



**FORWARD  
IN FAITH** >>

# PRAYER GUIDE

for the Capital Campaign  
November 2024



## PRAY WITH US STARTING NOVEMBER 4

Prayer is one of the greatest responsibilities and privileges of a Christian believer. Question 116 of the Heidelberg Catechism asks, “Why do Christians need to pray?” The Answer: “Because prayer is the most important part of the thankfulness God requires of us. And also because God gives his grace and Holy Spirit only to those who pray continually and groan inwardly, asking God for these gifts and thanking God for them.”

Prayer expresses our dependence upon and thankfulness to God our Father. It brings glory to God when we cry out to him in prayer. The action of prayer is necessary and of vital importance to our spiritual life, and we want to foster the practice in our corporate life as a church and our lives as families and individuals.

At the heart of this capital campaign is a desire to be with God as we journey forward into the future. Without the movement of the Holy Spirit, every work we perform is in vain. Proverbs 16:3 says, “*Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.*” We desire to submit all our plans and purposes before the Lord Jesus. We want to walk forward with him in faith as we commence this new building and ministry project. This prayer guide seeks to facilitate and guide our relationship and conversation with our Almighty and Holy God.

Thank you to all of the church elders, staff, and members who contributed to this prayer guide! May the Holy Spirit bless your efforts to help unite our church family in prayer!

We are expecting the Lord to do mighty things in these days as a result of your praying. Please join us in steadfastly lifting up these needs and concerns before the one “*who is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen!*”

*Soli deo gloria!*

© Lookout Valley Baptist Church, November 2024

November 4

## *A Journey of Faith*

Exodus 33

*“And Moses said to the LORD, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.”*

The people of Israel encamped at Mount Sinai grew impatient and afraid at Moses' absence on the mountain. Throwing their gold into the fire, Aaron fashioned for them an idol, a golden calf. They worshipped this graven image, declaring it to be the god who liberated them from Egyptian slavery. In a fit of deviance and debauchery, they threw off their commitment to the Lord as they cast aside their clothing in an orgasmic carnival.

The Lord threatened to destroy the people in a moment, for his holiness and justice could tolerate no rebellion. Moses stepped in to mediate and intercede for this wayward people. After a fearsome but brief plague, the sin was purged from their midst, and the remnant was spared. Yet God's wrath still burned against the people, and he refused to go with them even as he reiterated his promise that they would inherit the land of Canaan.

Moses balked at leaving Mt. Sinai without the Lord going up with them. A land flowing with milk and honey would be a weak consolation prize if God were not dwelling in their midst. In agonizing intercession, Moses pleads with the Lord to be with them, leading them from the mountain to the land promised long ago.

The Lord relented and promised to go with Moses and the people. Yet, even this promised presence is not enough for Moses—he desires to see the undiluted glory of God. He not only wants to be around God, he wants to be consumed and overwhelmed by the magnitude and glory of the creator, deliver, and savior of this people, Israel.

Are Moses' desires the desires of Lookout Valley Baptist Church? Do we long to dwell in the presence of God, never content with just the presents of God? Do we ache to see His glory, to see Him high and lifted up, shining in His brilliance and beauty? Do we want to be rid of sin, forsaking the worship of idols and false gods? Do we yearn to walk with Jesus daily and abide in His word? Do we hunger for His direction and gentle leadership?

The grace and mercy of God is on full display as He leads the people to the Promised Land despite their gross and high-handed sin. When the presence of God set out, the people moved in obedience. When the presence stopped, the people set up camp. Wherever He led, the people followed.

This same desire to follow Christ at every step saturates our church's long-range plan and this capital campaign. We do not want to outpace God, nor do we want to lag behind His leading. We want to be right in step with His guiding. We yearn to be with Him and desire to see His glory, beauty, and grace manifested in our church as we move forward in faith.

- *Praise God for His glory, beauty, and grace displayed for us in our Savior and Intercessor, Jesus Christ.*
- *Pray that the Lord would reveal any idols or sin that lurks in your heart. Confess and repent of those now.*
- *Thank God for His continued presence and leadership in the life of our church. He has been faithful to LVBC for almost 100 years!*
- *Ask the Lord to guide our campaign and generously provide us with the funds and resources necessary to build and expand our church campus and the ministry of LVBC.*

*Wade Casey*

November 5

## *A Godward Church*

1 Corinthians 10:31

*“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do,  
do all to the glory of God.”*

What does it mean to be a Godward church? A Godward church is a body of covenanted believers in Jesus who are pursuing Christ together for the purpose of seeking and showing the glory of God in all things; in *“whatever [we] do.”* And that glory is manifested most fully in us when – as an overflow of the satisfaction found in Christ – we joyfully sacrifice for His sake.

