

PRAYER LETTER FOR GRACE OF CHRIST CHURCH | Week of June 22, 2026

Psalm 13

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?² How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, ⁴ lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

⁵ But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. ⁶ I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

I often ask the Lord what He would like me to write about each week. When I prayed about it this week I didn't hear a clear response. More silence than anything. So, I thought about what silence can look like...sound like, when we are talking with God.

Sometimes for me, I am in such a rush to move to the next thing – the silence I am assuming I am receiving from God may just be my inability in that moment to stop. Stop moving, stop thinking, stop doing ... and be still, still in motion and in thought so I can deepen my connection to the Lord.

Other times of silence may be just that. We measure time in minutes, hours, days, weeks, years. The Trinity, Heaven, are not bound by those measurements. Our Lord is in, above, before, after, during... "*I Am who I Am.*" {Exodus 3.14} He is eternal, unchanging. God hears our prayers. But answers don't always come as we desire or expect. We read in the Psalms of David crying out to God for help. We remember the story of Hannah waiting years for her son. Years. Moses was in the wilderness for 40 years (or more?) before God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. And Noah! We can't forget Noah –the Lord warned him of the flood and wanted him to build the ark. He built it and waited for over 100 years!

What do we do, how do we respond to the Lord in times of silence? Do you have testimony to times of spiritual growth or learning more about our Creator and Savior? We may brush off silence and move to the next thing in our daily rush. We may be saddened or confused by the silence. We may feel even further away from God than we ever have felt. Or we may be mad. God knows how we feel! We talk with our Christian friends, we process, we fast, we dive deeper into scripture, we continue to seek God, perhaps crying out as David did. We persevere. We reflect. We grow. And yes, as you've heard me say a few times before, we encourage others. One of the many joys of community as Christ followers – we support one another in the good, the amazing, the bad, the ugly. And we encourage each other as we love, worship, and rejoice in our Lord.

Grateful,
Ericka

PRAISES

- Praise God for our dedicated church staff. You are all so helpful and gracious, true ambassadors for Him.
- Thank You, Lord, for the privilege of being part of Your body. Thank You for Your Spirit at work in us and through us. Thank You that Your word yields fruit that brings life.
- God is good, all the time. He has helped my family through tough times. My brother passed away on the 18th. It was a blessing and He is with our heavenly Father.
- God continues to heal J! We are so grateful.

- We love being here in person.
- Grateful to be at church with our daughter and granddaughter.
- Thankful for another year around the sun!
- Thankful for Sisters in Faith Bible study this summer. Thankful for the friendships made.
- Praise God! Pastor Gregory's study on Peter series continues to be so informative and thought-provoking.
- I thank God for Gate Beautiful, seeing already how it is impacting my life.
- Thankful for God's amazing love and how He allowed us to have precious time with my sister these past seven years before her passing on Easter morning. God is so awesome!
- The Lord gave us cooler weather, a real blessing, as our AC died.
- I thank the Lord for my granddaughter – she is a true and godly friend!

PRAYERS

- Prayers for C's friend S who is struggling with her health and pain. Prayers for healing and that she finds the right treatment.
- Please pray for J who has been invited to church but is spiritually lost and depressed.
- Pray for S who was recently diagnosed with two forms of breast cancer. She is beginning treatment this week.
- Healing for J and inner peace for his caretaker. *Lord, You know the details and their hearts, their broken hearts. Please comfort them, bring them closer together and closer to you with reconciliation, forgiveness, and mercy. May they be in awe of Your goodness.*
- Please pray for me. Lord, give me the strength, power and patience to find every opportunity to share my faith and your goodness with the lost at Mabel Swan.
- Please pray for peace to settle within me as I prepare for a visit from a dear friend from out of town. *Please quiet my soul Lord and bring me peace.*
- S's sister L passed away and the service was Tuesday. Praise God that L loved the Lord. Pray for S's other sister, J who is depressed.
- *Heavenly Father, we ask healing over L's family who are each dealing with physical issues.*
- Healing for D after a fall.
- We need direction from the Lord in knowing how to best help my niece in Denver who has several issues to work through in her life. She has significant health issues and is dealing with the loss of her mother recently. We are trusting God for direction on this urgent matter.
- Prayers for my friend J who has recently lost her husband. She is withdrawn and needs prayers for healing. Also, prayers for my friend J who is in his last days with lung cancer. Healing for his wife K.
- *Lord, as I wait with confident expectation, please show me where I should move to after 40 years in this home.*
- Please continue to pray for P and his double vision; prayers for friend B whose husband just died; prayers for peace and guidance for J.
- Prayers for those who are going through times of change, may God grant them peace and support. *We pray for focus on our love of You and of our neighbors. Wrap us in Your love and protection.*
- Prayers for the family who had the Celebration of Life for their loved one on Saturday.
- Please pray for those with health issues; God's care and healing for N, P, G and L. Pray for people to look to scripture for truth, comfort and guidance.

- Pray for my brother-in-law who has lost his other leg. Pray for my sister who is going with her daughter to Arizona.
- Pray for my house to sell and help to find a new one.
- Prayer for contagious patriotism and appreciation for all God has provided in blessing the USA.
- Prayers for my sister, who just moved into her new place. Prayers for my brother and sister-in-law.
- Pray that we will manage without our primary helper for two months.
- Prayers for my son G's health and medical tests this week.
- Prayers for my family.
- Prayers for B; for her mind to be at peace as she prepares to celebrate her 103rd birthday. Pray for her to know she is loved.
- Pray for Q's mom who had surgery but had to return for drainage issues. She is out of the hospital now but needs prayer that the healing continues.
- He reveals Himself daily in different ways; we just need to see it.

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH AND CAMP STAFF:

STAFF: (Rev. Dr.) Gregory Wagenfuhr; (Family & Children's Ministry) Sarah Huck; (Student Ministries) Kara Candid; (Preschool Director) Becca Mailand; (Preschool Teachers) Amber Miller and Amiya Aparicio; (Childcare) Gracie Miller, Maddie Miller, Jennifer Brice, and Grace Johnson; (Media/IT) Deb Meyers; (Business Manager) Tammy Nunley; (Building/Grounds/Custodial) John Yolo, Stephen Dalton, Monte Schilperoort, and Ryan Albertson; (Administrative Assistant) Ericka Clark; (Worship Leaders) Jason Wickson, Nathan Gross, and Anne Schilperoort; (Interns) Belen Damian-Vasquez, Eli Westfall, and Jasmine Barriga.

GHORMLEY STAFF: Joel Whitehead, Noah and Karlie Camp, Richard Hayland, Taylor Miller, Kaeden and Alicia Schmidt.

CAMP GHORMLEY BOARD: Jeff Arkills, Rob Culp, Tony Klein, Emily Lee, Suzanne Marinace, Amae Merrill, Rich Milhorn, Meagan Sylvester, Gregory Wagenfuhr, and Joel Whitehead.