IMMANUEL CHURCH

WEEKLY WORSHIP GUIDE

WEEK OF
11/08/2026

Bible Reading

Day 1
Psalm 96
Proverbs 9
Acts 1:6-11

Day 2
Psalm 67
Proverbs 10
Luke 24:44-53

Day 3
Psalm 117
Proverbs 11
John 20:19-23

Day 4
Psalm 22
Proverbs 12
Romans 10:11-15

Day 5
Psalm 46
Proverbs 13
2 Corinthians 5:18-20

Song of the Week

Below is one of the songs we will be singing this week. We encourage you to read and meditate on the words.

Facing a Task Unfinished

Facing a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees
A need that, undiminished
Rebukes our slothful ease
We, who rejoice to know Thee
Renew before Thy throne
The solemn pledge we owe Thee
To go and make Thee known

Where other lords beside Thee
Hold their unhindered sway
Where forces that defied Thee
Defy Thee still today
With none to heed their crying
For life, and love, and light
Unnumbered souls are dying
And pass into the night

[Refrain]
We go to all the world
With kingdom hope unfurled
No other name has power to save
But Jesus Christ, the Lord

We bear the torch that flaming
Fell from the hands of those
Who gave their lives proclaiming
That Jesus died and rose
Ours is the same commission
The same glad message ours
Fired by the same ambition
To Thee we yield our powers

O Father who sustained them
O Spirit who inspired
Savior, whose love constrained them
To toil with zeal untired
From cowardice defend us
From lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us
To labor for Thy sake

Thinking Theologically

When believers engage in mission, they're not primarily building the church; they're advancing God's reign by bringing healing, justice, and transformation into broken places. As the church proclaims Christ's gospel, people are transformed and begin living in increasingly Christlike ways, demonstrating that God's kingdom is advancing as he reigns more fully in human hearts and daily lives. The ultimate goal isn't church growth but the complete arrival of God's kingdom when tears are wiped away, disease and death end, and all social injustice disappears. Until that day, believers participate in God's mission, which lies at the essence of what it means to be Christian. Mission, then, is how the church embodies and announces that the kingdom Jesus proclaimed is already breaking into the present, even as believers await its final fulfillment.

Praying for Our Missionaries



Sunday's Worship Playlist

Recommended Listen

For God's Glory,
Michael Reeves

Directed Prayer

Please join with us in praying for:

1. Our local, state, and national elected officials.
2. For the persecuted church (see daily prayer guide)
3. For missionaries in the 10-40 window.
4. For the work of the gospel in the Town of Bethlehem.
5. For the person you sat next to or talked to at church this week.



PRAYERPOINTS

IMB

NOVEMBER 2026

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

1 Peter 5:10

PRAYING FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

The Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (November 1, 2026) is an opportunity to pray for believers around the world who are persecuted for their faith. This month we will focus on praying that God will sustain them and work through their witness to bring about gospel transformation among the lost. Will you join us in prayer?

A boda-boda Bible study is reaching Uganda's drivers for Christ

Issa had good reason to stay far from the Bible study at the missionaries' home. Only a month earlier, a man in town had been attacked and devastatingly injured by his own family for leaving Islam to follow Jesus. But Issa, a 40-year-old Muslim in Uganda who drives a boda-boda (motorcycle taxi), went anyway.

Another driver had invited him, telling him the missionaries genuinely cared about boda-boda drivers. Issa felt he had nothing to lose. He was surprised by how welcoming everyone was, even the missionaries. In his town, Muslims never welcome or help Christians.

"On the first day," missionaries James and Sonya Herron shared, "Issa introduced himself and boldly proclaimed to the group that he wanted to learn about Jesus." Issa became a regular member of what the Herrons call, the boda-boda Bible study.

Hundreds of thousands of boda-bodas zip through Uganda's streets. Most drivers are 25-45-year-old men, like Issa. Since 2020, the Herrons have been reaching out to them. They recently finished a 6-month Bible study series and saw 31 men, many of whom were Muslims, make professions of faith in Jesus Christ, including Issa. At the final gathering, each man received a Bible. Issa said he reads his regularly.



Men hold up their new Bibles during a Bible study meeting hosted by missionaries James and Sonya Herron. IMB Photo.

He admits he worries about how his family and other Muslims will respond to his new faith in Christ. He knows about the violence in his town against Christians and Muslims who convert. But he says he cannot take back his confession that Christ is Lord, and he enjoys being part of a group where he is learning about God.

- Pray for Issa and others in Uganda who are risking it all to follow Jesus.
- Pray for wisdom as the Herrons lead the next Bible study series.
- Pray for many other boda-boda drivers to hear the gospel and trust in Christ.