Those two words together, joyfully sacrifice, seem like an oxymoron. Isn't that self-contradictory? We might think that sacrifice would result in anything but joy. Misery, suffering – yes. But joy? We see this response of joy throughout the Scriptures from those who willingly embark on faith-filled ventures for the glory of God.

Hebrews 10 describes some nameless first century believers who understood the connection between sacrifice and joy for the sake of the glory of God. They are commended with these words: *“For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one”* (Hebrews 10:34).

They intentionally sacrificed safety and personal possessions because of the overflowing JOY that comes from the promise of eternity with God. They were looking to the reward. That's a Godward church!

And of course the ultimate example is Christ. Notice the connection between sacrifice, joy, and the glory of God demonstrated in Him: *“Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God”* (Hebrews 12:2).

Jesus was looking beyond the sacrifice to the reward on the other side of the cross, and that Godward focus brought Him tremendous JOY! That same joy can be experienced by those who are “in Christ,” seeking to know Him and make Him known, for the glory of God.

- *What are ways you’ve experienced “joy unspeakable” in the midst of difficulty or hardship? Was that joy a consequence of your Godward focus?*
- *How would doing all things for “the glory of God” change your approach to today, and every day?*
- *Pray and ask the Lord to remind you of how supernatural joy comes through intentional, willful sacrifice. Invite the Holy Spirit to prompt you throughout the day to give away your rights in that Godward pursuit.*

*Troy Walliser*

November 6

## *A Unified Church*

Psalm 133

*“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.”*

A church alive with unity is a beautiful picture of the good and peaceful blessings of God. Jesus, in John: 17:21, prayed for future believers to be one so that the world may believe that Jesus was sent by the Father and that His love be in us.

In the current state of the world, the church has the opportunity to exhibit God’s economy instead of the world’s economy which is filled with hatred and division instead of love and unity. May we be a church filled with love for one another and be in one accord.

Would you continue to pray for our unity and relationships with one another during the campaign ahead? Imagine what we could do as a unified and godly body in the days to come if the Lord blesses our fellowship for His glory and our good.

**Prayer:**

*Father we thank you for the love and unity of Lookout Valley Baptist Church. We pray for continued growth in this area. We ask you to bless our next adventure, Forward in Faith. We ask that you bless the building of temporary buildings so that they may be used in building your eternal kingdom. May you use our sacrifices and our love and unity for one another to point to the ultimate sacrifice of the cross. Thank you Jesus that you promised: “I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). Thank you for allowing us to have a part in advancing your kingdom. May you get all the glory.*

*Darrell Smith*



November 7

## *A Loving Church*

John 13:35

*“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

One of the greatest things the church can do is love one another. We must remember the world is watching. In all the church does, in its advertising, programming, members meetings, fellowships, social media comments, etc., there should be genuine Christian love. It is a great witness to the world. The best example of how to love this way is the early church. They did not multiply because of great musicians, impressive teaching, or modern buildings. They multiplied because of how they loved. It unifies the Body of Christ like nothing else.

The two greatest commandments in Scripture are: “Love the Lord our God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself (Mark 12:30-31).” Loving God and loving one another are not options for believers; they are commands. When God's people obey these commands, it simply reveals their desire to be faithful to His Word.

These verses are foundational to a loving church, but 1 Corinthians 10:31 sums it up best: “So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all for the glory of God.” We exist to bring glory to God above all things. It is clear that God loves His Church and when we love the things that He loves, it brings honor and glory to Him. Nothing should get in the way of this mission.

- *Ask your Heavenly Father to reveal any obstacle hindering you from loving others as commanded by Him.*
- *Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in every relationship so that God may be glorified and our church family unified.*
- *Thank God in advance for the blessings He always provides when we follow the truth of His infallible word.*

*Joe Galloway*

November 8

## *Moving the Gospel Forward*

Matthew 28:18-20

***“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”***

Prior to his ascension, Jesus spoke these words to his closest disciples. This was Jesus’ final command to them and to the church. Jesus provides clarifying direction in Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

What do we see as we read through the Acts of the Apostles? We see complete obedience to this command, not just from Jesus’ apostles, but from many of His disciples: Mark, Apollos, Aquila and Priscilla, Barnabas, Luke, Titus, Timothy, and any more.

