Prayer Vigil
&
Prayer Services

Concerning General Conference 2019

Compiled by Rev. Jonathan Jennings Lamb
Produced in Shenandoah, Virginia

Request for information can be addressed to:

Rev. Jonathan J. Lamb

501 Senior Ave.

Shenandoah, VA

jonathanlamb@vaumc.org

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Thank you to all of my editors who helped to contribute to this project.

All views are and mistakes are the fault of the compiler.
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INTRODUCTION

“May grace and peace to you from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”

Philippians 1:2 Common English Bible

I remember a mentor in Seminary personally invite me, a new seminary student, to attend evening prayer with the Book of Common Prayer. During those times of prayer, I was able to connect with other students and pray for our community and world. This service became the focal point of my day as I enjoyed spending time in prayer. This was my first experience with The Book of Common Prayer, which comes from the Anglican/Episcopalian tradition. I remember being told that this Prayer Book was John Wesley’s second favorite book. The use of liturgical prayer caught my imagination as I desired to learn to pray more. Liturgical prayer encouraged me to pray when I didn’t feel like or want to pray. In these moments, I learned to lean on the prayers of saints who came before us in some of the difficult moments of life. Methodists claimed this prayer tradition as we developed from the Anglican tradition out of the Church of England.

The United Methodist Church, after decades of conversations about Human Sexuality, has decided to hold a General Conference in February 2019 to discern how we should continue to faithfully live into our Mission. Three plans have been endorsed by The Commission on the Way Forward and will be presented to the legislative body of General Conference. These plans are currently entitled The One Church Plan, The Connectional Conference Plan, and The Traditional Plan. Other plans also have been submitted for consideration by the delegates. Below is a link that provided a summary. The United Methodist Church also released a 93 page detailed report with additional information.


As I shared with my two churches about the upcoming General Conference, I wanted to find some way that we could respond. That is when I realized that I could share my passion by developing liturgical prayer. The pages ahead have been partly inspired by the Book of Common Prayer, the United Methodist Hymnal, and the United Methodist Book of Worship. It also includes other resources from faithful Christians that identify as Roman Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, as well as a number of early church leaders. I also used other sources that are more non-denominational, such as Common Prayer by Shane Claiborne, along with other resources.

My hope is that this resource may help to inspire prayer for the leadership of The United Methodist Church and help us become more mature disciples. I hope that congregations, families, and individuals can come together to pray for The United Methodist Church as we make important decisions in the days ahead.

Come, Lord Jesus Come.

Blessings, Rev. Jonathan J. Lamb October 1, 2018


**How to Use this Resource**

This resource can be used in two ways. One is as a one-day prayer vigil that includes five times of structured prayer. The second way is as morning and evening prayer services over a span of four and a half days. I provided these two methods to help congregations of all sizes participate in prayer for General Conference. I desire to provide a resource with flexibility that can be adapted to the needs of each local church as they seek to pray. The leader may select only parts of certain lessons to include or select one or two readings instead of three. The worship leaders and pastor of the local congregation can decide what is best in their setting.

**Suggested Readings**

Both the prayer vigil and prayer services have their own suggested scripture lessons that begin with Genesis and end with Revelation. I worked in coordination with other clergy to present scriptures that span the entire Bible that can provide guidance during our four- and one-half days of focused prayer. Each time of prayer includes an Old Testament, Psalm, New Testament Letter, and Gospel reading. I decided to follow the advice that Dietrich Bonhoeffer provides in his book, *Life Together*, about reading an entire chapter at a time during the time of prayer to better understand the story of the Bible.

Friday evening, I selected Genesis 1, Psalm 1, Acts 15, and Matthew 5. These Scriptures all mark a beginning. We see Creation spoken into existence, God caring for the righteous, the Church gathering to discern an important question, and Jesus speaking words of care to his followers.

Saturday morning, Genesis 2 and Psalm 45 provide us positive examples of community for human beings. Romans 1, reminds us of the cost that we encounter in a broken and fallen world. At our dark moments, we can see that Jesus speaks to us and calls us to grow in righteousness in Matthew 6.

Saturday evening, Genesis 3 tells us of the fall of humanity. Psalm 2 tells of a broken world where people gather to oppose the anointed one (Jesus). Romans 2 and Matthew 7 remind us that even the religious who try to live rightly have fallen short of following God.

Sunday morning, Deuteronomy 6 reminds us of the calling to love the Lord our God with all our being. Romans 3, tells us that we have all fallen short of the glory of God. In John 17 we are reminded of how Jesus is praying for His Church.

Sunday evening, Deuteronomy 7 and Psalm 118 tells about the importance of being faithful. 1 Corinthians 13 tells us about greatest gift that of love, that represents God’s love and it is by this love that community of the Church is called to live , and Mark 10 relates Jesus’ teaching on marriage.
Monday morning, Proverbs 5, Psalm 40, and Mark 7 tell us wisdom of having self-control. Romans 12, provides us a call to seek a life of holiness.

Monday evening, Song of Songs 1 provides example of God’s love for us as the Church. Psalm 27 reminds us of the steadfastness of the Lord. John 13 and James 1 both tell us about the importance of living out our faith through our actions.

Tuesday morning, Deuteronomy 30 and Psalm 105 remind us of God’s promise of blessings for faithfulness as we remember what the LORD has done for God’s people. 1 John 4 reminds us of God’s love for us and how we were loved before we knew God.

Tuesday evening, we turn to a time of thanksgiving for what God has done for us through the work at General Conference 2019. We join in giving thanks through Isaiah 25:1-8 and Psalm 150. Revelation 21 reminds us of the New Creation God that is already and not yet. John 21 reminds us that we can strive to walk with Jesus in the here and now. One day we also will be with Jesus.

Prayer Vigil

By design, the Prayer Vigil is a time for congregations to open their doors for prayer to offer church members a space to come and pray in unstructured free prayer throughout the day. The prayer vigil also includes five structured services through the day that the community can gather around. These times of prayer include: Vigil (late-night/early-morning), Morning Prayer, Mid-day Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Compline (late-evening/night). These five times of structured prayer come from the monastic tradition, where monks and nuns would gather to pray throughout the day. I hope that these structured times of prayer can help bring us together to pray for The United Methodist Church in the midst of General Conference 2019.

