

Prayer Guide for the week August 30, 2020

“And He took the bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them saying. “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me”. In the same way, after the supper he took the cup saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.” Luke 22:19-22

It has been a blessing to listen to and learn from some familiar parables of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke in the summer sermon series **Inside Story**. We have been encouraged to hear the inside story into God’s Kingdom and His heart of love for each one of us. We pray that over the summer months you have been able to have a deeper understanding of God’s redemptive story of radical life with Him. As we celebrate the Lord’s Supper and remember Jesus body and blood given for us, take time to reflect, respond and pray. Pray for yourself and others to live wholeheartedly according to the truth of the Inside Story, God’s free gift of redemption and love.

Suggested Prayer Points for this week:

- 1. Pray for your family** – Lord God, we give you thanks as Jesus taught and demonstrated. You have blessed our family in so many ways this summer, we give you all the praise and glory. Thank you for the sunshine and warmth; the rest and refreshment; for the good food we ate; the friends and family we visited and for the many ways you revealed yourself to us through your creation. As we take time to remember these blessings help us also to reflect on and be thankful for the spiritual blessings of your goodness, grace and mercy in Jesus Christ. Help us we pray to be mindful and thankful each day for your abundance and teach us to respond with heartfelt praise and worship. Luke 22:14-20; Ephesians 1:3
- 2. Pray for your church family, friends and neighbours** – Heavenly Father we praise you for the blessing and freedom to enjoy fellowship within our circle of family and friends. Thank you Lord that even at a distance we can celebrate the Lord’s Supper, remembering your sacrificial love for all. Help us as we break bread and dedicate ourselves to prayer to do so with glad and sincere hearts, always praising you. As you did with the early church we pray that you would add to our numbers, that many would come to know you, your love and redemption. Teach us to respond to your generosity toward us with kindness and generosity to others. Lord we pray that our time and conversations around the tables of fellowship would be honoring to you and encouraging to others. Luke 22:14-20, Acts 2:42-47
- 3. Pray for pastors, staff and church leaders** – We praise and thank you Lord for the many ways our pastors and leaders have blessed and encouraged us this summer. Thank you Lord for their faithfulness to you and to their roles to teach, lead, disciple, pray and encourage. We do ask and pray Lord that your grace would be sufficient and that your power would rest on each one. We pray for wisdom for our pastors, staff, elders and leaders as they work together to plan and prepare for the fall. Protect us as your church from any criticism, bless us all with grace and unity as we move forward according to your purpose and plans. Help us by Your Spirit to continue to be built up and reach out with the love of Christ. Luke 22:14-20; 2 Corinthians 12:9
- 4. Pray for healthcare and front line workers** – Heavenly Father we are again mindful and so thankful for those who work and serve to keep us safe and well during the pandemic. Jesus you said, “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world”. Thank you Jesus that in you we can have peace even in troubled times. We pray for the healthcare and front line workers to take heart, to be encouraged and know the peace of Christ. Bless them Lord as they continue to work and serve in the many essential services and beyond. Help us all to do our part to flatten the curve of the pandemic. Lord Jesus, you sacrificed yourself so that we might have abundant life. Thank you for all those who are sacrificing their time, their families, and even their lives to care for others. Help us to be truly thankful and to do our part to bless and protect each other and those who serve. Luke 22:14-20; John 16:33, Psalms 27:14
- 5. Pray for our city and government** – Thank you Lord that you are a God of order and not of chaos. We worship you and put our trust in you alone. We pray against the apparent chaos and disorder in our world. We pray against all corruption, dysfunction, pride and disunity. We pray Lord that you would move mightily to have the right people in leadership roles where they are most effective for the good of all. Humble us and use us as your people to pray without ceasing - night and day crying out to you Lord for wise counsel for our leaders. We claim the promise of healing for our city and nation as we are faithful to turn from our wicked ways and seek your face in prayer. Luke 22:14-20; Luke 18:6-8; 2 Chronicles 7:14
- 6. Pray for EMCC and Mission Partners** – We praise you Lord for the leaders of our EMCC denomination. Thank you for President Raugust, The National Team, Regional Ministers, Directors, Administrators and the Board. We pray Lord that you would continue to guide and direct them in all truth and unity as they lead churches across our nation. We pray also for our sister church here in Winnipeg, Immanuel Fellowship, and their Pastor Deborah Olukoju. Use Immanuel Fellowship mightily to equip and disciple others to spread the gospel of love to their community and beyond. Thank you Lord that together as your church in Winnipeg and across the country we can be on mission for you. Luke 22:14-20; Matthew 28: 19