ANSWER TO YOUR PRAYER

Last year, we prayed for three Christian widows who returned home after Boko Haram killed their husbands and displaced their families. Thank you for praying for their healing and provision as they rebuild their lives and care for their children. Praise God for His continued faithfulness to care for them. We are thankful for ongoing care, strength, and encouragement for their families. Please continue praying for them.

1 **THE PERSECUTED CHURCH.** Pray that believers will be "strengthened with all power according to God's glorious might" so that they may have great "endurance and patience with joy" (Colossians 1:11). Ask that they "put on the whole armor of God" to "stand against the schemes of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11).

2 **EUROPE.** Christians in a former Soviet country face restrictions, threats, and penalties for their faith. Ask God to protect and sustain believers, give leaders wisdom and courage, and help the church endure and stay faithful. Pray those in power will embrace truth and act with mercy.

3 **DEAF.** In Southeast Asia, families of Deaf believers often keep them from accessing the Bible, sometimes resorting to physical abuse and imprisonment. Pray for these believers. Ask Christ to sustain them and radically transform their families' hearts.

4 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.** Virtually all Somali Christians are secret converts from Islam, making them direct targets for extreme, life-threatening persecution from militant groups, society, and family. Pray for Somali Christians throughout eastern Africa. Ask God to use their witness to expand His kingdom.

5 **NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** Pray that believers imprisoned in the Middle East will be strengthened with steadfast faith amid hardship. Ask that their families not be further persecuted, that they are released safely, and that their suffering sparks a spread of the good news across the region.

6 **SOUTH ASIA.** Pray for church leaders in South Asia. Because of anti-conversion laws and subsequent persecution, they contend with landlords who oppose them and surveillance that hinders them from hosting meetings and trainings in their homes. Pray for their perseverance.

7 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.** On Africa's east coast, violence has emptied villages and burned churches. Yet believers continue sharing Christ's hope, even while fleeing danger. Pray they remain bold, reach displaced people, and that those living in fear will find true peace and hope in Christ.

8 **CENTRAL ASIA.** Faith in Jesus as the Son of God is considered a serious sin in Islam. Because of this, some believers in Central Asia risk losing their jobs or their homes. Due to these risks, some choose not to share their faith openly. Pray for peace and boldness for them to share.

9 **ASIA-PACIFIC RIM.** Pray for a new believer who has professed faith but hesitates to be baptized. He knows this may further ostracize him from his Muslim community, yet he desires to obey Scripture. Pray he can meet with believers in person and experience Christian community.

10 **AMERICAS.** Pray for new believers in Guerrero, Mexico. They face social pressure, and some lose important relationships, face disputes over property or resources, or are given increased community obligations that consume their time and hinder participation in worship and church life.

11 **EUROPE.** In Black Sea villages, Orthodox priests, government leaders, and even the police make it difficult for Christians to gather to worship. Ask God to soften the hearts of these leaders. Pray Christians will be courageous, full of faith, and quick to forgive.

12 **NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** Pray for believers among the Amazigh of the Sahara to be bold in proclaiming the gospel. Ask for peace and strength as they risk being disowned and viewed as traitors to their communities. May they cherish their identity in Christ.

13 **SOUTH ASIA.** In one South Asian state, people are persecuting evangelistic churches by preventing church meetings, stealing Bibles, and more. Pray these persecutors will encounter the love of Jesus and the gospel, and that many of them will repent and believe.

14 **ASIA-PACIFIC RIM.** Zeb, in Indonesia, is the first believer in his family. He shared the gospel with his mother, but she refused to leave her religion. Recently, his mother died. His family beat him and blames his faith in Jesus for her death. Pray for Zeb to stay strong in his faith.

15 **AMERICAS.** Please pray for persecuted Christians in the tribes of northeastern Brazil. When they come to faith, and especially when they are baptized, they are seen as traitors and rejected by friends and family. They often lose their jobs, benefits, and standing in the community.

16 **CENTRAL ASIA.** In Central Asia, persecution can come in the form of being unable to remain in one's home country after professing faith in Christ. Pray for believers who are unable to return home. Ask the Lord to provide them with new community within the body of Christ.

17 **NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** Amel lives in Europe, where she heard the gospel for years before confessing faith in Jesus. At home, she is criticized for not doing Islamic practices, so she keeps life peaceful by not sharing about her faith. Pray that she will share Jesus and not be silenced by social restraints.

18 **DEAF.** Emma, a Deaf Christian in West Africa, endured threats, violence, and the risk of losing her son for sharing her faith. Yet she remained bold, and many have come to Christ through her witness. Pray for Emma and persecuted Deaf believers across Africa to remain strong and faithful.