These are people just like you and me. They believed Jesus. They did not become members of a social club called “The Way” to make them feel connected, to get self-help so they would feel good about themselves, or to progress from one Bible study to another for self-improvement.

No, these people were willing to give their lives—and many of them did—for what they knew to be the truth about their risen Savior. There is no other explanation for the spread of the gospel and the miraculous growth of the church throughout the known world in such a short period of time. The Roman Empire was filled with Christians and churches within one hundred years after Jesus’ commission. Christians were found even among the Roman elite.

For nearly 1,990 years, Jesus' command to the church has not changed. What has changed is His church's lack of obedience to His command. Lookout Valley Baptist Church must be obedient disciples in taking the gospel forward. Lookout Valley is our Jerusalem. Chattanooga is our Judea and Samaria. Zimbabwe and Guatemala are our "remotest parts of the earth."

To take the gospel forward, we don't need to reinvent the wheel; Jesus is our model. John 4 records His conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well. Matthew 19 records His exchange with the rich young ruler. Mark 5 records His one-on-one with the Gerasene demoniac, and John 9 records His interaction with the blind man. There are many more examples that demonstrate Jesus taking the gospel to one person at a time, and that is how we can do it, too. We do not have to speak to multitudes, and we do not have to preach on the street, but we can speak to people one at a time, as Jesus did.

- *Will you repent of any unwillingness to fulfill the great commission?*
- *Will you acknowledge that the Bible teaches us that "perfect love casts out fear?" (1 John 4:8)*
- *Will you love your neighbor as yourself? (Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39)*
- *Will you seek training that will equip and empower you to be an effective witness for your Savior?*

*Mike Barkhuff*

November 9

## *Moving Hurting People Forward*

Psalm 147:3

*“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”*

Broken hearts come in many shapes and sizes. Some hearts are broken over fractured relationships. Some hearts are broken over grief and loneliness. Some hearts are broken over destructive life habits. Whether a heart is broken over the actions and decisions of another person, the difficulty of life’s circumstances, or one’s own ill-advised choices, a broken heart needs mending.

As I reflect on my own story, there are times when my broken heart has needed mending. I remember times when God Himself seemed to meet me personally, individually, through His word. His word ministered to my soul and emotions; He brought me out of deep, dark places through morning quiet times and deliberate Bible study. But perhaps more often, He has ministered to my broken heart through the loving care of another believer. He has brought along a companion with a similar story or struggle. Someone whose heart had been broken in a similar way as my own. These companions (or mentors) were inevitably further along in their stories of healing and wholeness. They could empathize with where I was. They could offer Biblical counsel. They could encourage my weary heart. They ministered to me and (by God’s grace) helped bind up my emotional wounds.

What if we could do that as a body of believers? What if we offered a safe place where one could be known and understood without judgment? What if we provided a source of comfort, encouragement, and Biblical counsel for the one who is hurting? What if we became known as a community of believers who partnered with the Lord to bind up the wounds of our friends and neighbors?

Our peer-led counseling ministry has embraced that very mission. As we embrace the vision of the church to *Move Hurting People Forward*, we offer ourselves as instruments to the Lord. We offer ourselves as carriers of gospel love and hope. We offer ourselves as ambassadors of the One who promises to be near the broken-hearted and to bind up their wounds. And the best news is that this role is not limited to volunteers in a counseling ministry. It is an open invitation to all believers. You, too, are a carrier of gospel love and hope. Who will you carry it to today?

- *If you are in a period of trial or hurt, would you ask the Lord for someone to strengthen and encourage you?*
- *Pray for a heart of compassion and mercy that you can have the eyes to see the hurting, the broken, and the weary.*
- *Ask the Lord for opportunities to minister and counsel others who need the grace of God. Pray that He would equip you to carry the gospel of love and hope to others in need.*
- *Pray for our new G4 Counseling ministry that launches in January. Ask the Lord's favor on those who are leading and those who will receive needed counsel and spiritual support.*

*Beth Reed*

November 10

## *Moving Families Forward*

Psalm 127:3-5

*“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.”*

When I think about God’s greatest blessings on my life, my marriage and children top the list, hands down. When Donnie and I reflect on our family, we are filled with gratitude that, in His sovereignty, God blessed us beyond measure with His gift of children.

How do we move families forward? We recall what God told us about His blessing of children. This Psalm seems to chaotically contrast architecture to childbearing, but it’s actually a parallel—the Lord is the author and architect of all life.

