

# Pastor Call Team

Prayer Guide, Vol. 1: September 2-October 1



Dear Community of Christ at All Saints,

Thank you for joining the Call Team (the All Saints Board of Directors and the Call Committee) in prayer. We believe that this is a time of great importance in our church's history. We have been given the opportunity to seek God's will and ask for His wisdom in determining whom He has called to be the next pastor of All Saints. We believe that this is a time of great excitement and enthusiasm within our church body, and we need discernment through this process.

The entire search process must be immersed in prayer. How many will actually take disciplined steps to pray intentionally for their next pastor? If you are among those who would agree that prayer is essential, then we encourage you to join your Call Team to adopt a focused approach to prayer on the matter of calling our senior pastor.

As you set aside time to pray, take a moment to read through the Scriptures provided and meditate on the truths found in them before incorporating those ideas into your prayer time. We believe that God provides wisdom and guidance as we commune regularly with Him, and we trust that you will take the opportunity to pray with us through this process.

We would like to thank St. Luke's Lutheran Church for allowing us to adopt these prayer guides, which they created, as our own.

Yours in Christ,

The Call Committee: Otto Keller, chair; Robert Burger, vice chair; Janice Miller, secretary; Dana Dickson; Ruth Poe; Shibu Samuel; Virginia Kelley, alternate

## PRAYER GUIDE

Jesus Christ is the Lord of the Church. It is He who calls His servants and sends them forth.

Consider the following passage: “And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’” *Matthew 9:35-38 ESV*

Notice that Jesus says that there are few laborers for the harvest even though the task is monumental. What Jesus says next is on the order of a command: Pray for the Lord to send laborers into the harvest. But not just any kind of prayer. He tells us to pray earnestly.

We are planning on initially putting out three booklets of thirty days of prayer each for a total of ninety days. We have certain benchmarks that are within our control. There may be many things that are not in our control. We are seeking God’s will and do not have an expectation or a deadline for God. Ultimately, we want to do everything we can to ensure that we perceive the very will of God. We will continue to pray and ask that you partner with us regardless of the length of the process. Thank you for joining the Call Team in prayer.

## **Day 1 September 2, 2018**

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

Pray that as we take the spiritual gifts inventory and discover our individual spiritual gifts that we will each consider how we can put these gifts to use for the glory of God.

## **Day 2 September 3, 2018**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Ephesians 1:3*

Thank you, Father, for equipping us with every gift we need to be a complete and whole body.

### **Day 3 September 4, 2018**

*Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*  
Philippians 2:9-11

Prayer theme: consider the majesty of Jesus. Consider the place given to him by his Father. Consider this in relationship to our mission statement. And then praise Jesus for all he has done to clear a path for us to be in relationship with God. We praise you, LORD.

### **Day 4 September 5, 2018**

*If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.* Psalm 66:18

Pray for deep spiritual cleansing and fullness of the Holy Spirit in each Call Team member. We covet your prayers. Please pray for each member by name, as well as, our Congregational President, and continue to pray for Pastor Reinke as he leads us through this time.

### **Day 5 September 6, 2018**

*Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.*  
Psalm 95:6-7

Thank you, God, that you have chosen us to be your people. Thank you, that as a shepherd watches over his sheep, even more so you guard us and care for us. Amen

### **Day 6 September 7, 2018**

*For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and he is to be feared above all gods.* 1 Chronicles 16:25

Pray that God places upon our hearts a renewed appreciation for his greatness and a proper respect and awe in our wonder of him.

### **Day 7 September 8, 2018**

*By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.* 2 Timothy 1:14

Pray for keen discernment, wisdom and strength for the Call Committee chair, Otto Keller.

## **Day 8 September 9, 2018**

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2*

Dear God, even as we pray, we need your Spirit's promptings to remind us to always bring everything to you in prayer. Give us a longing attitude so we may experience the joy that comes from spending more time in relationship with you. Amen

## **Day 9 September 10, 2018**

*I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!*  
Psalm 34:1-3

Pray that our worship, both publicly and privately, brings glory to the majesty of God and He is always revered.

## **Day 10 September 11, 2018**

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*  
Isaiah 55:8-9

We need clarity while examining résumés and conducting interviews. Ask God to bring the right person to the attention of the Call Team.

### **Day 11 September 12, 2018**

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6*

Lord, God, we put our faith and trust in you. We know that you hold us in the palm of your hand. We know you will guide and lead us through this call process and you will bless us as we seek you.

