

# UBC PRAYER GUIDE VOL. 2

## A Time of Prayer for a Season of Transition

**Overview** - The true heart of prayer is that our conversations with God will help align our hearts with His. There's nothing wrong with bringing our petitions to God; He wants us to do just that, but even more important is that prayer helps His love, character, and wisdom start to pour into us and into all that we do.

Prayer can also help us begin to glimpse God's hopes for us. During a time of pastoral transition, that's important for UBC. And so we pray **not our will, but yours be done, God**. We pray that prayer because God's hopes for UBC are perfect and even better than we would probably imagine all by ourselves.

So, we will again invite you to pray alongside your fellow church members for the next three weeks.

### 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 (KJV):

*<sup>17</sup>Pray without ceasing.*

*<sup>18</sup>In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

### Week 1 Keeping our Hearts, Minds, and Spirit Focused on the Holy Trinity

**Week 1 Overview** - One of the values that came up in Congregational Conversation #1 was Heart, Mind, and Spirit poured into all we do. This includes depth of preaching, Bible study, spiritual earnestness, and a place for everyone. For the next seven days, we will ask you to be spiritually minded as you reflect on God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We need this spiritual focus during this time of transition.

**Day 1.** Job 38:4 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of Job 38*)

**Prayer:** Holy God, we are humbled to realize Your wisdom and understanding is infinite and unknowable, yet You have shared Your plan of redemption with us. We pray that we trust You in all things and never doubt Your perfect plans and purposes. Your way is best.

**Questions:** How can I live by faith and not by sight on this day? How will I praise God today?

**Day 2.** Psalm 121:1-2 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of Psalm 121*)

**Prayer:** Lord God, You are holy and all powerful. We look to You alone for help. You are our one true source of redemption, power, and hope. Thank You for being faithful through the ages and to Your people.

**Questions:** Where are my eyes focusing on today? What concerns do I need to lay at the feet of God? How has God been faithful to UBC?

**Day 3.** John 14:6 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read John 14:1-14*)

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, help us to not stray from You, for You are the way. Help us to trust You, for You are the only truth. Keep teaching us to rest in You and nothing else, for You are life to us.

**Questions:** What truths do I hold that are not of God? When was the last time I praised God for sending His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for my sins? When was the last time I thanked Jesus for His willing sacrifice?

**Day 4.** Galatians 2:20a (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Galatians 2:11-21*)

**Prayer:** Christ Jesus, I turn away from myself to yield to You who lives inside me. It is not my will, but Your will that gives life to me, to our church, to this world.

**Questions:** How does Christ Jesus living inside you affect your choices, concerns, and hopes for the future? How does Christ living in us affect our relationships with our fellow believers?

**Day 5.** John 14:16-17 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read John 14:15-30*)

**Prayer:** What a gift You are to us, Holy Spirit! We pray that our thoughts, inspirations, and desires will be open to Your prompting.

**Questions:** Are my thoughts open to the Holy Spirit? Am I willing to change my mind if the Holy Spirit leads me to do so?

**Day 6.** Romans 8:26-27 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Romans 8:1-27*)

**Prayer:** Spirit, come speak for me. Guide my heart as I lift it toward God. Teach me to rely on You as I live and breathe, and may my life glorify You.

**Questions:** Do you not always know how to pray? The Holy Spirit intercedes for us when we do not have the words according to His will.

**Day 7.** Psalm 1:1-3 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of Psalm 1*)

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, may we choose each day to live a Godly life with Your gracious help. Forgive us when we choose to live our lives based solely on our own wisdom and judgment. May we choose to meditate on Your Word, night and day.

**Questions:** Whose counsel am I listening to this day? Do I sit in the company of mockers?





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### **Week 2** Breadth and Depth of Relationship at UBC and Making a Kingdom Difference

**Week 2 Overview** - Another value that came up in Congregational Conversation #2 was depth and breadth of relationship - how we relate to one another inside UBC. We are a very family oriented church with active support and love for each other. Value is also seen in UBC making a kingdom difference here, and everywhere we go. UBC is dedicated to mission work and meeting human and spiritual needs outside the church. This week's prayer emphasis will be on the values of love for our church family and for our community.



**Day 1.** I Corinthians 13:4-6 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of 1 Corinthians 13)*

**Prayer:** Father, a feeling of family is one of UBC's strong values. Please teach and remind us what it is like to love each other truly, not only when times are easy but when they are hard as well.

**Questions:** In what ways do you see UBC as a loving church? Is there someone at UBC you need to reach out to in love?

**Day 2.** I Corinthians 13:12 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of 1 Corinthians 13)*

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for giving us your truth even though we can not fully see you now. Help us reflect you as we look into the mirror of our church. We greatly anticipate the day we will see your glorious face.

**Questions:** As we look in the mirror at UBC, how do we see Christ reflected? In what areas do I need to be refined in order for Christ to be seen in me?

**Day 3.** I Corinthians 13:13 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of 1 Corinthians 13)*

**Prayer:** Lord, through your loving sacrifice, you have shown us the superior way - to love. Help us have faith in you because you are the only hope in our future. Please guide us to continue in all three of these qualities but mostly to love as you love us.

