

Advent Prayer Guide 2021

Hendersonville Presbyterian Church



ADVENT

The coming or arrival,
Especially of something important.

Advent is an exciting time in the life of the church and should be an exciting time in the life of the family members of the church. More often than not, we busy ourselves with other things like Christmas shopping, house decorating, and food preparation. There is nothing wrong with holiday spirit, please hear that; but my hope and prayer for this year is that you will not overwhelm yourselves with the physical holiday preparations and forget about the spiritual holiday preparation.

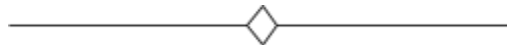
The Discipleship Committee has spent time writing an Advent Prayer Guide for each of our family members, as a gift to assist in our spiritual preparation for Christmas. We hope that this gift is a blessing to you, your family, and with whomever you share it. It comes from our heart and our study. Please enjoy this guide as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

There is a daily prayer guide for each day during the season of Advent, which begins on Sunday, November 28, and ends on Christmas Eve. This guide should help us stay connected during Advent, as we continue to seek unity as the Body of Christ!

Enjoy! May God bless your time with Him this Advent Season as we prepare and anticipate!

O Come, let us adore Him. O Come, let us adore Him,
O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Pastor Rob McClelland



Dear HPC Family,

The Discipleship Ministry at HPC is excited to offer you this 2021 Advent prayer guide. Each day in the prayer guide focuses on one name of God, praises God for that attribute, and includes a prayer for a staff member or ministry in our church. By using the names of God as the way of organizing the prayer guide, we remember all the wonderful ways God, through His Son, blesses, protects, and loves us today.

We prepared this prayer guide to bless you. Our prayer for you is that this Advent season will be a time of introspection, expectation, appreciation, joy, and a rededication to the call of Jesus in your life.

On behalf on our entire ministry, be blessed,

John Van Wagoner
Discipleship Ministry, Chair

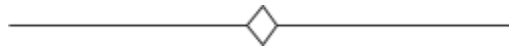
November 28, 2021

Elohim, Creator

Genesis 1:1

I praise You, Elohim, that You are the creator of everything. Everywhere I look, I see Your handiwork, from the smallest grain of sand to the farthest star. Thank You for creating me in Your image. Help me to be faithful as I work and create for Your glory.

Lord, I bless our world with a knowledge of You. I pray that You would open all of our eyes to see You and to see You more fully. I pray that You would help each of us to rise up in our own circles of influence to share Your love. I bless the raising up and sending of missionaries to all parts of the world. Anoint each one of us with power, love, and a sound mind as we go out in Your name.



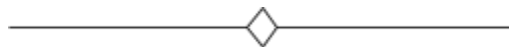
November 29, 2021

Ruah Elohim, Spirit of God

Genesis 1:2

Spirit of God, in the beginning You were hovering over the waters. I give thanks and praise that You are the breath of God, breathing life into me, into all living things. Isaiah (11:2) prophesied that You would rest upon Jesus, You the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. Thank You, Spirit, for living in us and gifting us to glorify You and bring Your Kingdom to earth as it is in heaven.

Lord, I bless the city of Hendersonville with Your Holy Spirit. May the *Ruah Elohim* pour out upon this city that all would come to see You, know You, and love You. I pray that the Holy Spirit would work in power in Hendersonville that Your Kingdom would be advanced.



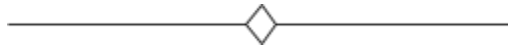
November 30

Yeled (Hebrew), *Pais* (Greek), Child

Luke 2:4-7

Jesus, You came into this world as a child, a vulnerable, needy, dependent baby. You were in Your very nature God; yet, You did not consider equality with God something to cling to. When the time came, You set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, becoming human. You humbled Yourself for us! Jesus, we praise You and thank You for this act of love. May every knee bow at the name of Jesus, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! (Philippians 2:6-11 NIV/MSG)

In the name of Jesus, we lift up Hendersonville Presbyterian Church to You, God. We bless our church with love, Your love, Holy God. May we be a church that is so united in love that the outside world looking in would see complete and total unity for Your Kingdom. "May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent me and have loved them even as You have loved me" John 17:23.