Prayer Services

The prayer services begin on the evening of Friday, February 22. Then, there are morning and evening prayer services through the end of the conference on Tuesday, February 26. Having two prayer services a day is a tradition that was carried out by the Church of England 500 years ago. These prayer services were preserved in the Book of Common Prayer that was adapted by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. These prayer services were times to pray and to hear the scripture read aloud. Many people learned the Bible by hearing the stories at these services. You can turn to the day when you have decided to pray and follow the service for that morning or evening.

I have also included two very basic services of morning and evening prayer that has that is shortened and has more of a structure like a devotion from the Upper Room. You can use any scripture lessons that you prefer in these devotions.
# Suggested Scripture Lessons

## Prayer Vigil

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Old Testament</th>
<th>Psalm</th>
<th>New Testament</th>
<th>Gospel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Genesis 2:5-25</td>
<td>Ps. 45</td>
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<td>Mid-Day</td>
<td>Genesis 3:1-24</td>
<td>Ps. 2</td>
<td>Romans 2:1-29</td>
<td>Matthew 7:1-29</td>
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## Prayer Services

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<tr>
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<td>Saturday, February 23</td>
<td>Gen. 2:5-25</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Rom. 1:1-32</td>
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<td>Saturday, February 23</td>
<td>Gen. 3:1-24</td>
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<td>Rom. 2:1-29</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Recommended Time for Prayer Events**

**Prayer Services**

**Morning Prayer** Sometime between 6 am – 9 am  
**Evening Prayer** Sometimes between 4 pm – 9 pm

**Prayer Vigil**

**Vigil** Sometime between 12 am – 3 am  
**Morning Prayer** Sometime between 6 am – 9 am  
**Mid-Day Prayer** Sometime between 9 am – 4 pm  
**Evening Prayer** Sometime between 4 pm—9 pm  
**Compline (Night-Time) Prayer** 9 pm – 12 pm

**Abbreviations**

BCP – Book of Common Prayer  
BCW – Book of Common Worship  
EDH—Eastertide: Prayers for Lent Through Easter from Divine Hours  
SS – Sunday Service  
TDWWP –This Day: A Wesleyan Way of Prayer  
UMBOW—United Methodist Book of Worship  
UMH – United Methodist Hymnal
Basic Devotionals

Morning Prayer

Evening Prayer

Prayer for The United Methodist Church
Morning Prayer Basic Devotional

PSALM 51 (BCP, 137)

Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy Spirit from me.
Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Any Scripture Lesson from the recommended scriptures.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019

Names of members to General Conference may be read.

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.
PRAYER: NO IDEA WHERE I AM GOING Thomas Merton

My LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me and you will never leave me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen.
Evening Prayer Basic Devotional

O GRACIOUS LIGHT HYMN (BCP, 139)

O gracious Light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the
vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God,
O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

SCRIPTURE READING

Any Scripture Lesson from the recommended scriptures.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

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comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them
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earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our tresses, as we
forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.
CLOSING PRAYER A *Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition* (UMH, 607)

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,

Exalted for thee or brought low by thee.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things

To thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.
Prayer for The United Methodist Church

Almighty God,

You are majestic in wondrous love and glorious in holiness. We remember how you have performed awesome deeds by the power of the Holy Spirit in many different lives to spark the beginning of the Methodist movement.

We come before you to fast and pray for our denomination, The United Methodist Church. Help us to discern how we may best seek your will in the days ahead especially concerning the conversation around human sexuality. Help us to provide compassionate care to all who feel marginalized. Help us to be bold in our witness to scripture. Lord, may you provide us courage to continue to pray before your throne as we wait for your mighty work of salvation to be revealed by Jesus at the end of the age. Come, Lord Jesus, Come. We pray waiting for you to wipe away every tear in our eyes, sorrow, and death will be no more.

We pray this in your Holy Name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.
Prayer Vigil

Five Prayer Services for One-Day Vigil

Morning Prayer
Mid-Day Prayer
Evening Prayer
Compline

“Pray continually.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Common English Bible
Vigil for Prayer Vigil

OPENING PRAYER 1 JOHN 5:14 Common English Bible

This is the confidence that we have in our relationship with God: If we ask for anything in agreement with his will, he listens to us.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 1:1-2:4

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ACTS 15:1-21

PSALM 1 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

People: Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

Leader: But their delight is in the law of the LORD,

People: And on his law they meditate day and night.

Leader: They are like trees planted by streams of water,

People: which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

Leader: In all that they do, they prosper.

People: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Leader: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

People: Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

Leader: For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,

People: But the way of the wicked will perish.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 5:1-48
TIME OF INTERCESSION

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Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019

Names of members to General Conference may be read.

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER: AUGUSTINE’S KEEP WATCH, DEAR LORD PRAYER (BCP, 134)

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love’s sake. Amen.

BENEDICTION (BCP, 135)

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.
Morning Prayer for Prayer Vigil

OPENING VERSE PHILIPPIANS 1:2 (BCP, 78)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION (UMH, 891)

Everyone: Almighty and most merciful God, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

All in pray in silence.

Leader: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Everyone: Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 2:5-25

PSALM 45 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king;

People: My tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

Leader: You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips;

People: Therefore God has blessed you forever.

Leader: Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.

People: In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth

Leader: And to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds.

People: Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king’s enemies;

Leader: The peoples fall under you.

People: Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.
Leader: Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

People: You love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Leader: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you

People: With the oil of gladness beyond your companions;

Leader: your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

People: From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;

Leader: Daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;

People: At your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Leader: Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;

People: Forget your people and your father’s house,

Leader: And the king will desire your beauty.

People: Since he is your lord, bow to him;

Leader: The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,

People: The richest of the people with all kinds of wealth.

Leader: The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;

People: In many-colored robes she is led to the king;

Leader: Behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

People: With joy and gladness they are led along

Leader: As they enter the palace of the king.

People: In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons;

Leader: You will make them princes in all the earth.

