

Happy New Year!

- It is appropriate to refocus our priorities at the beginning of each year. Don't let Satan discourage you saying, "your diet won't last. Your exercise won't matter". The Law is a curb, mirror, and guide, and January is a perfect time to use the Law as a guide toward fruitful behaviors that please our Lord.
- Our Bodies are Temples of the Holy Spirit. WOW! The Bible clearly teaches that we are to take care of ourselves.
- *Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit** within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So **glorify God in your body.** [1 Corinthians 6:18-20 ESV]*
- *Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But **I discipline my body and keep it under control**, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. [1 Corinthians 9:25-27 ESV]*
- *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.** [1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV]*
- And we are to take care of each other - the body of the Church.
- *For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body ... that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now **you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.** [1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 25-27 ESV]*
- Let us commit to take good care of both – our individual bodies and the body of Christ at Faith Lutheran Church in 2025. Amen.

January Prayer Guide

For the renewal of your soul, your friends, your family, and your church.



Jesus' disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray..."

And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name. ..."' [Luke 11:1-2]

You know the Lord's prayer, but **do you have a habit of prayer?**

Prayer keeps us mindful of God's presence and care.

Paul expands prayer beyond "asking God for stuff". He encourages Timothy, who is starting a new church, to teach his people to pray with "**supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings**".

This is the third month we are using the **PRAY** acronym to structure our prayer time.

P **Praise.** "O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your **praise.**" [Psalm 51:15]

R **Repent.** "And Peter said to them, "**Repent** and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" [Acts 2:38 ESV]

A **Ask.** "**Ask**, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." [Matthew 7:7 ESV]

Y **Yield.** "Do not now be stiff-necked as your fathers were, but **yield** yourselves to the LORD and come to his sanctuary, which he has consecrated forever, and serve the LORD your God... [2 Chronicles 30:8 ESV]

Prayer Guide for January

Praise:

As he was drawing near--already on the way down the Mount of Olives--the whole multitude of **his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice** for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" [Luke 19:37-38 ESV]

Repent:

When they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "**Repent** and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." [Acts 2:37-38 ESV]

Ask:

"**Ask**, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." [Matthew 7:7 ESV]

Yield:

And Jesus withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, **not my will, but yours, be done.**" [Luke 22:41-42]

Happy New Year! Let's refocus our priorities and begin new habits of prayer and devotion to the reading of God's word.

Jan.	Gracious Lord, hear our prayer to (insert the prayer of the day)
1 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless this new year with your mercy and grace in all areas of life
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	remind us to take care of our bodies as temples of your Holy Spirit
3 <input type="checkbox"/>	refresh our attitudes toward the vocations you have given us
4 <input type="checkbox"/>	seek you this Epiphany with the diligence of the Magi from the East
5 <input type="checkbox"/>	remind us of our Baptism as we consider the baptism of our Lord
6 <input type="checkbox"/>	give wisdom to our Elders and our Word and Sacrament Ministry
7 <input type="checkbox"/>	grant the FLS Board peace, wisdom, and guidance in the new year
8 <input type="checkbox"/>	increase participation in our Wed. night discussions for your glory

Jan.	Gracious Lord, hear our prayer to (insert the prayer of the day)
9 <input type="checkbox"/>	create in us a hunger for your Word
10 <input type="checkbox"/>	guide and bless parents of our school children
11 <input type="checkbox"/>	abundantly meet the needs of the hungry in our area
12 <input type="checkbox"/>	guide and comfort our church council members in their decisions
13 <input type="checkbox"/>	grow the Piecemakers quilting ministry for your glory
14 <input type="checkbox"/>	increase participation in our Men's Bible study for your glory
15 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless Jane in the daily tasks of managing of our church office
16 <input type="checkbox"/>	raise up more parents to worship God with their families
17 <input type="checkbox"/>	see our part in YOUR mission at Faith Lutheran and in Huntsville
18 <input type="checkbox"/>	comfort the lonely this year and bless them with church friends
19 <input type="checkbox"/>	deepen our appreciation of your body and blood in communion
20 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless our Women's Circles for your glory
21 <input type="checkbox"/>	increase participation in our women's Bible study for your glory
22 <input type="checkbox"/>	help us to manage life's distractions in the new year
23 <input type="checkbox"/>	protect our Pastor and church from all assaults of the enemy
24 <input type="checkbox"/>	teach us to rejoice in gift of Jesus, our savior and Lord
25 <input type="checkbox"/>	increase Monday morning Bible study participation for your glory
26 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless our fellowship gathering at the church this Sunday
27 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless the students, parents, teachers, and aides on their 100 th day
28 <input type="checkbox"/>	receive our heart-felt thanks for all the blessings of this life
29 <input type="checkbox"/>	bless all our infants and bring more to your baptismal font
30 <input type="checkbox"/>	let the children experience the deep love of a church family
31 <input type="checkbox"/>	refocus our priorities for your kingdom in the new year

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.
 May this practice of prayer bless you, your friends/family, and Faith – YOUR church - as we grow to know God and make Him known.