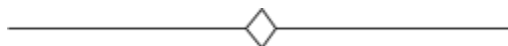
December 1, 2021

EI Shadday, God Almighty

Genesis 17:1-2

We thank You, Lord, that You are *EI Shadday*, God Almighty. You appeared to Abram and declared Yourself in power and love. You commanded Abram to walk before You and to be blameless. You also tied Yourself to him and his descendants in a covenant of blessing, land, and descendants. God Almighty, we praise You that You are a God who desires to walk in relationship with each of us and that Your kindness leads us to repentance as we seek after You.

We bless the Outreach Ministry this day with wisdom and provision. We pray a blessing over the many different organizations that this ministry impacts, specifically those around the world. We pray for the needs of each of our missionaries to be met. We ask for miraculous intervention and provision in their lives where they need You to show up. Jesus, bless the work of their hands as they interact with the orphan, the widow, the homeless, the poor, the hurting, the desperate. May You provide physically and spiritually to touch each of these individuals.



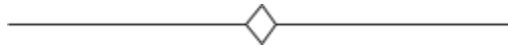
December 2, 2021

Yahweh Yireh, God Who Provides

Genesis 22:13-14

Thank you, Yahweh Yireh, for being my shepherd who provides for me so that I lack nothing (Psalm 23:1). I believe as You said, that by coming to You, Yahweh Yireh, I will never go hungry or be thirsty because you are the bread of life (John 6:35). Teach me, Jesus, to hunger and thirst for Your righteousness that I may be filled (Matthew 5:6), and to seek first Your Kingdom and Your righteousness that You, Yahweh Yireh, will provide all I need (Matthew 6:33).

Father God, Yahweh Yireh, I pray Your protection and provision for Pastor Rob McClelland, Stacy, Cameron, Taylor, and Aileen. I am so grateful, Yahweh Yireh, that You so caringly provided for our church by bringing this family to us. Now I pray that You, Father, will provide for all their needs as they seek to serve and follow You. Help me to remember to pray daily for Pastor Rob and his family.



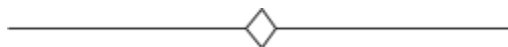
December 3, 2021

EI Roi, God Who Sees me

Genesis 16:13-14

Thank you Lord, EI Roi, that You see me as I am. "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there be any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24). In You God, EI Roi, there is no darkness. Teach me to walk in Your light (1 John 1:5-7).

I pray Father, EI Roi, that Your light will shine on and in the teachers, the children, and the families of the Creative Beginnings Christian PreSchool. They are Your children and You are their Heavenly Father. You see them and know them and care for them, and I thank You for watching over them.



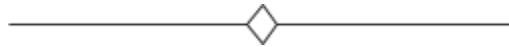
December 4, 2021

Adonay, Lord, Master

Genesis 15:2, Psalm 16:2

My Lord and Master, Adonay, how majestic is Your name. Your authority is above all. You are my Master and Teacher and King. You have power and are sovereign over all things. I humbly bow down before Your majesty, Adonay, in submission to You, Master, and give You sovereignty over my life. Apart from You, I am nothing and have no good thing. Master, teach me to be Your faithful disciple.

I lift up before You, Adonay, the Discipleship Ministry of Hendersonville Presbyterian Church. Give wisdom and strength to each member of this ministry. Give them the humility to follow in Your footsteps, Sovereign Lord. Give them direction and insight as they put programs in place to teach me how to be Your disciple and to go and make disciples. May we all learn from You, the Master Teacher and perfect example, Lord.



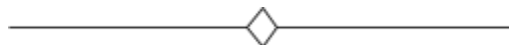
December 5, 2021

Sar Shalom, Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6

You, Jesus, Sar Shalom, are the only source of true peace, the only source of lasting inner peace. You are the source of wholeness and well-being. Only You give us peace with God. Your Word tells us in Isaiah 9:7 that there will be no end to the increase and advancement of Your government, Your Kingdom, and Your peace. How I thank You and praise You for the peace which surpasses understanding and guards my heart and mind in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

Father, I ask Your blessings and peace for Gayle Stepp and Larry. Thank You for blessing her with such talent. Thank You for her devotion to You and our church congregation as she shares that talent with us and blesses us. Thank You for her gentle spirit and pure heart. Father, I pray that You will embrace her and envelop her with a special blessing of Your love for her.