People: I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ROMANS 1:1-32

CHRIST HYMN (CPOR, 39-40) PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

Leader: May our minds be like that of Christ Jesus,

People: who, though he was in the form of God,

Leader: did not regard equality with God

People: as something to be exploited,

Leader: but emptied himself,

People: taking the form of a slave,

Leader: being born in human likeness.

People: And being found in human form,

Leader: he humbled himself

People: and became obedient to the point of death.

Leader: even death on a cross.

People: Therefore, God also highly exalted him

Leader: and gave him the name that is above every name,

People: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

Leader: in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

People: and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 6:1-34

STATEMENT OF FAITH OF UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA (UMH, 883)

Let us respond to the word by joining together in an affirmation of faith from the United Church of Canada.

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God’s presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

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Names of members to General Conference may be read.

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Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: NO IDEA WHERE I AM GOING

Thomas Merton

My LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me and you will never leave me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

PRAYER OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING (BCP, 125)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

We your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

For all your goodness and loving-kindness

to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation,

and all the blessings of this life;

but above all, for your immeasurable love

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,

that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,

not only with our lips, but in our lives,

by giving up our selves to your service,

and by walking before you

in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

BENEDICTION ROMANS 15:13 NRSV

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
GLORIA PATRI

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 3:1-24

PSALM 2

Leader: Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?

People: The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,

Leader: Against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

People: “Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us.”

Leader: He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.

People: Then he will speak to them in his wrath,

Leader: And terrify them in his fury, saying,

People: “I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.”

Leader: I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have begotten you.

People: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

Leader: And the ends of the earth your possession.

People: You shall break them with a rod of iron,

Leader: And dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

People: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Leader: Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling kiss his feet,

People: Or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;

Leader: For his wrath is quickly kindled.

People: Happy are all who take refuge in him.
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ROMANS 2:1-29

CANTICLE OF MOSES AND MIRIAM Cantemus Domino (UMH, 135)

**Leader:** Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying,

**People:** “I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.

**Leader:** The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation;

**People:** This is my God whom I will praise.

**Leader:** I will exalt my father’s God who is a mighty warrior, whose name is the Lord.

**People:** Pharaoh’s chariots and his host the Lord cast into the sea; and his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea.

**Leader:** The floods cover them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

**People:** Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

**Leader:** “Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, terrible in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

**People:** You stretched out your right hand, the earth swallowed them.

**Leader:** In your steadfast love, you have led the people whom you have redeemed;

**People:** You have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

**Leader:** “You will bring them in, and plant them on your own mountains, the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode, the place, O Lord, which your hands have established.

**People:** The Lord will reign for ever and ever.”

**Leader:** Then Miriam, the prophet, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and dancing, and Miriam sang to them:

**People:** “Sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.”

GOSPEL LESSON MATTHEW 7:1-29
TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

*Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019*

*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

PRAYER: FOR THE NOONDAY (BCP, 107)

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION (BCP, 107)

*Leader:* Let us bless the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.
Evening Prayer for Prayer Vigil

OPENING PRAYER ISAIAH 1:18 New International Version

‘Come now, let us settle the matter,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.’

CONFESSION PSALM 51:1-17 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

People: According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Leader: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Leader: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

People: So that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Leader: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

People: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Leader: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

People: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Leader: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Leader: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

People: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,

Leader: And my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

People: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
Leader: For you have no delight in sacrifice;
People: If I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
Leader: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
People: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 7:1-26

PSALM 118:14-29 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
People: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
Leader: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
People: The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”
Leader: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.
People: The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.
Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.
People: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
Leader: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
Leader: This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
People: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Leader: Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
People: O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
People: We bless you from the house of the LORD.
Leader: The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

People: Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

People: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

SONG OF MARY: LUKE 1:46-55 (UMH 199)

Leader: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

People: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant.

Leader: From this day all generations shall call me blessed:

People: The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is the name of the Lord, whose mercy is on those who fear God from generation to generation.

Leader: The arm of the Lord is strong, and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

People: God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

Leader: God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich empty away.

People: God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant, remembering the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children for ever.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 17:1-25

APOSTLES’ CREED (UMH, 881)

In response to the word of the Lord, let us affirm our faith through the Apostles’ Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

_Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019_

_Names of members to General Conference may be read._

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

_A moment of Silence_

**LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)**

*Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH (TDWPP, 145-146)**

You have called us, O God, to do the work of your church as careful and efficient stewards. To this end we bind together our congregations and govern them through the work of General Conference 2019 in which we consult and consider together pressing matters before the church. Give wisdom and vision to those who serve us as delegates to our General Conference. Let not the weariness of their duties distract them nor the emotion of the issues they face prejudice them in the decisions they must make.

Give all delegates a love for your whole church—a desire not only to serve you as we now can but also a determination to bring unity to divided churches, that the world may more readily receive the Gospel, the way of peace and unity. Through Christ who is the head of the body, the church. _Amen._

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Gloria in Excelsis (UMH, 82)**

_Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will to all._
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory:

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

BENEDICTION ROMANS 15:13 (UMBOW, 561)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Compline (Night-Time Prayer) for Prayer Vigil

OPENING SENTENCE (BCP, 127)

The Lord Almighty, grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 25:1-8

PSALM 150

*Leader:* Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

*People:* Praise him in his mighty firmament!

*Leader:* Praise him for his mighty deeds;

*People:* Praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

*Leader:* Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

*People:* Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

*Leader:* Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

*People:* Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: REVELATION 21:1-27

SONG OF SIMEON (BCP, 134-135)

*All:* Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

*Leader:* Lord, you have set your servant free.

*People:* To go in peace as you have promised;

*Leader:* For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,

*People:* Whom you have prepared for all, the world to see:

*Leader:* A light to enlighten the nations,

*People:* And the glory of your people Israel.

*Leader:* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

*People:* As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
All: Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 21:1-25

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Gracious Lord, we thank you for our time together and for all our delegates at General Conference 2019. We ask that you would provide us your peace as we go forward to living for Jesus. Help us to boldly live out your truth and compassion in our lives. We pray for all those returning home from General Conference in St. Louis provide them peace and comfort.

Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference delegates and their travel home

Names of members to General Conference may be read.

