



Praying God

April 3, 2022 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

Acts 3:1–10 | *“Honouring God”* || Preaching: Pastor David Schuchardt (Lead)

To hallow God’s name means to treat God himself as holy. This is more than a wish, it is an agreement and a personal determination to honour God with our lives. This is critical as we seek to embody Jesus in our neighbourhoods because God’s reputation comes from people’s interaction with us. Do our lives teach our neighbours that God’s name should be hallowed? At the heart of this prayer is the hope in Christ that all the earth will join in our worship of God.

April 10, 2022 | Palm Sunday

Matthew 6:25–34 | *“Seeking God”* || Preaching: Pastor Natasha Frentz (Intergenerational)

What does it look like when God’s kingdom comes to the world? It looks like heaven on earth. The heart of this prayer is that God’s good heavenly rule (government) will also be established here on earth. The hope in Christ is that when God’s will is established on earth, the purpose of creation itself will be complete. This means that prayer is about God having his desires filled instead of our own. Another way to look at this is that our will will conform to God’s.

April 17, 2022 | Easter Sunday

Genesis 45:4–11 | *“Trusting God”* || Preaching: Pastor David

“God can’t be trusted.” This is the lie at the centre of all our sin. That conviction also leads us to believe that resources are scarce. As a result we do not trust each other either. We are all competing for the limited resources available. This life and death struggle justifies our selfishness, violence, and murder. Jesus’s prayer teaches us the truth: God is our Father who gives good gifts to his children. There is no limit with him, he daily supplies our needs. Those in the resurrection *can* trust God.

April 24, 2022 | Season of Easter

John 21:15–25 | *“Receiving God”* || Preaching: Pastor Natasha

Too often we have reduced God to a cosmic Judge: we have violated his law, so we must make restitution. Without putting that completely aside, it is better to understand prayer for forgiveness as a desire to have the fullness of God’s presence. Where sin is an attempt to flee God, repentance is receiving him. The same life that we receive from God flows to those around us as we share God’s presence and life through extending his grace to others.

May 1, 2022 | Season of Easter

Romans 8:9–17 | *“Following God”* || Preaching: Pastor David

Christianity is not a static religion. We do not decide to be a Christian, say a prayer and then continue living our same old life. Christianity is a dynamic lifestyle. We pursue God’s life and presence daily to be established in us. This means following God away from those things that bring us back to who we were. Ultimately, we pray for God’s ongoing rescue from the evil that formerly occupied our lives.

May 8, 2022 | Season of Easter

Isaiah 6:1–5 | *“Glorifying God”* || Preaching: Pastor Natasha

Basic prayer is usually about us. God our Father, in His grace, invites us to simply cry out to him. But, ultimately we are invited to have our prayer mature. There is still an expression of needs—justice, food, forgiveness, and rescue—but it is far more about recognizing the goodness of God and giving thanks. Prayer recognizes and expresses the glory of God!