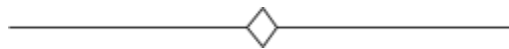
December 6, 2021

YAHWEH, Lord, I AM

Exodus 3:14-15

I praise You, YAHWEH, the Great "I AM," the only self-existing One who never changes, with no beginning and no end, my God Who absolutely is. All else comes of You, is from You, is created by You. Only Thou art holy. I give You thanks and all the glory and honor. I depend totally on You. All good things come from You. All truth comes from You. All righteousness comes from You. I fall on my knees before the Great I AM.

I thank You, YAHWEH, for the members of Session who You have specifically called and set apart to be our spiritual leaders. Fill them with Your wisdom, Your compassion, and give each of them Your peace. May they be one in Christ and exemplify a unity through the Holy Spirit as an example to each of us individually and as a congregation of Your Church.



December 7, 2021

Yahweh Nissi, The Lord is My Banner

Exodus 17: 15-16

Thank you, God, that You are the Banner over me. Israel defeated the Amalekites at Rephidim when Moses' hands were held high by Aaron and Hur. Although the Amalekites were an ancient Near Eastern tribe, the Amalek spirit is still alive in our culture today. I thank you Yahweh that You are still waging war against this Amalek spirit residing in this world. Your Word tells us that the wicked will not be victorious. In fact, Your work on the cross defeated Amalek and all of satan's demonic hosts. God, thank You that we have Your Word that You will fight this spirit of lies "from generation to generation" and that in Your hands we have nothing to fear as we live under the Banner of Christ with eyes opened by the Holy Spirit to see Your victories all around us, every day.

Jesus, I thank You for the gift of worship. When we come into Your Presence, we are filled with joy. Our anxious hearts are stilled, and You fill us with Your peace. When we worship You Yahweh, we more clearly see Your magnificence and experience Your glory and mercy. Jesus, I pray for those in the Worship Ministry at HPC. Fill them with Your Holy Spirit. Show them how to lead us in worship. Breathe life into our worship as they lead us into Your Presence. Bless them, protect them, and impress upon their hearts the awesome responsibility You have called them to. Use us to encourage and pray for those planning, leading, and facilitating worship for our church family.

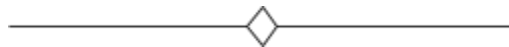
December 8, 2021

Yahweh Rapha, The Lord Who Heals

Exodus 15: 26

I thank You God that You are a God who delights in healing Your people – You heal us emotionally, physically, and spiritually. You are the ultimate and perfect healer. Thank You, God, for the gift of repentance. When we repent from straying from Your commands and decrees, You bring us back into connection with You. It is here, connected with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, that Your love for us can manifest in Your supernatural healing of our wounded and broken hearts and bodies. It is wonderful to know that in this world of darkness and pain, there is a God who loves to heal His people. Jesus, we receive Your healing today.

Lord, bless the men and women who serve our church as deacons. Thank You for their love for Christ, their commitment to His commands to serve one another, and for their willingness to put others before themselves. Bless each deacon. Protect them and fill them with Your Spirit. Release Your joy into each one, for the joy of the Lord is their strength. Fill them with Your peace, because the peace of the Lord allows them to serve in turbulent times. Use them to release and advance the Kingdom of God wherever they go.



December 9, 2021

Yahweh Raah, The Lord My Shepherd

Psalms 23: 1 – 3

Lord, You are the Good Shepherd. This is such a beautiful picture of my relationship with You. Sheep are, by nature, selfish and stupid animals. If left on their own, they will inevitably make bad choices that can leave them vulnerable to disease and predators; but You, Oh Lord, watch over each of us, protecting, saving, and loving those who place themselves under Your care. Thank You for hiding us under Your wings, for being our strong tower, and for protecting us from the attacks of the enemy, who is always prowling around the edges of Your flock. Jesus, our life is in the Kingdom of God, where there is provision and abundance. We love You Jesus, Lord of lords and King of kings.