We thank you for the commitment and service of all those who have studied, prayed, and served in many different ways to help make this conference possible. We thank you that you are with us always no matter who we are and no matter where we go. We thank you for your great love that is beyond our imagination. We long for you to make all things new in your New Creation at the end of the age.

We pray this in the Holy Name of the One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH (BCP, 816)

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION REVELATION 22:20-21 Common English Bible

Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with us all. Amen.
Prayer Services

Nine Services of Prayer for Four and a half Days

Friday, February 22\textsuperscript{nd}
Evening Prayer

Saturday, February 23\textsuperscript{rd}
Morning Prayer
Evening Prayer

Sunday, February 24\textsuperscript{th}
Morning Prayer
Evening Prayer

Monday, February 25\textsuperscript{th}
Morning Prayer
Evening Prayer

Tuesday, February 26\textsuperscript{th}
Morning Prayer
Evening Prayer

“To proclaim your loyal love in the morning, your faithfulness at nighttime…”

Psalm 92:2 Common English Bible
OPENING VERSE: JOHN 1:1-2 *New Revised Standard Version*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

LITANY OF CONFESSION *Adapted and expanded* (UMH, 12 and SS)

*Leader:* Most merciful God,

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

*People:* Good Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* As a church we have failed to love the outcast and the oppressed. We have failed to proclaim the good news about Jesus Christ, our Savior, and have instead rendered judgment on those of different sexual orientations. We as the church ask for forgiveness when we have shared a message that has brought harm to the oppressed instead of one of hope.

*People:* Good Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* We come before you acknowledging that as the Church we have failed to stand up as a community when scripture is used as a tool for condemnation rather than as a vehicle for proclamation of the good news. You appeared to Moses calling him to speak to the Pharaoh on behalf of the enslaved Hebrew people. You transformed Paul of Tarsus, a fierce opponent of the message of Jesus, into an apostle who boldly called your followers not to conform to the patterns of this world.

*People:* Good Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* Help us to hear the words of Scripture as Jesus taught us about marriage as he spoke in the Sermon on the Mount. Help us boldly to go proclaiming your Word amid all the places in this world. Remind us that we are to help spread Scriptural Holiness throughout the world. We remember that without holiness, none of us will see you God – as you are a consuming fire.

*People:* Lord Christ, have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* Lord, help us share in the compassion and in the boldness of your followers across the ages to stand up for the oppressed and to live godly lives today.
**People:** Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, have mercy upon us.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A moment of silence*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God’s love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People:** In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**Leader and People:** Glory to God. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:** GENESIS 1:1-2:4

**PSALM 1 New Revised Standard Version**

**Leader:** Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,

**People:** Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**Leader:** But their delight is in the law of the LORD,

**People:** And on his law they meditate day and night.

**Leader:** They are like trees planted by streams of water,

**People:** which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

**Leader:** In all that they do, they prosper.

**People:** The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**Leader:** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

**People:** Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**Leader:** For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,

**People:** But the way of the wicked will perish.

**GLORIA PATRI** (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** ACTS 15:1-21
O GRACIOUS LIGHT Phos hilaron (BCP, 112)

O gracious Light, pure brightness of the ever living Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices, O Son of God, O Giver of life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 5:1-48

APOSTLES’ CREED (UMH, 881)

In response to the word of the Lord, let us affirm our faith through the Apostles’ Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

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Names of members to General Conference may be read.

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

A moment of Silence

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: JESUS AS CORNERSTONE  
*Harry Emerson Fosdick (UMBOW, 506)*

O God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone. Save the community of your people from cowardly surrender to the world, from rendering unto Caesar what belongs to you, and from forgetting the eternal gospel amid the temporal pressures of our troubled days. For the unity of the Church we pray, and for fellowship across the embittered lines of race and nation; to growth in grace, building in love, enlargement in service, increase in wisdom, faith, charity, and power, we dedicate our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING  
*John Chrysostom (UMH, 412)*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three gathered in his name, you will be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION  
*EPHESIANS 3:20-21 (BCP, 126)*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.
Morning Prayer – Saturday, February 23, 2019

OPENING VERSE Philippians 1:2 (BCP, 78)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

CONFESSION (UMH, 891)

Everyone: Almighty and most merciful God, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

All in pray in silence.

Leader: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 2:5-25

PSALM 45 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king;

People: My tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

Leader: You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips;

People: Therefore God has blessed you forever.

Leader: Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your glory and majesty.

People: In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of truth

Leader: And to defend the right; let your right hand teach you dread deeds.
People: Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king’s enemies;
Leader: The peoples fall under you.

People: Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.
Leader: Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

People: You love righteousness and hate wickedness.
Leader: Therefore God, your God, has anointed you

People: With the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
Leader: your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

People: From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;
Leader: Daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;

People: At your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
Leader: Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;

People: Forget your people and your father’s house,
Leader: And the king will desire your beauty.

People: Since he is your lord, bow to him;
Leader: The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts,

People: The richest of the people with all kinds of wealth.
Leader: The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;

People: In many-colored robes she is led to the king;
Leader: Behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

People: With joy and gladness they are led along
Leader: As they enter the palace of the king.

People: In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons;
Leader: You will make them princes in all the earth.
People: I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ROMANS 1:1-32

CHRIST HYMN (CPOR, 39-40) N Colossians 1:15-19 PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

Leader: May our minds be like that of Christ Jesus,

People: who, though he was in the form he was in the form of God,

Leader: did not regard equality with God

People: as something to be exploited,

Leader: but emptied himself,

People: taking the form of a slave,

Leader: being born in human likeness.

People: And being found in human form,

Leader: he humbled himself

People: and became obedient to the point of death.

Leader: even death on a cross.

People: Therefore, God also highly exalted him

Leader: and gave him the name that is above every name,

People: so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

Leader: in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

People: and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 6:1-34
STATEMENT OF FAITH OF UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA (UMH, 883)

Let us respond to the word by joining together in an affirmation of faith from the United Church of Canada.

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God’s presence,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

*Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019*

*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*
In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. 

Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: NO IDEA WHERE I AM GOING

Thomas Merton

My LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me and you will never leave me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

PRAYER OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING (BCP, 125)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, 

We your unworthy servants give you humble thanks 

For all your goodness and loving-kindness 

to us and to all whom you have made. 

