

# **Hope Hill Church Prayers for Lent**

## **Week 1: God's Love**

## *Sunday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 5:7-12 (NLT)

Because of your unfailing love, I can enter your house;

I will worship at your Temple with deepest awe.

Lead me in the right path, O LORD,

or my enemies will conquer me.

Make your way plain for me to follow.

My enemies cannot speak a truthful word.

Their deepest desire is to destroy others.

Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave.

Their tongues are filled with flattery.

O God, declare them guilty.

Let them be caught in their own traps.

Drive them away because of their many sins,

for they have rebelled against you.

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;

let them sing joyful praises forever.

Spread your protection over them,

that all who love your name may be filled with joy.

For you bless the godly, O LORD;

you surround them with your shield of love.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT)

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Give praise God for his love.
- Pray that you can grow to know God's patient and kind love.
- Take a few minutes to think about some of the circumstances in your life right now and pray that God's love would help you endure through these circumstances.

### **Missional Response**

Show love to one person as you go about your day. Do something for someone with no strings attached.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for both Hope Hill and our local communities to be open to the Holy Spirit's prompting to receive God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

## *Monday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

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### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 6:1-4, 8-9 (NLT)

O LORD, don't rebuke me in your anger  
or discipline me in your rage.

Have compassion on me, LORD, for I am weak.

Heal me, LORD, for my bones are in agony.

I am sick at heart.

How long, O LORD, until you restore me?

Return, O LORD, and rescue me.

Save me because of your unfailing love.

Go away, all you who do evil,  
for the LORD has heard my weeping.

The LORD has heard my plea;  
the LORD will answer my prayer.

Exodus 34:6-8 (NLT)

The Lord passed in front of Moses, calling out,

"Yahweh! The Lord!

The God of compassion and mercy!

I am slow to anger

and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations.

I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin.

But I do not excuse the guilty.

I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren;

the entire family is affected—

even children in the third and fourth generations."

Moses immediately threw himself to the ground and worshiped.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Spend some time in silence worshiping God in response to his steadfast love.
- Pray that God's love will protect you from the evil of this world.
- Think of some people in your life that need to be delivered from their current trials. Pray that God's love would deliver them from their struggles in their time of need.

### **Missional Response**

Choose one person you prayed for in your time of reflection that needs help, encouragement or deliverance from their current trials. Give them a call or write them an encouraging email letting them know you're thinking of them.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for Hope Hill and our surrounding communities to receive spiritual victory from the schemes and attacks of the evil one.

## *Tuesday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 17:1-8 (NLT)

O LORD, hear my plea for justice.

Listen to my cry for help.

Pay attention to my prayer,  
for it comes from honest lips.

Declare me innocent,

for you see those who do right.

You have tested my thoughts and examined my heart in the night.

You have scrutinized me and found nothing wrong.

I am determined not to sin in what I say.

I have followed your commands,

which keep me from following cruel and evil people.

My steps have stayed on your path;

I have not wavered from following you.

I am praying to you because I know you will answer, O God.

Bend down and listen as I pray.

Show me your unfailing love in wonderful ways.

By your mighty power you rescue  
those who seek refuge from their enemies.

Guard me as you would guard your own eyes.

Hide me in the shadow of your wings.

John 3:17-21 (NLT)

"God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

"There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants."

### **Time of Reflection**

- Thank God that he sent his Son to save the world.
- Examine your life and pick out two or three things in your life that need repentance or deliverance. Pray that God's love would work in you and transform these parts of your life.
- Take a few moments to think about people who need the light of Christ. Pray that God's love would be shown to them today.

### **Missional Response**

Bake bread or cookies for your neighbor today. Let them know that you were thinking of them.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for Hope Hill to be a place of refuge, a place of healing and a place of transformation in the communities of Woodbridge, Manassas and beyond.

## *Wednesday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 18:1-3 (NLT)

I love you, LORD;

you are my strength.

The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior;

my God is my rock, in whom I find protection.

He is my shield, the power that saves me,

and my place of safety.