Jesus, one beautiful picture of an earthly shepherd is a teacher. Thank You, Lord, for Michele Revis, who shepherds the Creative Beginnings Christian Preschool with wisdom, enthusiasm, energy, and dedication. We thank You for her and her love for the children You have placed in her care. Bless her with more wisdom, more love, and more devotion to You and the call You have put on her life. Bless and protect her and her family as she works tirelessly to share the love of Christ with all You have placed under her authority.

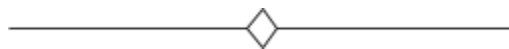
December 10, 2021

Yahweh Tsur, The Lord My Rock

Psalm 144:1

Lord, You have raised up a mighty army to wage war against our enemy, satan. I thank You Lord that I do not have to fight the adversary alone – You have trained me to stand my ground and to attack when necessary. Satan and all his demons cannot overthrow Your Kingdom and Your chosen people. You have given us weapons of humility, joy, peace, and a sound mind. You have given us the gift of repentance and the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Jesus, You are the rock upon which we have built our lives. “The rains came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against the house: yet it did not fall because it had its foundations on the Rock”. Thank you, Jesus, for being that rock in our lives.

Jesus, thank You for the women’s ministry in our church. Bless each woman as she serves the body with her eyes fixed on You. Fill each one with Your joy, peace, faith, and power. Protect each one as they bring the light and life of Jesus into the lives of the members of HPC. Show them Your favor, comfort them and their loved ones, and multiply the impact their work has beyond the walls of our church family. You have raised each of them up “for such a time as this”. They truly are standing on the Rock.



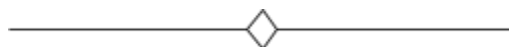
December 11, 2021

El Chay, Living God

II Kings 19:15-16

I praise You because, truly, You are living, not created by man from wood or stone or metal, but alive. Alive as Father, alive as risen Son, alive as Spirit in Your children. What joy and privilege to worship EL CHAY.

This day, I speak blessings over our Administration Committee and Elder Clay Haskins. May they find joy in the work they do. As they do all things for Your glory, may Your strength, peace, and endurance flow over each of them.



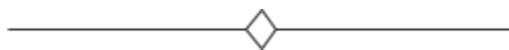
December 12, 2021

Miqqeh Yisrael, Hope of Israel

Jeremiah 17:7-8, 13

Father, You truly are the Hope of Israel. You are also the hope of America, the hope of China, the hope of the world. How we thank You for that hope. At the foot of the cross, hope is found. We praise You.

May the blessing of wisdom, love, and faith, pour out on HPC youth. They are the hope of the future. Spirit, bless them with a walk with You that guides them, comforts them, and gives them the endurance to stand up for Jesus.



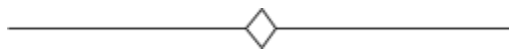
December 13, 2021

Magen, Shield

Ephesians 6:12-13

I praise you, for You are my strength and my shield. Paul tells us to put on our shield of faith, and I thank You for that. May my shield be a growing thing, getting taller, wider, and thicker. May my shield turn away anything that prevents my constant praise and worship.

This day I pray showers of blessing to rain down on Susan, the Church Office Manager. She was a blessing sent to us by God, and so we pray love, joy, peace, and endurance on her. Thank You, Father, for sending this wonderful 'face in the office,' 'voice on the phone,' and all-around help to HPC.



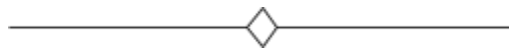
December 14, 2021

Machseh, Refuge

Deuteronomy 33:27

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble.” Psalm 46:1-2. My refuge, how can I not praise You for being my refuge? Times of trouble: my refuge. Times of pain: my refuge. Times of joy: my refuge. You are worthy of all praise!