We bless you for our creation, preservation, 

and all the blessings of this life; 

but above all for your immeasurable love 

in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; 

for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. 

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, 

That with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

BENEDICTION ROMANS 15:13 NRSV

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Evening Prayer – Saturday, February 23, 2019

OPENING VERSE: EZEKIEL 18:27 New Revised Standard Version

Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

CONFESSION (UMH, 892)

*People:* Our heavenly Father, who by thy love hast made us, and through thy love hast kept us, and in thy love wouldst make us perfect: We humbly confess that we have not loved thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ hath loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness hath hindered thee. We have not lived by faith. We have resisted thy Spirit. We have neglected thine inspirations.

   Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that thou mayest come into the full glory of thy creation, in us and in all the people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

*Leader:* The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If any one sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT: GENESIS 2:5-25

PSALM 2

*Leader:* Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?

*People:* The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,

*Leader:* Against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

*People:* “Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us.”

*Leader:* He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.

*People:* Then he will speak to them in his wrath,

*Leader:* And terrify them in his fury, saying,
People: “I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.”

Leader: I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have begotten you.

People: Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

Leader: And the ends of the earth your possession.

People: You shall break them with a rod of iron,

Leader: And dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

People: Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Leader: Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling kiss his feet,

People: Or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;

Leader: For his wrath is quickly kindled.

People: Happy are all who take refuge in him.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ROMANS 2:1-29

CANTICLE OF MOSES AND MIRIAM Cantemus Domino (UMH, 135)

Leader: Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying,

People: “I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation;

People: This is my God whom I will praise.

Leader: I will exalt my father’s God who is a mighty warrior, whose name is the Lord.

People: Pharaoh’s chariots and his host the Lord cast into the sea; and his chosen officers are sunk in the Red Sea.

Leader: The floods cover them; they went down into the depths like a stone.

People: Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

Leader: “Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, terrible in glorious deeds, doing wonders?
People: You stretched out your right hand, the earth swallowed them.

Leader: In your steadfast love, you have led the people whom you have redeemed;

People: You have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

Leader: “You will bring them in, and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode, the place, O Lord, which your hands have established.

People: The Lord will reign for ever and ever.”

Leader: Then Miriam, the prophet, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and dancing, and Miriam sang to them:

People: “Sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously; the horse and its rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.”

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 7:1-29

NICENE CREED (UMH, 880)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION
Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

*Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019*

*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Amen.*

**LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)**

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**PRAYER: FOR THE CHURCH**

*Prayer # 7 (BCP, 816)*

Gracious Father, we pray for thy holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; Where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. Amen.

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*Liturgy of Evening Prayer, Syria (UMBOW, 574-75)*

We praise and thank you, O God, for you are without beginning and without end. Through Christ, you created the whole world; through Christ, you preserve it. You made the day for the works of light and the night for the refreshment of our minds and bodies. Keep us now in Christ; grant us a peaceful evening, a night free from sin; and bring us at last to eternal life. Through Christ and in the Holy Spirit, we offer you all glory, honor, and worship, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

**BENEDICTION**

*Numbers 6:24-25 (UMBOW, 560)*

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. **Amen.**
Morning Prayer—Sunday, February 24, 2018

OPENING VERSE: MATTHEW 18:19 New Revised Standard Version

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

CONFESSION (UMH, 893)

Leader: Lord, we confess our day to day failure to be truly human.

People: Lord, we confess to you.

Leader: Lord, we confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are, often because we do not fully understand what loving means, often because we are afraid of risking ourselves.

People: Lord, we confess to you.

Leader: Lord, we cut ourselves off from each other and we erect barriers of division.

People: Lord, we confess to you.

Leader: Lord, we confess that by silence and ill-considered word

People: We have built walls of prejudice.

Leader: Lord, we confess that by selfishness and lack of sympathy

People: We have stifled generosity and left little time for others.

Leader: Holy Spirit, speak to us. Help us listen to your word of forgiveness, for we are very?deaf. Come, fill this movement and free us from sin.

OLD TESTAMENT: DEUTERONOMY 6:1-25

PSALM 133 & 134 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

People: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,

Leader: On the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

People: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

Leader: For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.
People: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
Leader: who stand by night in the house of the LORD!
People: Lift up your hands to the holy place, and bless the LORD.
Leader: May the LORD, maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: ROMANS 3:1-31

CANTICLE OF THE HOLY TRINITY Te Deum Laudamus (UMH, 80)

Leader: We praise you, O God.

People: We acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you, Father everlasting.

Leader: To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and are full of your
 glory.

Leader: The glorious company of the apostles praise you.

People: The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

Leader: The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

People: Throughout the world the holy church acclaims you: Father, of majesty
 unbounded, your glorious, true and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and
 guide.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 17:1-17

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: ROMANS 8:35, 37-39 (UMH, 887)

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or
 persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us.
 We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things
 present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything
else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God. Thanks be to God! Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

*Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019*

*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

PRAYER: FOR THE CHURCH (UMBOW, 501)

O gracious God, we pray for your holy Church universal, that you would be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where is right, establish it; where it is want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunité it; for the sake of him who died and rose again, and ever lives to make intercession for us, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: *Venite* PSALM 95:1-7 (BCP, 82)

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving

and extol him with music and song.

For the LORD is the great God,
the great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth,

and the mountain peaks belong to him.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow down in worship,

let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

BENEDICTION **JUDE 24-25** (UMBOW, 157)

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! **Amen.**
OPENING PRAYER ISAIAH 1:18 New International Version

‘Come now, let us settle the matter,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.’

CONFESSION PSALM 51:1-17 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

People: According to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Leader: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Leader: Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

People: So that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Leader: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

People: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Leader: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

People: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Leader: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

People: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Leader: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

People: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation,

Leader: And my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

People: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
Leader: For you have no delight in sacrifice;

People: If I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

Leader: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;

People: A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 7:1-26

PSALM 118:14-29 New Revised Standard Version

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

People: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

Leader: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted;

People: The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

Leader: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

People: The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Leader: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

People: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

Leader: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Leader: This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

People: This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

People: O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

People: We bless you from the house of the LORD.
Leader: The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

People: Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

People: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13

SONG OF MARY LUKE 1:46-55 (UMH 199)

Leader: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

People: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant.

