the grace that you have sacrificed for me, so that my joy will be complete.</p>	<p>6 <i>John 16:15-33</i> Lord, when I can't see the fruits of your blessings and life feels barren, I trust you. I am committed to joy as a guide for this season. Draw me closer. Open my heart to you and others to experience the joy you want me to know.</p>	<p>7 <i>Habakkuk 3:17-19</i> God, when everything looks like it is falling apart around me or inside of me, I will choose to praise you in the midst of it. My response to both good things and challenging things will always be the same: to five you praise and to give you glory. You are worthy of all praise, regardless of any temporary situation in my life.</p>	<p>8 <i>Romans 12:9-3</i> Lord, as we approach this holiday season let us remember to serve you by being hospitable and loving to other people who are in need. Always considering those who need to be fed with nourishment, but also those that need encouragement to practice love and patience. Most of all, help guide me to "Practice hospitality" each and every day.</p>
<p>9 <i>Luke 2:8-20</i> Lord, open the eyes of my heart to see the things you are showing me. Open my ears to hear you speak. Teach me to listen to you and recognize your voice. You are always moving and always creating. Thank you for thinking of and creating me to live and see your glory.</p>	<p>10 <i>Matthew 4:18-22</i> Lord, I know you have called me to follow you and I have chosen to go. Every day I will choose to follow you. I will grow closer to you by reading your word, by praying and listening to your voice and by loving others as you have loved me. No matter where you lead, I will follow you because you are the one true God and I adore you.</p>	<p>11 <i>Psalm 13:1-6</i> God, I put myself completely in your hands. Apart from you I can do nothing good. All good things originate in you alone. You are Master, Creator, Father, and Savior. I know you will give me exactly what I need, exactly when I need it. I do not need to understand it, but I trust you. Help me trust you more each day.</p>	<p>12 <i>Exodus 39:32-43</i> Lord there are tasks and responsibilities that you've set before me that sometimes seem overwhelming. Help me to press forward in them. Help me to pay attention to the details and release the things that have no consequences. You are not looking for perfection, but for a willing and authentic heart. All things help me to be my best.</p>	<p>13 <i>Matthew 4:18-22</i> Jesus with a trusting spirit the disciples said yes and followed you. I want to trust you with that kind of faith, expectations, and excitement that they had all those years ago. Renew my spirit today with excitement for my discipleship.</p>	<p>14 <i>Luke 6:43-45</i> Lord, I realize that producing fruit is a part of the Christian journey. Give me the wisdom to examine how my life shows fruit that demonstrates what I believe and value. Allow me space to pray about how my life lives into the greater story of salvation which is the message of faith.</p>	<p>15 <i>Jeremiah 29:10-14</i> Lord, I am grateful that you have thoughts of me. That you have a plan of goodness and wholeness not just for me, but for all people. Put someone in my path today who might be lost, that I can remind them that you have a plan for their life. Give me the right words and actions in that moment.</p>
<p>16 <i>Isaiah 40:1-5</i> Holy God, you are the great comforter to all who are broken. Where there is sorrow this season I pray that you will bring peace, comfort and hope. May I be sensitive to others who might be experiencing the holiday season not as joy, but as pain.</p>	<p>17 <i>Matthew 6:25-34</i> Jesus, it's easy to read these words about worry in Scripture, but it's much harder to live into them. The only antidote to worry is faith and trust. I trust you today. When I feel myself worry I will stop. I will breathe deeply. I will pray. I will believe once again that you are the path to peace.</p>	<p>18 <i>1 Samuel 17:32-50</i> God, thank you that you rescue me from my enemy. Help me to remember that my enemy is never my brother or sister, but is the Devil alone. Bring your peace into my life so I can love bravely and forgive quickly. Protect me from darkness. I choose you. I choose light. Show me ways to bless my brothers and sisters this week.</p>	<p>19 <i>Luke 12:5-16</i> Father, thank you that my inheritance is eternal and not worldly. Sharpen my vision on your kingdom so that my focus is not on earthly possessions, they do not bring joy. Only you give true joy to my heart. Lord, as I praise you, I ask that you increase in me. In all areas of my life I give you control. Thank you for another day of life.</p>	<p>20 <i>James 1:1-5</i> God, it is hard sometimes when it feels like the world is against me. Help me be thankful even when I feel like nothing is going my way. I know that you use all circumstances, good and bad, to develop my character and I know there is a greater purpose that you are conditioning me for. Thank you that no matter what, you are good.</p>	<p>21 <i>1 Peter 4:12-18</i> Heavenly Father, thank you that you are always present in my day to day life. It does not matter what other people think about me. It only matters what you think about me. You know my heart and my motives and my thoughts. I pray that you refine every area of my being to reflect you and your glory more. Help me be more like you.</p>	<p>22 <i>Psalm 125:1-4</i> Dear Lord, we thank you for the peace you give us by your presence in our lives. Help us to also be present for others, listening and watching carefully for unexpressed needs. Give us the gift of understanding so that we may help others know that your loving spirit is always in our lives, a fact that should provide comfort in times of need.</p>
<p>23 <i>Deuteronomy 4:27-31</i> Father, we know that we will all face difficult times at various times in our future. We ask that you help us understand that you are always present with us available to help us through our troubles. We thank you, God, for sharing your strength with us to help guide us through our problems.</p>	<p>24 <i>Luke 4:26-35</i> Dear God, in this Christmas season, we give thanks for the birth of your Son Jesus Christ who was not only a gift to his mother Mary, but to all of us. Your sacrifice of your son provides the grace we need to understand that you are with us. Thank you for this wonderful gift and help us use it in your service.</p>	<p>25 <i>Luke 2:1-7</i> Lord, how miraculous it was for you to provide the most magnificent gift ever given in the humble circumstances that Mary and Joseph face in the manger in Bethlehem. Your perfect gift of love provided salvation for us all. Jesus demonstrates that sometimes the humblest packaging contains the most helpful and beautiful gifts.</p>	<p>26 <i>Matthew 7:1-5</i> Lord, give us the wisdom to see the best in ourselves and others. Help us understand that each of us is a gift to the world and each other. Help us to know that the way we see ourselves and others either humiliates or empowers the potential you have given us all. Help us to empower ourselves and others with our attitudes.</p>	<p>27 <i>Psalm 20:1-9</i> Father, it is overwhelming to us that you enfold us in your wings when we need protection. We thank you for the gift of support when we are vulnerable. Help us to recognize that you are always there for us. Mostly, dear God, we thank you for the gift of your son and the grace that his sacrifice gave to all of us.</p>	<p>28 <i>Ephesians 3:14-21</i> Dear Lord, you provide for all our needs. However, we understand that we must have the faith to know that those provisions are there for us. Help us understand that your spirit that lives within us gives us strength beyond the human strength given to us by life. We are deeply grateful for the power that faith and belief in you gives to us.</p>	<p>29 <i>Colossians 3:12-17</i> Dear God, we understand that as life goes on, conflict in relationships inevitably occurs. Help us to not be judgmental and angry. Instead, help us replace our anger with love and compassion. Help us to understand the viewpoints of others with whom we may quarrel. That understanding will help create the peace of Christ within us.</p>