God’s plan for children is often different from our plans for our lives. They are always a blessing, one not contingent upon the outcome or length of their lives. They may have been lost before birth, not be “planned,” easy, convenient, or differently abled, but ALL children are a heritage from the Lord and a blessing regardless of the number of their days or the number of them in our families.

Through the lens of God’s goodness:

- Remember that more children does not equal more blessings.
- God bestows children to families as gifts to be stewarded in connection with His redemptive purposes.
- Our identity is in Jesus, not in our children or our marriages (which can result in idolatry).
- Judge God’s love for you by the fact that He *gave up His child* to die for you.
- God has woven His perfect plan in and through your life, your spouse’s, and your children’s lives.

A message to those of us to whom God has given the gift of children: Show gentle compassion to those who have been asking God for children and are still waiting and those who have been given children who have left this world too soon.

- *Thank God for the sovereign blessing of all children.*
- *Pray that your family and your gratitude for children point others to Christ.*
- *Ask God to comfort the families waiting for children.*
- *Intercede for those waiting to be reunited in eternity with their children.*
- *Thank God for the Baby that was born to save the world.*

*Melissa Pell*

November 11

## *Moving our Neighbors Forward*

Philippians 2:3-11

*“Let each one of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”*

As believers, we are called to reflect the love of Christ by caring for those around us—our neighbors, both near and far. Moving our neighbors forward means taking active steps to serve, uplift, and support those in our community in practical and spiritual ways. Whether they are struggling with physical needs, emotional burdens, or spiritual searching, we have a responsibility to walk alongside them in love.

Could a simple act of service become the beginning of a lasting relationship, woven into the fabric of a loving community?

- Pray for hearts of compassion – *Ask God to give us eyes to see the needs of our neighbors and hearts that are moved to action. Pray that we would be sensitive to the struggles of those around us and respond with Christlike love.*
- Pray for unity and collaboration – *Moving our neighbors forward often requires a united effort. Pray that the church and community partners would come together in service, breaking down barriers that divide, and working together for the common good.*
- Pray for meeting physical and spiritual needs – *Ask God to help us be mindful of both the practical and spiritual needs of our neighbors. Pray that God would use us as instruments to provide for those in need, whether through food, shelter, or the hope found in Jesus Christ.*
- Pray for endurance in service – *Serving others can be exhausting, especially when progress seems slow. Pray for perseverance and faith, trusting that God is at work in every act of kindness and that His love will ultimately transform lives.*

*Nick Burrows*



November 12

## *Moving our LVBC Family Forward*

John 13:35

*“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

The church is called to be the most loving place on earth because God's love is the most important force on earth! Followers of Jesus have been transformed by that gracious love and are compelled to share it with others.

**The church thrives on loving relationships.** It requires going deeper than worship services to more fully experience and express that love—through friendships, life groups, and ministry volunteer teams. There, we learn about each other's histories, personalities, and talents. We listen to each other, accept each other, help each other, and encourage each other. We support each other through life's ups and downs and work with each other to serve God and know Him better.

**This love isn't just for us.** It's also to show the world who Jesus is. Sharing the gospel includes inviting others into our community so they can experience belonging and understand what it means to be loved by God. He wants everyone to be part of His family, to know His forgiveness and redemption, and to find new life with a good heavenly Father and generous brothers and sisters.

**We are all vital parts of this family.** Your unique gifts and experiences make a difference. Whether you're encouraging someone, lending a hand, or simply being present, you can reflect God's love to others. Together, we can make the church the most loving place on earth.

**Reflection:**

- What do you think are the most important characteristics of loving relationships?
- How could you contribute to making a life group, ministry volunteer team, or friendship group in our church a richer relational environment?
- Who could you invite to experience the belongingness of one of those groups?

**Prayer:**

- *Ask the Lord to transform you by His gracious love so that you can share it with others.*
- *Pray about using your gifts and relationships to edify your life group, volunteer ministry team, or group of friends.*
- *Ask the Lord to reveal other people you can invite to experience belonging and love within our church.*

*Jim Creasman*

November 13

## *Depending on God's Provision*

Philippians 4:9

*"And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."*

The first thought in most people's minds when they hear the words of Philippians 4:19 is one of material need. However, the most important need we have is for a savior. That's why Paul concludes that God will supply all our needs according to his riches in glory *in Christ Jesus*.

Our Heavenly Father has supplied the need of a savior to all who will receive it. God sent His only Son in the form of a man to die for us and cover our sin with His shed blood. For all who repent of sin and by faith surrender their life to the Lord Jesus Christ will receive His mercy and grace. This is God's free, undeserved gift of eternal life—a life with and in Jesus Christ.