### **Day 12 September 13, 2018**

*Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Psalm 95:1*

Pray, in the words of another Psalm, “restore unto me the joy of your salvation.” Let us praise his holy name.

### **Day 13 September 14, 2018**

*And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. ,, “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” 1 Corinthians 2:12-13, 16a*

Pray for the Call Team to have received God’s wisdom in all the questions they ask of the candidates and information they share with the prospective pastor.



## **Day 14 September 15, 2018**

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. Psalm 9:1*

Dear God, we look back on all of the many times and different ways in which you have blessed us at All Saints and we look forward with eagerness to see how you will bless us through the pastor you have chosen for us. Lord, we thank you for your faithfulness. Amen

## **Day 15 September 16, 2018**

*Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD! ... From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised! Psalm 113:1, 3*

Dear Lord, stay close to our hearts so that as often as we have thoughts of anything worthy of praise, we remember that you are the author and source of all. All praise belongs to you. Let us praise you throughout each and every day. Amen

## **Day 16 September 17, 2018**

*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. James 1:2-6*

Pray for the Call Team to have God's guidance and His wisdom as to the unique characteristics and traits most needed for our church.

## **Day 17 September 18, 2018**

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thess. 5:16-18*

Dear Father, we come to you with confidence and joy, thanking you for your great faithfulness to your body here at All Saints. In this "in-between" time you have blessed us with the leadership of Pastor Reinke. We thank you for the plan you have for us and put our trust in you. Amen

## **Day 18 September 19, 2018**

*O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.*  
Psalm 59:17

Lord, God, we call our church a sanctuary, a holy place of peace, your dwelling place. Come into our hearts and dwell. You are our strength and our stronghold. We praise you for your everlasting love. Amen

## **Day 19 September 20, 2018**

*Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.* Ephesians 5:17

Pray for the Call Team to have no timetable but God's. The team must be determined to find God's perfect will in God's perfect time.

## **Day 20 September 21, 2018**

*Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*  
Colossians 2:6-7

Dear God, let us ever be thankful for the gift we received through your son, Jesus Christ, and the privilege to call him LORD. Walk with us and help us to more closely follow him. Amen

## **Day 21 September 22, 2018**

*Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.*  
Psalm 2:11

God, pondering you, I am in awe. I praise you! Amen

## **Day 22 September 23, 2018**

*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.* Ephesians 6:10-12

Pray for the prevention of Satan to mislead or otherwise have an influence upon this process. Pray for God to protect all who minister at All Saints.

## **Day 23 September 24, 2018**

*I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.*  
Psalm 91:2-4

Most High, Almighty King of creation, we place our trust in you. You guard us and guide us. Please protect us as the apple of your eye; hide us in the palm of your hands.  
Amen

**Day 24 September 25, 2018**

*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7*

Dear God, we submit ourselves to you. The devil will never overcome you or us. We dedicate our worship and our lives to you; we trust in you. Amen

**Day 25 September 26, 2018**

*Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. Matthew 18:19*

Pray for continued powerful unity and oneness of spirit within the Call Team.

**Day 26 September 27, 2018**

*Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate. I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small. Jeremiah 30:19*

LORD, we give you thanks. And we celebrate the truths that are taught in this place. Bless us and multiply the number of those who we reach for your glory. The greatest honor would be to bring people to you. Amen

## **Day 27 September 28, 2018**

*We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done.*

Psalm 78:4

LORD, God, we will not fail to teach the faith entrusted to us to both our physical and spiritual children. Send your Holy Spirit to empower them. We will guard them and teach them according to your Word. Amen

## **Day 28 September 29, 2018**

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:3-11*

Pray the Call Team places the needs of All Saints above their individual desires.

## **Day 29 September 30, 2018**

*For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*  
Romans 3:22b-24

Dear God, thank you for your grace and mercy. Keep us in this good news, knowing that salvation is by faith and through grace and not by works, lest any man should boast. We pray for the man and his family whom you will send to continue to preach your truth. Amen

## **Day 30 October 1, 2018**

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.* Psalm 100:1-5

Dear Lord, you are so good.  
Your love never runs out.  
Your loyalty never runs dry.  
You are our powerful creator.  
We are your powerless creation.  
You are our helpful Shepherd.  
We are your sheep in dire need of a shepherd.  
Our joy is as abundant as your generosity.  
Because of you, we shout for joy.  
We sing to you. We worship you.  
We tell others of your faithfulness. Amen