I called on the LORD, who is worthy of praise,

and he saved me from my enemies.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 (NLT)

Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Examine some of your actions from the past few days. How has God's love been displayed in your life? Pray that God's love would be evidenced in your life.
- Pray that you find your strength in God's love.
- Pray that God's love would give you courage and strength to help others find the salvation that comes through faith in Christ.

### **Missional Moment**

As you go throughout your day, keep your ears open for someone who is having a tough time with something. Pray for them. Want to get courageous? Ask if you could pray for them.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for the staff at Ashland Elementary as they serve their students and colleagues throughout the school year.

## *Thursday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 25:4-10 (NLT)

Show me the right path, O LORD;  
point out the road for me to follow.

Lead me by your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God who saves me.

All day long I put my hope in you.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and unfailing love,  
which you have shown from long ages past.

Do not remember the rebellious sins of my youth.  
Remember me in the light of your unfailing love,  
for you are merciful, O LORD.

The LORD is good and does what is right;  
he shows the proper path to those who go astray.

He leads the humble in doing right,  
teaching them his way.

The LORD leads with unfailing love and faithfulness  
all who keep his covenant and obey his demands.

Romans 5:3-8 (NLT)

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Take a moment to reflect on the current direction of your life. Pray that God would make his ways known to you and teach you to follow his path.
- Examine your life for some actions that have fallen short of God's glory. Pray for forgiveness through God's steadfast love.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would fill your heart with God's love, so that you can endure the trials of this world and develop character and perseverance.

### **Missional Response**

Offer to pick up a cup of coffee or tea for a fellow co-worker or fellow student.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for both the local leaders all over Prince William and the leadership team at Hope Hill. Ask God to give wisdom and discernment as these men and women are called to lead in their places of service.

## *Friday*

### **Call to Prayer**

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 33:1-5 (NLT)

Let the godly sing for joy to the LORD;

it is fitting for the pure to praise him.

Praise the LORD with melodies on the lyre;

make music for him on the ten-stringed harp.

Sing a new song of praise to him;

play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy.

For the word of the LORD holds true,

and we can trust everything he does.

He loves whatever is just and good;

the unfailing love of the LORD fills the earth.

Ephesians 2:4-7 (NLT)

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Give thanks to God for loving us so much that he raised Christ from the dead.
- Pray that God's love would fill the earth, and that his light would shine in dark places.
- Recall some of the news you have heard over the past few days, especially event where there has been injustice or evil. Pray that the righteousness and justice of God would be present in moments of hardship, and that God's love would prevail.

### **Missional Response**

Go out to your favorite restaurant and get to know your waiter or waitress. Find out his/her name, where they're from and if they enjoy what they do.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray that the power of the Holy Spirit would be present and active as we continue to minister to our neighbors.

## *Saturday*

### **Call to Prayer**

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Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

### **Psalm & Scripture**

Psalm 36:5-12 (NLT)

Your unfailing love, O LORD, is as vast as the heavens;  
your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,  
your justice like the ocean depths.

You care for people and animals alike, O LORD.

How precious is your unfailing love, O God!

All humanity finds shelter  
in the shadow of your wings.

You feed them from the abundance of your own house,  
letting them drink from your river of delights.

For you are the fountain of life,  
the light by which we see.

Pour out your unfailing love on those who love you;  
give justice to those with honest hearts.

Don't let the proud trample me  
or the wicked push me around.

Look! Those who do evil have fallen!

They are thrown down, never to rise again.

Romans 8:37-39 (NLT)

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### **Time of Reflection**

- Think of two or three things that you are thankful for. Share your gratitude with God. Thank him for his precious love.
- Take a few moments to consider how God's love has been revealed to you through Christ. Pray that God would continue to reveal his love to you.
- Reflect on your friends and family. Is there anything that is currently separating any of them from God's love? Pray that God's love would work in their lives and that God's love would be revealed to them through Christ.

### **Missional Response**

Give something away that is of value to you to someone in need.

### **Community Prayer**

Pray for the spiritual growth of all who call Hope Hill their home church. Ask God for Hope Hill to be a thriving, healthy church where individuals are invited to know God and make Him known.