Leader: From this day all generations shall call me blessed:

People: The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is the name of the Lord, whose mercy is on those who fear God from generation to generation.

Leader: The arm of the Lord is strong, and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

People: God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

Leader: God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich empty away.

People: God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant, remembering the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to the Abraham and his children for ever.

GOSPEL LESSON: MARK 7:1-23

APOSTLES’ CREED (UMH, 881)

In response to the word of the Lord, let us affirm our faith through the Apostles’ Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

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A moment of Silence

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH (TDWWP, 145-146)

You have called us, O God, to do the work of your church as careful and efficient stewards. To this end we bind together our congregations and govern them through the work of General Conference 2019 in which we consult and consider together pressing matters before the church. Give wisdom and vision to those who serve us as delegates to our General Conference. Let not the weariness of their duties distract them nor the emotion of the issues they face prejudice them in the decisions they must make.

Give all delegates a love for your whole church—a desire not only to serve you as we now can but also a determination to bring unity to divided churches, that the world may more readily receive the Gospel the way of peace and unity. Through Christ who is the head of the body, the church. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Gloria in Excelsis (UMH, 82)

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will to all.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory:

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

BENEDICTION ROMANS 15:13 (UMBOW, 561)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
OPENING VERSE **MARK 13:35-36**

Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping.

CONFESSION Christ’s Lament Against His Faithless Church (UMBOW, 364)

*Leader:* O my people, O my Church,

What have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?

I led you forth from the land of Egypt

And delivered you by the waters of baptism,

But you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People:* Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,

Have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna;

I brought you through times of persecution and of renewal

And gave you my body, the bread of heaven;

But you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

*People:* Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,

Have mercy upon us.

*Leader:* I made you branches of my vineyard

And gave you the water of salvation,

But when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar and gall

And pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

*People:* Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,

Have mercy upon us.
Leader: I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
   But you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
   I brought you to a land of freedom and prosperity,
   But you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.

People: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
   Have mercy upon us.

Leader: I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom,
   But you have given me a crown of thorns.
   I raised you on high with great power,
   But you have hanged me on the cross.

People: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
   Have mercy upon us.

Leader: My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
   And washed your feet as a servant,
   But you draw the sword to strike in my name
   And seek high places in my kingdom.

People: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
   Have mercy upon us.

Leader: I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes,
   But you scatter and deny and abandon me.
   I sent the Spirit of truth to lead you,
   But you close your hearts to guidance.

People: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
   Have mercy upon us.

Leader: I called you to go and bring forth fruit,
But you cast lots for my clothing.
I prayed that you all may be one,
But you continue to quarrel and divide.

_People:_ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
    Have mercy upon us.

_Leader:_ I grafted you into the tree of my chosen people Israel,
    But you turned on them with persecution and mass murder.
    I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants,
    But you made them scapegoats for your own guilt.

_People:_ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
    Have mercy upon us.

_Leader:_ I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters.
    I was hungry but you gave me no food,
    Thirsty but you gave me no drink.
    I was a stranger but you did not welcome me,
    Naked but you did not clothe me,
    Sick and in prison but you did not visit me.

_People:_ Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
    Have mercy upon us.

A brief silence follows.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: PROVERBS 5:1-23

PSALM 40 New Revised Standard Version

_Leader:_ I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

_People:_ He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,

_Leader:_ And set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
**People:** He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

**Leader:** Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

**People:** Happy are those who make the LORD their trust,

**Leader:** Who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

**People:** You have multiplied, O LORD my God,

**Leader:** Your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.

**People:** Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

**Leader:** Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.

**People:** Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

**Leader:** Then I said, “Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

**People:** I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.”

**Leader:** I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;

**People:** See, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

**Leader:** I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,

**People:** I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

**Leader:** I have not concealed your steadfast love

**People:** And your faithfulness from the great congregation.

**Leader:** Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;

**People:** Let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

**GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON:** ROMANS 12:1-21

**FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH (ISAIAH 12:2-6) Ecce, Deus (BCP, 86)**

**Leader:** Surely, it is God who saves me:
People: I will trust in him and not be afraid.

Leader: For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

People: And he will be my Savior.

Leader: Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing,

People: From the springs of salvation.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

People: Make his deeds known among the peoples;

Leader: Make his deeds known among the peoples;

People: See that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Leader: Sing the praise of the Lord, for he has done great things,

People: And this is known in all the world.

Leader: Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,

People: For the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL LESSON: MARK 7:1-23

STATEMENT OF FAITH: THE KOREAN METHODIST CHURCH (UMH, 884)

We believe in the one God,

Creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations,

The source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ,

God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strengthen.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins,

In the life of love and prayer,

And in grace equal to every need.
We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments
As the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.
We believe in the church,
Those who are united in the living Lord
For the purpose of worship and service.
We believe in the reign of God
As the divine will realized in human society,
And in the family of God,
Where we are all brothers and sisters.
We believe in the final triumph of righteousness
And in the life everlasting. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

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*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*A moment of Silence*

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.
PRAYER FOR CHURCH UNITY  *Dionysius of Alexandria* (BCW, 426-27)

God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair, in you is calmness, peace, and concord. Heal the dissensions that divide us from one another and bring us back to a unity of love bearing some likeness to your divine nature. Through the embrace of love and the bonds of godly affection, make us one in the Spirit by your peace which makes all things peaceful. We ask this through the grace, mercy, and tenderness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* (UMH, 64)

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

BENEDICTION *1 Corinthians 16:13* *Common English Bible*

Stay awake, stand firm in your faith, be brave, be strong. Everything should be done in love.
Evening Prayer – Monday, February 25, 2019

OPENING VERSE: 1 JOHN 1:9 New Revised Standard Version

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

LITANY OF Penance (EDH, 6)

Leader: Most holy and merciful Father:

People: I confess to you and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what I have done, by what I have left undone.

Leader: I have not loved you with my whole heart, and mind, and strength. I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I have not forgiven others, as I have been forgiven.

People: Have mercy on me, Lord.