**Questions:** How have pastors and friends at UBC helped strengthen your faith in pointing you to Christ? How have others shown Christ's love to you?

**Day 4.** 1 Peter 3:15 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read 1 Peter 3:8-22)*

**Prayer:** Lord, prepare me through your Word to speak the truth of the Gospel and/or defend your truth when given an opportunity. Keep me humble in my interactions with others so that I represent you in love.

**Questions:** Finish this sentence: I have hope in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior because...

Are the words coming from your heart gentle and respectful to the listener?

**Day 5.** Matthew 28:19-20 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of Matthew 28)*

**Prayer:** Jesus, you have given us such a great commission. Give us the desire to “GO” wherever you lead us. Thank you for your promise to be with us to the end.

**Questions:** How are you doing with the “Great Commission?” Does it give you comfort to know he will be with you?

**Day 6.** Luke 10:27 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Luke 10:25-37)*

**Prayer:** Father, give me a heart, mind, and soul to love you and my neighbors with the strength you have given me. And reveal to me ways to show your love in our community.

**Questions:** What does my heart for Jesus look like? How can I take that into my community today?

**Day 7.** Luke 10:36-37 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Luke 10:25-37)*

**Prayer:** Lord, have I passed by a “neighbor” who is hurting? Give me a heart filled with mercy for others. Please show me who I can reach out to today.

**Questions:** Have I shown mercy to someone in pain who is different from me or who is rejected by others? What did mercy look like in that situation?

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### **Week 3** Trusting God with the Future of UBC, Our New Senior Pastor, and the Faithful Pastor Search Task Force

**Week 3 Overview** - As we look toward the future for UBC, we rest in knowing that God is in control, and we can trust him to guide our next steps. He is already preparing our next Senior Pastor while he is also preparing us. We also trust that the Holy Spirit will give the Pastor Search Task Force wisdom and discernment in their mission, and we thank them for their service. For this next week, focus on trust, our new pastor, and commissioning the Pastor Search Team.





**Day 1.** Proverbs 3:5-6 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Ps 37:3,5; 1 Ch 28:9*)

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, remind us to turn our worries, anxieties, and troubles over to you, as you are our wise counselor. We strive to submit to your guidance and direction for our lives continuously. We thank you for the peace that comes from knowing you.

**Questions:** Are you allowing the Holy Spirit to move in discerning your decisions and opinions? Are you seeking the goodness of knowing and following God's will?

**Day 2.** Ecclesiastes 3:11 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read all of Ecclesiastes 3*)

**Prayer:** Father, remind us to pause. Guide us as we struggle during a season of impatience and change. You know the who, what, when, and why of all, Lord. We cannot begin to fathom your power and glory. Allow us to rest and draw comfort in waiting for your awesome plans to be revealed.

**Questions:** As everything is made beautiful in its time, we still struggle with wanting instant answers as to the path that we take. Are you committed to waiting for His will to be revealed through our entire pastor search process?

**Day 3.** Romans 8:28 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Romans 8:28-39*)

**Prayer:** We submit this entire pastor search process over to you, Heavenly Father. Please continue to equip our church with a spirit of unity and brotherly love. We ask that you eliminate any selfish desires or hidden agendas from this process.

**Questions:** Are you seeking unity or creating division within our church? Are you offering words of encouragement and/or inclusiveness to our church family during this process?

**Day 4.** Philippians 4:6 (*For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Philippians 4:1-9*)

**Prayer:** Father, we present all of our worries before you now. We ask that you hear us and comfort us as only our father can. Protect our hearts and minds through your son, Jesus Christ.

**Questions:** Are you thankful to God for the Pastor Search process? Does it help you to trust Him more and give you peace by praying through the process?

**Day 5.** Acts 20:28 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Acts 20:17-38)*

**Prayer:** Oh Lord our God, we pray that our Senior Pastor is deeply rooted in you. We ask that our Senior Pastor lovingly shepherds our church through the preaching of your word and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We thank you for preparing that person now to fully embrace this role at UBC in the near future.

**Questions:** What does “shepherding” resemble in your life? Are you seeking opportunities to shepherd others on behalf of the kingdom of God?

**Day 6.** I Thessalonians 5:12-13 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read I Thessalonians 5:12-22)*

**Prayer:** Precious Father, prepare our hearts for our new Senior Pastor who you are calling to lead us. Give us peace in the process, comfort in the decision, and the desire to hold your choice in the highest regard.

**Questions:** Are you asking God to prepare your heart for our new Senior Pastor? Are you praying for the person who God is preparing to shepherd UBC? How can praying for this person bring truth and revelation to your own walk with Christ?

**Day 7.** Isaiah 6:8 *(For a deeper dive into Scripture, read Isaiah 6:1-13)*

**Prayer:** Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank you for the team of men and women who will donate their time, efforts, and discernment towards bringing YOUR Senior Pastor to UBC. We pray that the Pastor Search Team will communicate the needs and expectations of UBC to those Senior Pastor candidates. We ask that the team is diligent in their methods and that they each remain fully connected to you through prayer and reading of your word during the entire process. We thank you for their heart of service and care for our congregation.

**Questions:** In what ways can you show love and support to the Pastor Search Task Force during this upcoming season of seeking out our Senior Pastor?