



Week 6

Dear Ashley River Family,

Welcome to our final days of our 40 Days of Prayer! My prayer is that this was a special season for you as we seek God's will for Ashley River. We have so much momentum but we always want to stay in the center of His purpose for us – both corporately and individually!

These final days focus on our prayer life as an expression of hope: ***“For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.”*** While this last doxological phrase is not included in most versions of the Bible, it is nevertheless a very appropriate concluding praise to our Father in Heaven. It emphasizes God's ownership over His Kingdom, His power, His glory, and His eternal nature – fully expressed in the final book of our Bible, Revelation: *“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign for ever and ever.”* (Rev. 11:15)

DAY 36 – Apr. 1 – The Promise of Heaven

Read Revelation 21:1-8.

When we look around this fallen world, we see and hear so many incidents that seem so unjust and evil that sometimes we have doubts and questions about the future. As God's children, we are called to deepen our roots in His Word and cultivate our faith on the truth of God and the hope of heaven: Jesus Christ is *“the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End.”* (Rev. 21:6)

We must believe that our Lord is in control of everything. Hence, prayer becomes an expression of hope. We can begin by reflecting on how hopeful we are of His promises in Scripture. Even Jesus expressed hope for His Apostles when He told them: *“My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am.”* With such a beautiful promise, our personal and corporate prayer time should be an expression of hope.

Spend time with God in prayer, asking Him to give you a greater desire to study His Word to discover the hopeful promises of our Faithful Father in Heaven.

DAY 37 – Apr 2 – The Prophecy of Heaven

Read Revelation 19:6-9.



On this night, known as Maundy Thursday, Jesus took His Apostles to an Upper Room and washed their feet *“to set an example that you should do as I have done for you.”* (Jn. 13:15) Then He sat down with them at the table to share in the Passover meal. And He, *“the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”* (Jn. 1:29) would become the Passover Lamb for all humanity on Good Friday.

He had been telling them that He must suffer and die, and on this most intimate night, He institutes the Lord’s Supper, where He tells them that the unleavened bread is His body and the cup of wine is His blood. He then tells them, *“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”* (Mt. 26:8) It is for this remembrance that we regularly observe the Lord’s Supper, confessing our sin, and thanking Jesus for giving His body and His blood to pay our sin debt.

But Jesus prophetically points to another time when He will drink with His followers: *“I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new **with you** in My Father’s kingdom.”* (Mt. 26:29) And He prophetically points to another table – one in heaven – where the wedding supper of the Lamb will take place. *“Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb...these are the true words of God.”* (Rev. 19:9) We are the Bride of Christ and while we remember His death on this Good Friday, and as we celebrate His resurrection on Sunday, we still await the culmination of our relationship with Jesus in heaven, where we will share the bread and cup together!

DAY 38 – Apr. 3 – The Provision of Heaven

Read Revelation 5:1-10.

God’s love is an everlasting love: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* (Jn. 3:16) *“God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* (Rom. 5:8) We must proclaim this truth with boldness and gratitude. We must take Scripture at face value and remember that there is no one like Him! He is worthy!

Regardless of your circumstances, declare the provision of God which was pre-ordained as the promised Redeemer from the very beginning, for He is *“the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.”* (Rev. 13:8) We are redeemed *“with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.”* (1 Pet. 1:19) Therefore, we must glorify Him with our lives, for He alone is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Spend time with God in prayer, reflecting on His provision of the Lamb of God and thanking Him for saving you!

DAY 39 – Apr. 4 – The Peace of Heaven

Read Revelation 22:1-5.



There is something so peaceful about flowing water and the promise of eternal life. We no longer are subject to death or mourning or crying or pain (Rev. 21:4) because we have final and forever peace with God. *“Therefore, He is able to save completely those who come to God through him...”* (Heb. 7:25a). Jesus finished the payment so that we may rest in the Lord.

As we turn our eyes toward Easter Sunday, may we remember that this offer of everlasting peace is available to all people – our family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Only the Father knows when He will bring all things to their full and final consummation, but He gives us a marker in Jesus’ Olivet Discourse: *“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”* (Mt. 24:14) Our mission is an urgent one, because the heart of God is that all will be given the opportunity to receive Jesus. Let us embrace God’s Great Commission with renewed enthusiasm this year so that He may be glorified to the fullest!

The invitation is for everyone: *“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let the one who hears say, ‘Come!’ Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.”* (Rev. 22:17) Therefore, let us invest and invite everyone to lasting peace!

Spend time with God in prayer, meditating on the peace of Christ and committing to Him to take the Good News to all the nations.

DAY 40 – Apr. 5 – The Praise of Heaven

Read Revelation 7:9-17.

We don’t have to imagine. We know there is a heaven! And there is a God who reigns! *“Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”* (Rev. 7:10)

Our Lord – our loving, good, kind King – reigns. While whatever peace and goodness we experience here on earth are often overcome by heartache and evil, the goodness, faithfulness, and kindness of God rules over the whole universe forever. There will be no end to His wonderful and mighty dominion. In moments when life is hard, depressing, or heartbreaking, let us remember that our God is on His throne, that His goodness reigns supreme, and that one day we will see it with our own eyes and enjoy it forever.

“Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever. Amen!” (Rev. 7:12)

Spend time with God in prayer and thank Him for the victory we have in Jesus Christ! Praise Him!

Dear Church Family – thank you for participating in “40 Days of Prayer.” May God continue to mold you and shape you into the image of Jesus Christ. To God be the Glory!