



# **A Prayer Guide**

## **October 2021**

### **Asbury United Methodist Church**

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# An Invitation...

In the month of October, our teaching series is going to explore the **core values** of our church that have come out of the many months of hard work of our Vision Team. From prayer, discernment, and listening to the stories and responses of you, our congregation, we found that these five values represent **the core values of who we are as a church**.

Our Vision Team, through a months-long process of prayer, came to a confident sense that **what we can offer to the world around us is precisely what people are longing for: hope**. We believe that in the midst of our society's divisions and problems, we are all united in our longing for **a real, true, and living hope**. We believe that God is calling us as a church to share that hope, **the hope of Christ**, to the people near us in Northern Kentucky, but also to the people beyond us all over the world. We cannot save this world, but we can **share the hope** we have in the one who has.

**I personally invite you** to join us this month each day for a time of prayer as we reflect on who we are as a church (our values) and as we live into who God is calling us to be in the future (our mission). Without prayer, any mission is just words on a page. But if a people really start praying together, then God might just turn the world upside down. Will you join me in praying that **God might do something new**, right here in our midst?

Pastor Cambron

**October 2021**

Monday

## Jesus at the Center

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**Today's Value:** Everything we do, believe, think, and value is rooted in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection as revealed to us through the Bible.

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### Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:

*"The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

-Colossians 1:15-17

### Reflection Question:

**Is** Jesus at the center of your life? What have you made more central than his life and his love for you? How can Jesus be at the center of your day today?

### Pray:

*O God and Father, I pray that you would make Jesus the center of my life and the center of our church. I repent for the parts of my life that do not confess Jesus as Lord. O God, draw near to me today and give us all at Asbury a new heart that longs only for you. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.***

Tuesday

## Grace is Our Guiding Principle

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**Today's Value:** God's grace, given to us through faith in Jesus, saves us from sin and death and frees us for an abundant life in Christ. We rejoice that this grace is offered to people of all ages, nations, and races. In all that we do, we will invite people to share in the grace of God with us.

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### Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

-Ephesians 2:8-10

### Reflective Question:

Do you *really* believe in God's grace? How do you find yourself still working to earn God's love? How might you allow God to love you today?

**Pray:** *O God, I long for your grace to no longer be something I believe in my head, but something I know in my heart. Free me from the need to prove myself; relieve me from the fear of not being enough. Lord help us as a church to be defined by grace and set free to love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Wednesday

## The Church is Our Family

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**Today's Value:** God, in Christ, has adopted us as children into the family of God. As we were welcomed by Christ, we offer hospitality to all who need a family to love them and a place to call home. Through a spirit of warmth, welcome, and Christian love, we will offer a place at the table to all in need of a family.

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### **Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:**

*The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.*

-Romans 8:15-17

**Reflective Question:** Do you know this moment that you are a loved member of God's family? Who is God calling you to welcome and offer hospitality to today? How can you make place for someone else at God's table today?

**Pray:** *O God, thank you for welcoming me into your family. Make our church a community where everyone might find a place to call home and a way to grow in wholeness and in holiness. As we were welcomed in by Christ, help us find ways to welcome others in also. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Thursday

## A Heart to Make Disciples

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**Today's Value:** We have a heart for anyone who does not know the love of God revealed to us in Christ on the cross. We are called by Jesus to invite people to follow him in this love.

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### Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

-Matthew 28:18-20

### Reflection Question:

Do you know the love of Jesus? Does your heart long for others to know the love that God has shown to you? Who is God calling you to pray for and to share the gospel with today?

**Pray:** *O God, I pray that you would give me boldness to share my faith in Jesus with others. I pray that you would pour out your Spirit on our church, so that we might be a place where people would come to life in Christ. We long to be a part of your mission of love to the world; give us the boldness to follow you as you call us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

Friday

## Called to Generosity

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**Today's Value:** When we realize how much God has given to us, we cannot help but give what we have been given to help others. We are committed to radically giving our time, our service, our talents, and our money toward offering hope to the poor in our community and across the world in the name of Jesus.

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### Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:

*“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

-Luke 4:18-19

### Reflection Question:

What has God given to you **today**? What are you thankful for **today**? How is God calling you to give **today**? Who is in need that God is calling you to serve **today**?

### Pray:

*Lord, open my heart to the people in my midst that you are calling me to love and to serve. You have given so much to me, and I long to become a more giving person. Give us at Asbury a spirit of generosity. Give us eyes to see the people you are calling us to serve, and give us the willingness to lower ourselves so that others might be lifted up. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.*

*Saturday and Sunday*

## **Reflect on Our Mission**

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**Our mission at Asbury United Methodist Church is to share the hope of Christ to the people of Northern Kentucky and beyond.**

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### **Take a moment to meditate on Scripture:**

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

### **Reflection Question:**

What gives you hope today? Who in your life needs hope? How might God be calling you today to share the hope of Christ to someone else?

### **Pray:**

*O God, our world needs hope. I need hope. I look for it everywhere, but I know it can only be found in Christ. Help me to embrace the hope that Jesus offers me. Make me someone that can share that hope with others. Transform our church to be a place where hope can be found, a hope more powerful than anything we face in this world. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.*

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