

St. Luke's Prayer Calendar

April 2019

Monday, April 1

Almighty God, you call us to serve you not because we are wise by human standards or influential or noble. You chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. You chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. Our weakness is made perfect in your strength. Equip us to answer your calling. All honor and glory are yours. Amen.

Tuesday, April 2

Heavenly Father, you have searched my heart, and you know me. Help me to be honest with myself so that I may fully repent and surrender my heart to you. Guide me to let go of my worldly ways, and give me new habits that draw me closer to you. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Wednesday, April 3

Lord, in this time of Lent, grant me the self-discipline I need to spend time with you. I know that when I do my part and study your word, you break open the Scriptures and make them come alive for me. I know that when I pray, you are with me and you hear my prayers. Help me to remember the joy of spending time with you so that I make it a priority in my daily life. Amen.

Thursday, April 4

Dear Heavenly Father, teach us to abide in your word. Help us to see the truth, to live in the truth, and to be authentic. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

-Prayer by Frances Callender, Goodwill Sunday School Class

Friday, April 5

Our Father, please help us to fully surrender ourselves to you...to fully obey your two commandments to love...first, to love you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength...and second, to love our neighbors as ourselves. Help us to do just that every day, with each person, whoever they are, wherever they are from, whenever or wherever we happen to be. Please help us, dear Lord. Amen.

Saturday, April 6

Gracious God, I confess that I get distracted by the world around me. So, today, I pray that you would help me find a way to turn off the worldly distractions and turn my focus to you. Lord, give me a time and space for quiet meditation, reflection, and prayer. Speak to me and renew my spirit. Amen.

Sunday, April 7

Dear Gracious Jesus, may we intently travel this Lenten season to the cross walking beside you and holding your hand tight. We know the incredible sacrifice you made for our salvation. Let us continue to faithfully pass on your love, passion, and forgiveness to everyone in our path. Amen. -Prayer by Chris LaFollette

Monday, April 8

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of Mondays. Thank you for the start of a new week with new opportunities to join you in your Kingdom work here on earth. Fill me with your light of life, and guide me to share your light with those whom I meet today. Amen.

Tuesday, April 9

God, thank you for the celebration of Lent and the spiritual opportunities that you provide for me. Give me the courage to boldly try something new that takes me out of my comfort zone and leads me further in my journey of faith. Amen.

Wednesday, April 10

Jesus, I come to you knowing that I have failed to meet the expectations that you want so badly for me, yet you still love me each and every day. I pray during this season of Lent that I will have a renewed focus to live my life better than yesterday. With your help, I will succeed. Amen.

-Prayer by J. David Anderson, Goodwill Sunday School Class

Thursday, April 11

Heavenly Father, thank you for all of the blessings you give to us every day. Thank you for providing for our needs and for always being there for us. Thank you for your unconditional love. Amen.

Friday, April 12

Gracious God, we confess that we oftentimes look at things from a pessimistic point-of-view. Help us to remember that when you created the world, you made it very good. Teach us to look for the good things in all situations with grateful hearts. Amen.

Saturday, April 13

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gifts of eternal salvation in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit of truth. Guide our thoughts and actions so that we may point the world back to you. Set us apart so that others may see your love in us and will want to come to know you also. Amen.

Sunday, April 14 – Palm Sunday

Almighty God, today we wave our palms remembering Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. As we move into this most holy of weeks and toward the great celebration of Easter, help us to always be mindful that, because of Jesus' suffering and death, we are set free from our sins and given a new life in you. Guide us in how we can best serve so that others may see your love at work in us. Amen.

-Prayer by Dr. Linda Christians

Monday, April 15

Heavenly Father, as we turn toward you during Lent, guide us to find new strength in you to manage our human condition. Grant us spiritual renewal that takes us to a new place in our journey of faith. Transform our hearts so that we are changed for your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Tuesday, April 16

Gracious God, let us confess our sins and surrender our hearts to you so that we may experience the depth of your grace. Purify our hearts, and create in us a renewed sense of faith. Lead us to your paths of righteousness so that we may be an example of abundant life in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday, April 17

Dear Loving God, We thank you daily for dying on the cross to save us from our sins. We are so fortunate to have your loving image to give us hope and guide us every day. Help us to remember the most important thing is to love each other as YOU have loved us. Amen.