Member Life Ministry: the group of people who strive to make HPC one united family. May all the love that they pour out on each of us return to them tenfold. Father God, bless and sustain each person of the Member Life Ministry.



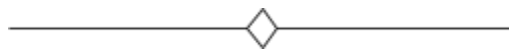
December 15, 2021

Maon, Dwelling Place

Psalm 84:10

“And I will dwell in the house of the LORD, forever,” Psalm 23:6. What a promise! I drop to my knees in gratitude, love, and praise. Eternal Holy God wants me to dwell with Him, forever. Holy are You--loved am I. Let praise and worship rise to heaven. Hear my thanks and love.

Father, Son, and Spirit, bless Mark & Jeani McGrath. They love You and HPC. Make the Library a wonderful, useful, and welcoming place. Let all who enter this room of books be aware of God's Spirit in this place. Father, bless the library and use this tool to further Your Kingdom.



December 16, 2021

El Olam, Alpha Kaz Omega, Eternal/Everlasting God

Gen 21:33, Rev 22:13

Thank you El Olam for being our eternal hope. You bring forth nature and bring forth children as a renewal and hope. You are our refuge, and we are in Your everlasting arms. Hear my song, "Our God is an awesome God", (Rich Mullins) Like an eternal hope, God sent Jesus.

Lord, please guide our lives toward You. You are our Beginning and our End. All of life comes from You and all eternal life is in You. The Alpha and Omega. Guide our church Personnel Committee members as they serve You and live for You.



December 17, 2021

Met Suda, Fortress

II Samuel 22:1-3

Dear Lord, You are my rock and my fortress. Protect me from my enemies. I take refuge in Your salvation. You protect me from the world and call me to Your extraordinary Kingdom. Hear our song, "A Mighty Fortress is Our God!" (Luther). Thank you, Lord, for Your protection. Great are You, God, and great is Your Kingdom.

God, I praise You for Nancy Lindsay and for all she does for Your church and Your Kingdom. Guide her in Your ways and protect her. Bless the work of her hands. Rain down Your blessings over her family and home.



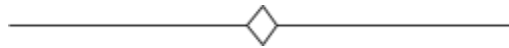
December 18, 2021

Migdal-Oz, Strong Tower

Psalm 61:1-3

We pray to God from the ends of the Earth, calling to You for strength. You, God, are the world's Refuge and the Strong Tower to protect us. Bring us Your power through Your Holy Spirit in our hearts. Hear our song, "You are my strong tower, a shelter over me.... You are my strong tower, a fortress when I'm weak". (Kutless) Thank You, God, for Your strength when we are weak. Let us turn to You as the shelter and strong tower to protect us.

We bless the local ministries supported by our Outreach Ministry. Bless these local ministries with Your miraculous provision every moment of every day. Bless the individuals who volunteer their time to love and serve those in need in our community. May our community see and know You as their Strong Tower and put their faith in You. May we all know the strong tower of Your love.



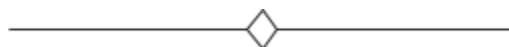
December 19, 2021

Ish Aner, Husband

Hosea 2:16, 19-20, Revelations 19:9

The Lord marries his people to Him. We are His forever and receive His righteousness and justice. We are His betrothed in faithfulness. We hope to live in Your Kingdom, Husband, as Your beloved bride and family. Hear our song, "All things are ready, come to the feast! Come, for the door is open wide; A place of honor is reserved, for you at the Master's side." Thank You for our relationship with You, which is stronger than any other. We are Yours, and Your kingdom is our kingdom. We have been invited to the feast through our faith.

God, we bless the Children's Ministry of HPC. Let us teach our children well that they may grow in the Word of God and share in the joy of Your loving family. We praise You and thank You for each child and their families.



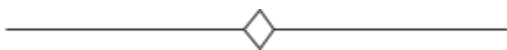
December 20, 2021

To Phos Tou Kosmou, Light of the World

John 8:12

O, Lord, I thank You that as I follow Jesus, I will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. Thank You that You are the Light of the World and that Your light overcomes all darkness. I pray that I will reflect Your brightness by walking in Your light and obeying Your commands.