Leader: I have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. I have not been true to the mind of Christ. I have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: Have mercy on me, Lord.

Leader: I confess to you, Lord, all my past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of my life.

People: I confess to you, Lord.

Leader: My self-indulgent appetites and ways, and my exploitation of other people,

People: I confess to you, Lord.

Leader: My anger at my own frustration, and my envy of those more fortunate than I,

People: I confess to you, Lord.

Leader: My intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and my dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: I confess to you, Lord.

Leader: My negligence in prayer and worship, and my failure to commend the faith that is in me,

People: I confess to you, Lord.
Leader: Accept my repentance, Lord, for the wrongs I have done: for my blindness to human need and suffering, and my indifference to indulgence and cruelty,

People: Accept my repentance, Lord.

Leader: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward my neighbors, and for my prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from me,

People: Accept my repentance, Lord.

Leader: For my waste and pollution of your creation, and my lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: Accept my repentance, Lord.

Leader: Restore me, good Lord, and let your anger depart from me, favorably hear me for your mercy is great.

People: Accomplish in me and all of your church the work of your salvation, that I may show forth all your glory in the world.

All: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord, bring me with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: SONG OF SONGS 1:1-17

PSALM 27NRSV

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Leader: When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—

People: My adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

Leader: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

People: Though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

Leader: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

People: To live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

Leader: To behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

People: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
Leader: he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

People: Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,

Leader: and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

People: I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Leader: Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

People: “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”

Leader: Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.

People: Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

Leader: Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

People: If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.

Leader: Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

People: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,

Leader: For false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

People: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

All: Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: JAMES 1:1-27

CANTICLE: SECOND SONG OF ISAIAH (ISAIAH 55:6-11) Quaerite Dominum (BCP, 86)

Leader: Seek the Lord while he wills to be found;

People: Call upon him when he draws near.

Leader: Let the wicked forsake their ways

People: And the evil ones their thoughts;

Leader: And to our God, for he will richly pardon.

People: For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

Leader: Nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.
People: For as the heavens are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Leader: For as rain and snow fall from the heavens

People: And return not again, but water the earth,

Leader: Bringing forth life and giving growth,

People: Seed for sowing and bread for eating,

Leader: So is my word that goes forth from my mouth;

People: It will not return to me empty;

Leader: But it will accomplish that which I have purposed,

People: And prosper in that for which I sent it.

Leader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 13:31-35

NICENE CREED (UMH, 880)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019

Names of members to General Conference may be read.

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

A moment of Silence

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: WHEN I WANT TO BUILD UP THE CHURCH (365 Pocket Prayers)

Dear Jesus,

Let the church be a place where Christian fellowship cultivates honest sharing about what really matters, encouragement to stay strong in the face of temptation and persecution, and godly wisdom for dealing with life’s problems. Help us to be a powerful example of your love and faithfulness. Bless your church, and may it be a place where people can fellowship and experience your presence in a powerful way. Amen.

PRAYER OF GENERAL THANKSGIVING Father, We Thank You (UMH, 565)

Father, we thank you, for you planted your holy name within our hearts, Knowledge and faith and life immortal Jesus your Son to us imparts. Lord, you have made all for your pleasure, and given us food for all our days, giving in Christ the bread eternal; yours is the power, be yours the praise.
Watch o’er your church, O Lord, in mercy, save it from evil, guard it still; perfect it in your love, unite it cleanse and conformed unto your will. As grain, once scattered on the hill sides, was in the broken bread made one, so from all lands your church be gathered into your kingdom by your Son. Amen.

Benediction Jude 1:24-25 Common English Bible

To the one who is able to protect you from falling, and to present you blameless and rejoicing before his glorious presence, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, belong glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, now and forever. Amen.
Morning Prayer – Tuesday, February 26, 2018

OPENING VERSE Revelation 1:7-8 Common English Bible

Look, he is coming with the clouds! Every eye will see him, including those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. This is so. Amen. “I am the Alpha and Omega,” says the Lord God, “the one who is and was and is coming, the Almighty.”

LITANY OF CONFESSION (UMH, 26)

Leader: Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to almighty God.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father. For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn to thee: Have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to the everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 30:1-20

PSALM 105:1-11

Leader: O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name,

People: Make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

People: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Leader: Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

People: Remember the wonderful works he has done,

Leader: His miracles, and the judgments he has uttered,
People: O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Leader: He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

People: He is mindful of his covenant forever,

Leader: Of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,

People: The covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,

Leader: which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant,

People: Saying, “To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance.”

GLORIA PATRI (UMH, 70)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 JOHN 4:1-21

CANTICLE: THIRD SONG OF ISAIAH (ISAIAH 60:1-3,11a, 14c, 18-19) (BCP, 87-88)

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

People: And the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.

Leader: For behold, darkness covers the land;

People: Deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

Leader: But over you the Lord will rise,

People: And his glory will appear upon you.

Leader: Nations will stream to your light,

People: And kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Leader: Your gates will always be open;

People: By day or night they will never be shut.

Leader: They will call you, The City of the Lord.

People: The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Leader: Violence will no more be heard in your land,
People: Ruin or destruction within your borders.

Leader: You will call your walls, Salvation,

People: And all your portals, Praise.

Leader: The sun will no more be your light by day;

People: By night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 24:13-34

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Athanasian Creed (Asbury Hymnal, xv)

Leader: Whosoever will be saved, before all things it is necessary that they hold the catholic faith. And the catholic faith is this: That we worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance.

People: For there is one Person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But, the godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, is all one, the glory equal, the majesty co-eternal.

Leader: Such as the Father is, such is the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. And yet they are not three gods, but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord. And yet not three lords, but one Lord.

People: So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. And yet they are not three gods, but one God. So likewise the Father is Lord, the Son Lord, and the Holy Spirit Lord. And yet not three lords, but one Lord.

Leader: And in the Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another, but all three Persons are co-eternal together and co-equal. So that in all things the Unity in Trinity and the Trinity in Unity is to be worshipped. He therefore that will be saved must think thus of the Trinity.

People: Furthermore, it is necessary to everlasting salvation that we also believe rightly of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the right faith is, that we believe and confess, that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and man; God, of the substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; and man of the substance of his mother, born in the world; perfect God and perfect man.