-Prayer by Becky Kidd

Thursday, April 18 – Maundy Thursday

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of family to love and care for us. Guide us to be all that you have called us to be in our family roles. Help us to share your love, peace, and grace in our family relationships so that we are united in you. Amen.

Friday, April 19 – Good Friday

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. We don't like to admit that we need a place to put our sin, but we do. Our secrets and selfishness and shame and shadows – today we admit that we can't handle or fix or resolve any of it, so we hang it all on you while you hang on a cross. Your sacrifice is our freedom. What wondrous love is this? Amen.

-Prayer by Rev. David Horton

Saturday, April 20

Gracious God, thank you for a savior who came down from Heaven to be with us and teach us. Thank you, God, for a savior who gave us a human example and who laid down his life for us. Thank you, God, for turning Good Friday into Easter Sunday. Amen.

Sunday, April 21 – Easter Sunday

O God of Life, today, death has no dominion over me. I am alive abundantly. I am alive eternally. I am alive in you. The empty tomb is a sign – you are alive – alive in our midst, alive in my heart. And because you live, I also can live. Alleluia! Amen!

-Prayer by Dr. Tom Pace

Monday, April 22

Heavenly Father, as we return to our daily life after celebrating Lent and Easter, help us to remember the power of the resurrection and the gift of your grace. Let us no longer settle for ordinary things, but help us to seek first your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Tuesday, April 23

Dear God, thank you for all the Kid's Hope volunteers. Please guide each relationship as the children learn about the joys of friendship with their mentors. Bless their times together each week with smiles and laughter. In the name of your son Jesus I pray. Amen.

-Prayer by Becky Palmer

Wednesday, April 24

Dear God, You have graciously given me yet another day filled with many blessings to enjoy. Thank you. I confess, however, that I often fail to focus on my blessings but rather find myself dwelling on my past mistakes and worrying about what may happen in the future. Help me to joyfully live in the present, to rejoice in the day the Lord has made and to be glad in it. Amen.

Thursday, April 25

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the gift of our faith community. Help us reach out and connect with those who may have different perspectives. Keep our hearts and minds open and guide us to value the amazing diversity of the world you have given us. Fill us with your spirit of love and gentleness. Amen.

-Prayer by Cheryl Bryan, Genesis Class

Friday, April 26

Dear Heavenly Father, I live in wonderment of your presence and how you show up in my life. Even when I try to hide in darkness, you find me, often in the least expected places with the least expected people. You bless me with the St. Luke's Community...who meets me in my walk. I immediately feel their strength and encouragement. They are with me in my brokenness. Heartfelt gratitude for the magnitude of this Community...so undeserving, yet, so abundantly given. It's all about you God. Let me be your window in Christ. Amen.

-Prayer by Debbi Brod

Saturday, April 27

Heavenly Father, we are grateful for the privilege of residing in the USA with its many freedoms. We pray for our nation and, especially, for its leaders. Micah 6:8 tells us: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (NIV) Lord, we ask you to instill in each leader the ability and courage to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you while performing the jobs for which they were elected or appointed. Amen.

-Prayer by Neil Stovall, Goodwill Sunday School Class

Sunday, April 28

Loving God, you gave us the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves so that we can align our hearts with you and your love. Thank you, Lord, for the complexity of this simple commandment. Help us to wholeheartedly love one another as you have loved us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Monday, April 29

There is nothing I want more, O God, than to be enveloped by your arms and feel that I belong there. Please help me, as I go through life, to realize how many other people need love and acceptance too and to open my arms to assure them that they really belong. Amen.

-Prayer by John Paukune, Goodwill Sunday School Class

Tuesday, April 30

God of all things good, teach us so that we may learn your ways and stay focused on you. Define us with your love so that the world may see your presence in us and want to come to know you and your great love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.