Our Heavenly Father also sends His Holy Spirit to live in our heart and provide guidance in our daily lives, peace in times of trouble, and comfort in times of sorrow. We can rely on God's provision; He will never leave or fail us.

Our goal should be when we meet our Lord and Savior, at the end of our life, or at His return, to hear Him say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." As Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 4:1-2: "This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful."

- *Pray that the Lord would supply all of our needs in Christ Jesus—both materially and spiritually.*
- *Pray that we would be faithful stewards of what God has entrusted to us as individuals and as a church.*

*John Lively*

November 14

## *Increasing Our Generosity*

Luke 21:1-4

*“Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them...she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”*

Generosity isn't measured by the size of our gift but by the heart behind it. In the above scripture from Luke, we find one of the most potent examples of sacrificial giving. The poor widow, despite her poverty, gave everything she had — two small copper coins — in the temple treasury. To others, her contribution seemed insignificant. But Jesus saw her heart and declared that she had given more than anyone else because she gave out of poverty, not abundance.

This widow's generosity reveals an important truth: God values the condition of our hearts in giving more than the amount we give. She trusted God, and her willingness to give **sacrificially** reflected a deep faith. Her example challenges us to rethink how we view generosity. Are we giving out of our excess, or are we, like the widow, willing to give in a way that **requires faith and trust** in God's provision?

Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 9 remind us that God loves a cheerful giver. Like the widow, our giving should come from a place of joyful trust, not obligation or reluctance. Increasing our generosity means learning to give with an open hand, knowing that everything we have comes from God and is intended to bless others.

God sees our heart when we give, whether it is our time, talents, or resources. He knows the sacrifices we make, even if others do not. Like the widow, we are called to give what we can — not just financially, but in every aspect of life, trusting that God will use our small acts of faithfulness in ways that far exceed our expectations.

**Reflection:**

- How can you practice generosity in your everyday life beyond just financial giving?
- What are some specific areas where God calls you to step out in faith and give generously?
- Have you experienced the joy of giving freely and cheerfully? If not, what is holding you back?

**Prayer:**

*Heavenly Father, thank You for being the ultimate example of generosity. Help me to give from a heart of joy, trusting that You will use what I offer for Your kingdom. Open my eyes to the needs around me and guide me to be a cheerful giver in all areas of my life. Increase my faith and help me to reflect Your love through my generosity. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

"You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving."  
Amy Carmichael

*Russ Patterson*

November 15

## *Raising More Leaders*

2 Timothy 2:1-2

***“What you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.”***

Paul wrote these inspired words to his son in the faith, Timothy. First, Paul is reminding Timothy that the source of strength for his ministry comes from Christ Jesus (*“strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus”*). Then Paul instructs Timothy on his responsibility as a leader in the church (*“entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach”*). We see the importance of leaders in the church throughout the New Testament.

This importance is highlighted clearly in Paul’s letter to Timothy and Titus. In these letters, we see the qualifications for leadership (*faithful men*), and the responsibilities of leaders (*to shepherd, teach, and serve*). A significant number of passages in God’s word inform us of how critical the role of local church leadership is to God. A local church does not thrive without faithful leaders.

This truth also informs us that we must be serious about growing leaders at LVBC. We accomplish this through intentional discipleship programs that are Christ-centered and focused on spiritual and intellectual growth. This strategy enables individuals to grow closer to Jesus and follow His ultimate example of humble, servant leadership. Growing leaders is vital as we move forward in our Capital Campaign and seek to magnify our gospel influence in our community.

None of us know exactly what the future holds, but for the believer a few truths give us hope and confidence: (1) Christ will return, and (2) Christ’s Church will endure. May LVBC be found to be a faithful church because God has raised leaders who will preach and teach the truths of the gospel and serve LVBC for years to come.

- *Thank God for our current leaders at LVBC. Pray they guard the good deposit entrusted to them (2 Timothy 1:14).*
- *Pray that our Capital Campaign efforts will lead to growth in the Kingdom and that God will raise leaders to faithfully serve our congregation for years to come.*

*Josh Lewey*

November 16

## *Enduring in Good Works*

Galatians 6:9 | Hebrews 13:5

*“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”*

I think most people would agree that some days are easier than others to do good things. It may depend on the day, what’s going on in our personal lives, the trials we face, etc. For me, when life gets tough, I can sometimes feel that it’s too hard to even smile and be kind to others, let alone do good works. But thankfully, we who are in Christ are not going through this life alone. The writer of Hebrews declares “God Himself has said, ‘I will never leave or forsake you’ (13:5).”