Leader: For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ; who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, He sits at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the quick and the dead. At His
coming all will rise again with their bodies and shall give account for their own works. And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting; and they that have done evil into everlasting fire.

*People:* This is the catholic faith, which except we believe faithfully, we cannot be saved.

**TIME OF INTERCESSION**

Almighty God, we come before you asking that you would give the wisdom and discernment that comes from you for all the members and attendees to General Conference 2019. Strengthen them in their time of holy conferencing to find a solution to our future stance on human sexuality. We pray for all those who are present in St. Louis.

*Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference 2019*

*Names of members to General Conference may be read.*

In the midst of our time of challenge and distress, may your holy love be known more by all of us with each passing day; we pray this in your name, One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)**

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**PRAYER: FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER BEFORE ICON CRUCIFIX OF SAN DAMIANO**

Most High, Most glorious God, Enlighten the darkness of my heart.

Grant me a right and true faith, a certain hope, and a perfect charity,

Feeling, and understanding of You, so that I may be able to accomplish

Your holy and just commands. *Amen.*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Didache 10.2-7 (Apostolic Fathers in English, 168-169)**

We give you thanks, Holy Father,

For your holy name, which you have caused to dwell in our hearts,

And for the knowledge and faith and immortality that you have made
Known to us through Jesus your servant;
To you be the glory forever.
You, almighty Master, created all things for your name’s sake,
And eternal life through your servant.
Above all we give thanks to you because you are mighty;
To you be the glory forever.
Remember your church, Lord,
To deliver it from all evil and to make it perfect in your love;
And from the four winds gather the church that has been sanctified into your kingdom,
Which you have prepared for it;
For yours is the power and the glory forever.
May grace come, and may this world pass away.
Hosanna to the God of David.
If anyone is holy, let him come;
If anyone is not, let him repent.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus, Come! Amen.

BENEDICTION REVELATION 7:12, 16-17 Common English Bible

Blessing and glory, and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power, and might be to our God forever and always. Amen. They won’t hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear.
Evening Prayer – Tuesday, February 26, 2018

OPENING VERSE  Common English Bible  I think this is the wrong verse citation

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is coming.

OPENING PRAYER  A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition (UMH, 607)

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,

Exalted for thee or brought low by thee.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things

To thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON  ISAIAH 25:1-8

PSALM 150

Leader:  Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

People:  Praise him in his mighty firmament!

Leader:  Praise him for his mighty deeds;

People:  Praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

Leader:  Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

People:  Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Leader: Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

People: Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: REVELATION 21:1-7

A SONG TO THE LAMB Revelation 4:11, 5:9-10, 13 (BCP, 93-94)

Splendor and honor and kingly power are yours by right, O Lord our God,

For you created everything that is, and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, for with your blood you have redeemed for God,

From every family, language, people, and nation, a kingdom of priests to serve our God.

And so, to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb,

Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, for ever and for evermore.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 21:1-25

APOSTLES’ CREED (UMH, 881)

In response to the word of the Lord, let us affirm our faith through the Apostles’ Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

TIME OF INTERCESSION

Gracious Lord, we thank you for our time together and for all our delegates at General Conference 2019. We ask that you would provide us your peace as we go forward to living for Jesus. Help us boldly to live out your truth and compassion in our lives. We pray for all those returning home from General Conference in St. Louis provide them peace and comfort.

Time for lifting up the concerns aloud for General Conference delegates and their travel home

Names of members to General Conference may be read.
We thank you for the commitment and service of all those who have studied, prayed, and served in many different ways to help make this conference possible. We thank you that you are with us always no matter who we are and no matter where we go. We thank you for your great love that is beyond our imagination. We long for you to make all things new in your New Creation at the end of the age.

We pray this in the Holy Name of the One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER (UMH, 895)

Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER: FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH (BCP, 816)

Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Augustine of Hippo (The Confessions)

Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours.

BENEDICTION REVELATION 22:20-21 Common English Bible

The one who bears witness to these things says, “Yes, I’m coming soon.” Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.
List of Delegates to General Conference 2019

Prayer Requests

Virginia Conference
Virginia Conference Delegations Prayer Request

_Clergy Representatives_


**Rev. Meredith McNab**Faithful Humility

**Rev. Ted Smith**

**Rev. Ileana Rosario** I ask for prayers for strength and healing so I can serve faithfully as a delegate in St Louis; also for wisdom and compassion.

**Rev. Peter Moon** The wisdom to discern God’s will and that we could demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit throughout!

**Rev. Tammy Estep** Prayers for the fruit of the Spirit, for love of God and love of neighbor, and for holy conversations with fellow United Methodists from across the water.

**Rev. Dr. Denise Honeycutt**

**Dr. Clarence Brown, Jr.**

**Rev. Peter Moon**

**Dr. Kendall Soulen**

**Rev. Mark Ogren**

**Rev. Dr. Rob Vaughn**

_Clergy Reserved Delegates_

**Rev. Seonyoung Kim**

**Rev. Bob Cooper**

_Lay Representatives_

**Martha Stokes** Prayers for her family, especially her mother.

Pray for wisdom and God’s guidance to lead the delegation and our work spiritually, that we might model for the Virginia Conference and the other delegations a way of relating to and talking with one another in deep respect out of our Christian love for one another.
Pray for mental, physical, and emotional health; afterwards for healing and renewal.

**Shirley Cauffman** Pray for discernment of God’s will for his church.

**Joyce Winston** Pray for all who attend to listen to God's wisdom and for our discernment as we discuss and vote on the issues.

**Alison Malloy** Prayers for provision.

**Warren Harper** Pray for our church and the mission our Lord has placed in our path.

**Jake Paysour** Pray for discernment that those voting will do so based on a long process of discerning the way the Spirit is moving us as a church, and for traveling mercies.

**Beth Christian** Prayer for less anger.

**Nathaniel Bishop**

**Virginia Greer**

**Darlene Amon**

**Joyce Winston**

**Gene Mims**

**Marshall Bailey**

*Lay Reserved Delegates*

**Lawrence Burian**

**Jacob Paysour**
Bibliography