I bless our church sexton Peter, who is a light throughout the buildings and grounds of Hendersonville Presbyterian Church as he keeps them in good order. I pray Your blessings on Peter as he ministers in this way to the church family.



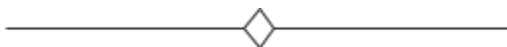
December 21, 2021

Hashem, The Name

I Kings 8:28-29

I praise You, Hashem, that Your Name is above any other name. I give You the respect and honor that is due Your name. I pray against the misuse of Your holy name that we hear so frequently. I seek to hallow Your name and never use it in an empty, careless, or unworthy manner. I bless Your Holy Name!

I bless Kate, the worship leader in the contemporary worship service. As she leads us in songs that glorify Your name, I pray that the congregation will be drawn close to You. May the songs of Your people give You honor and praise!



December 22, 2021

Ab (Hebrew), *Abba* (Aramaic), *Pater* (Greek); *Father* (Daddy)

Luke 15:20

How I love to come into the warmth of Your presence and call You Abba, Daddy! I thank You that You are a compassionate, forgiving Father and that there is nothing I can do that will make You love me any more or any less than You already do.

I thank You that You called little children to Yourself and reminded all people that the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. I pray for all families today as they seek to raise their children in Your way. I pray that the nursery at Hendersonville Presbyterian Church will be a loving, welcoming place to nurture little ones. I pray that it would soon be filled with little ones learning about You.



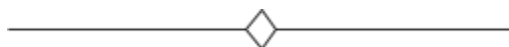
December 23, 2021

Philos, Friend

John 15:13

I praise You, Jesus, for being my Friend. You came to earth to share our humanity. You told us that You have made known to us everything You learned from Your Father and that we would be Your friends if we do what You command. Please help me, Lord, to be a friend to You.

I thank You, Lord, for the choir of Hendersonville Presbyterian Church. I bless all the singers as they raise their voices in praise, thanksgiving, and supplication to lead us in worship. I pray that all Your people will have a song in their hearts every day to lead them into Your presence.



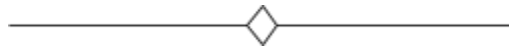
December 24, 2021

Christos/Mashiach, Christ/Messiah

Acts 2:36

O, Lord God, I praise You for sending Jesus- Son of God, the Christ, the Messiah- full of grace and truth to earth. I thank You that He is the Anointed One, the Savior of the World, promised from the beginning of the world. He is the King above all kings, both Lord and Christ. I pray that people everywhere will recognize Him and accept Him as their personal Savior.

Lord, we seek to follow Your command to “go and make disciples of all nations.” As our discipleship groups meet together, I pray that we will all develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be a disciple, what we each need to change in our own lives to grow as His disciple, and how we can ‘go’ into the world to ‘make’ disciples. May the Kingdom of God be advanced as we follow Your leading!



December 25, 2021

Immanuel, God with us

Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:22-23

I give praise to Your Name, Almighty God, for You alone are good. You alone are wise. You alone are merciful. You alone share Your truth with us through the revelation of Scripture. Thank You for Your Holy Word. Thank You for lavishing Your grace upon us. From the beginning to the end of Your Word, You show us Your grace and tell of the coming of Jesus. You spoiled the end from the beginning, sharing that Your Son would not just be born of a virgin but would atone for the sin of the world. You told us that He would spring from the root of Jesse and would die on the cross. Thank You that You sent Jesus to be with us, to walk this earth as a man so He might understand the limits and struggles of humanity; the temptations and trials which come through the flesh. Thank You that You gave Him authority over sin. Thank You that He was born to die, so that through His resurrection, we might receive eternal life and life abundant! May You, Oh Lord, receive all glory, honor and praise this Christmas season, and forever more!

Please bless this Christmas season and make it like none before. May we worship together with excitement and anticipation. May we fellowship with purpose and joy. May we love all with the love of Christ, which breaks down barriers, heals division, and transforms life! We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