This is reassuring on days when we feel like we’re on our own. Whether we are walking alone on a dark street, wandering in the desert, or by ourselves at home thinking dark thoughts—God’s promise still holds true—He will never leave or forsake us. After all, one of the enemy’s most effective tactics is to isolate us and make us feel like we’re all alone because that’s when we are the most vulnerable. That is why it is so important for Christians to not forsake gathering together to worship and study the Word.

Truth doesn’t merely depend on our circumstances—it would be so flimsy if that were the case. We find truth written in the Bible, and we are called to obey it. We don’t just say we believe it—we live it out. When we know for a fact that God will never leave or forsake us, we can be encouraged to bless others through good works since He’s the one doing the blessing—He simply delights in using us to do it!

Now remember, we never want to be motivated to do good works to have better favor in God’s eyes or to be in better standing with Him. We are spiritually dead without Christ’s work on the cross, and He already loves us as much as He possibly could love us, which is infinitely more than we could ever love Him in return.

Rather, we are motivated to do good works because we know how good God has been to us when we don't deserve it, especially by "sending His Son to die for us while we were still sinners" (Romans 5:8). We deserve death in the end because we know "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). But God has decided to save those who believe in the Name of Jesus from that fate because of how merciful and gracious He has always been toward His people.

We are His people. You are His child. He loves you. This awesome truth should make you want to live to tell others about how great His love is, and in turn, bless them through good works. Let your light shine today in a big way, because this world needs to know about our great King and what He has done. Let our good works endure and spread to the ends of the Earth until Jesus returns once again!

- *Ask the Lord for a renewed understanding and delight in what He has done for you in Christ Jesus.*
- *Pray that God's work on your behalf would spur you on to work for and serve others.*
- *Pray that our church would endure in doing good to one another, to our neighbors, and to the nations until Christ returns again.*

*Sean Rance*



November 17

## *Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus*

Acts 1:11 | Revelation 22:20

*"This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."*

Jesus is coming back!

It could be today, tomorrow, next week, or next year. Matthew 24:36 says, "Of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone." There is no written time table, but we can be assured it will happen because Jesus promised He would return and He always keeps His promises.

During my mother-in-law's last days, she asked if we could hear the music and the singing. "It is so beautiful" she said. We assumed she was hallucinating because of the pain medication, but as the years have passed, I believe that the Lord was giving her a glimpse of heaven and that He would escort her home.

We can rest in the certainty of His return for us because of His promise in John 14:3, "I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."

As we pursue this new venture in our church's life, let us keep our hearts and minds focused on the return of Christ and the eternal establishment of His kingdom.

### **Prayer**

*Lord, help me to live in constant expectation of your return. Help me to reflect your love, compassion, and forgiveness to everyone I meet. Let me say, with the last words of the bible, "Even so come Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).*

*Gale Wright*

**November 18 and Beyond**  
*More Ways to Pray*

**Adoration:** Reflect on God's greatness, power, majesty, beauty, and generosity. Acknowledge that all that we have comes from Him.

**Confession:** Confess and repent of sin. Confess personal and corporate sin. Reflect on the goodness and kindness of God to forgive you in Christ Jesus.

**Thanksgiving:** Thank the Lord for his salvation, sanctification, provision, and protection. Thank him for his church gathered at Lookout Valley Baptist.

**Supplication:** Make your requests known to God and ask for his provision for you, your family, and our church during this campaign.

Pray for our Elders and Campaign Team during this season. Pray for endurance, faithfulness, and protection from the evil one's attacks.

Pray for spiritual growth among the body and for people to find salvation in Christ. Pray for the expansion of our ministries among our neighbors and nations.

Pray for the Holy Spirit's leadership to stir and direct each family to give their time, talent, and treasure generously.

Pray for each church member's openness to hear God's call to give sacrificially.

Pray for the obedience of each church member to be faithful in their commitments.

Pray for the excellent stewardship of the funds that are given.

Pray for your sacrifice, commitment, and willingness to obey in following God in this endeavor.

Pray for these new facilities to be valuable tools in spreading the gospel through our evangelism and discipleship ministries.



23 Lilac Ave | Chattanooga, TN 37419 | 423-825-5335

[www.lookoutvalley.org](http://www.lookoutvalley.org)