19 **ASIA-PACIFIC RIM.** Patricia is a believer in the Philippines whose Catholic husband often keeps her from church and pressures her toward Catholic services. Pray for strength, wisdom, and peace as she teaches her children God's Word, and that her family will be drawn to Christ and united in faith.

20 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.** For the past two years, a new church in Tanzania has been meeting and growing. Recently, they have been ordered to stop. They now meet in a remote area under a tree. Ask God to provide for them, help them remain steadfast, and draw the lost to Himself.

21 **SOUTH ASIA.** Pray for one area of South Asia with only a tiny handful of isolated, often fearful believers. Pray that even amid the threat of prison and harm, they will persist in sharing the hope of Jesus. Pray for wisdom in training them.

22 **DEAF.** Pray for Deaf people in the Middle East who choose not to follow Jesus for fear of losing life, family, and community. Ask the Lord to bring many to faith, grow the community of believers there, and help them boldly share the good news in the face of constant threat.

23 **CENTRAL ASIA.** Under a strict form of Islam practiced in one country, refusing to attend daily Islamic prayers can place believers in danger of punishment or even death, sometimes from members of their own household. Pray for believers to patiently endure with joy in the Lord's presence.

24 **NORTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.** A woman from the Emerald People in the Horn of Africa came to faith several years ago and soon faced intense persecution, including threats of disownment from her family. Now, she is terrified of what following Jesus means for her future. Pray she will remain faithful, though the cost is great.

25 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.** Many families among northern Nigeria's displaced people groups have been torn apart by violence, leaving children orphaned. Pray that believers who are caring for them will have wisdom, provision, endurance, and opportunities to share Christ's hope.

26 **AMERICAS.** Pray for Christians in Chiapas, Mexico, who face pressure, threats, and even displacement for following Jesus. Some meet opposition from indigenous traditions, local religious authorities, and criminal groups. May they remain courageous, united, and full of hope in Christ.

27 **EUROPE.** Pray for Malta, a strategic bridge between North Africa and Europe. Ask that visitors from countries that prohibit gospel access will hear and understand the truth. Pray for supernatural unity among believers that overcomes fear and cultural barriers.

28 **CENTRAL ASIA.** Pray for Central Asian believers who are living as foreigners outside their homeland. Many can't find work, are targets of abuse, and struggle to find a place of safety to call home.

29 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA.** A young woman came to South Africa for a better life and found Jesus! She calls the church in Durban her family. However, recent violence against foreigners in the area forced her to return to her Muslim relatives in her home country. Pray for her to stand firm in Jesus.

30 **ASIA-PACIFIC RIM.** Ask God to open a way for the proclamation of the gospel among a persecuted unreached people group. They lost their freedom of worship and are suffering greatly. Pray God will work so these oppressed people can learn the gospel and freely love and worship Him.

Suffering persecution didn't discourage her faith; it deepened her dependence on Christ

For a believer from a people group in the desert, persecution is a regular experience. At times, it takes the form of ridicule and rejection from her own family. During Ramadan, the fasting month, they shame her publicly, insisting that because she no longer participates in the fast, she must prepare meals for everyone else. At other times, the cost is far greater. On multiple occasions, she has been taken by the secret police, where she has endured days of abuse, often without food or water. This is not a rare occurrence for her; it is part of the reality she faces as a follower of Christ.

Yet persecution has not defined her. Nor has it hardened her heart. She is a single mother after her husband abandoned her and married another woman. Despite carrying the weight of providing for and caring for her family alone, she continues to pour herself out for others. She faithfully serves refugees — many of whom have been overlooked and forgotten by the world — offering them practical help, encouragement, and the hope of the gospel.

What stands out most about her story is not the suffering she has endured, but the steadfastness of her faith. Rather than discouraging her, persecution has deepened her dependence on Christ and strengthened her resolve to continue the work He has called her to do. Praise God that through every trial, she remains a powerful testimony to God's sustaining grace. Pray for her and believers around her to continue to be steadfast and bold in their proclamation of the gospel.

Call our PrayerLine

at 1-800-395-7729 (PRAY) to hear an audio version of the daily prayer requests in this guide.



Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

November 1

More than 360 million Christians worldwide suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith. That's a staggering 1 in 7 believers.

You can make a difference through prayer.

Learn more at imb.org/persecuted

Week of Prayer for International Missions

Join us November 29–December 6 as we pray for our IMB missionaries, their ministries, and the unreached peoples and places they serve.

Resources available now at imb.org/weekofprayer

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REACHING THE NATIONS, TOGETHER.