



THE WATCH FOR AWAKENING

24/7 PRAYER

Welcome to the Watch for Awakening, an ongoing 24-7 Prayer movement, comprised of seven prayer watches (of roughly 50 days each) over a year period.

Please share this guide to prayer far and wide and use anywhere and everywhere it seems to fit to help focus prayer for awakening. We want to know who you are and where you are so we can better serve you and connect you with resources and the larger community as appropriate and helpful. Visit watchforawakening.com to register your participation and choose a time to pray.

We have felt a deep resonance with a particular word from the prophet Isaiah. We have adapted it slightly in the spirit of the New Testament Church.

I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the Lord, give yourselves no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem, and makes her the praise of the earth.
Isaiah 62:6-7 (adapted)

We will watch and pray. We will listen and speak. Word and Spirit. Heart and home. Church and city. Until heaven breaks in on earth with great awakening.

To that end, we covenant together in the following ways:

WE WILL WATCH

Giving attention to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, attuning our hearts and minds to both whispers and wonders, signs and symbols, messages and movements, and we will covenant to share such with one another as led.

WE WILL PRAY

Renouncing anxiety and fear, we will let faith arise; asking, seeking and knocking; confessing, lamenting, and repenting; listening, longing and loving God, neighbor and enemy until awakening breaks forth like the dawn. Though we grow to ten million souls on the watch, we will pray as one.

WE WILL WAIT

With our ears to the ground and our eyes on the horizon, we will wait upon the Lord. We will make no plans he does not inspire; launch no initiatives he does not authorize; and make no movements he does not compel. He is the potter. We are the clay.

WE WILL WORK

In the spirit of watching, praying, and waiting we will work to make disciples of Jesus Christ who bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, healing for the sick, recovery of sight to the blind, freedom for the oppressed, and new life to dead places. And our work will be a sowing unto the Lord for a great awakening.

THE WATCH FOR AWAKENING: LENT

(February 17 to April 3, 2021)

LET US PREPARE OUR HEARTS TO SEEK THE LORD IN PRAYER

The Watch of Lent is an invitation to descend with Christ toward the cross, entering into the power of his sacrifice for us and for all humankind. Lent is a transformative spiritual season during which we journey with the Holy Spirit into the relinquishment of self, toward the abiding life of resurrection. Themes and practices of waiting, the imposition of ashes, confession, fasting, prayer, and repentance help us move from our perpetual self-reliance toward a renewed God-reliance as we live out the disciplined life. In humility, we offer ourselves to Jesus again as those willing to share in the fellowship of his death and resurrection (Phil. 3:10), for our own healing and for the healing of others. Lent is a 40-day journey (not including Sundays), and marks a descent that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday. As we spiritually walk with Jesus to the cross through the darkness of Lent, we take confidence in knowing we will awaken to new life with our Lord at Easter – in the bright, morning light of resurrection.

*I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem [and insert your city here]
they will never be silent day or night.*

*You who call on the Lord,
give yourselves no rest,
and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem [and insert your city here]
and makes her the praise of the earth.*

—Isaiah 62:6-7 (adapted)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

—Philippians 2:5-11

LET US WAIT BEFORE THE LORD IN QUIETNESS AND STILLNESS

*I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,*

and put their trust in the Lord.

*In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted,
but you have given me an open ear.*

*Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.*

*Then I said, "Behold, I have come;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me:
I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."*

—Psalm 40:1-3, 6-8

LET US CONFESS OUR SINS AS WE RETURN TO THE LORD WITH ALL OUR HEARTS.

*"Yet even now," declares the Lord,
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
and rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love...."*

—Joel 2:12-13a

Merciful God, we return our hearts to you as we confess:

- We have not loved you with our whole heart,
- We have failed to be an obedient church,
- We have relied on self rather than on you,
- We have not done your will,
- We have broken your law,
- We have rebelled against your love,
- We have not loved our neighbors,
- We have not stewarded your Creation
- And we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our
sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. —1 John 1:9*

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

LET US PRESENT OURSELVES TO THE LORD, RECONCILED TO GOD AND OFFERING OURSELVES FOR HIS PURPOSES

*Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We
implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be
sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

—2 Corinthians 5:20-21

*Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'*
—Isaiah 58:6-9a

LET US PRAY FOR A GREAT AWAKENING IN OUR LAND AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, IN OUR HEARTS, HOMES, CHURCHES AND CITIES

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*
—Luke 4:18-19

*The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe
the good news!"*
—Mark 1:15

PRAY FOR AWAKENING IN HEARTS

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. —Ephesians 1:17-19

Begin by praying for your own heart that though you are awakened, there is more of the Lord and his grace to awaken to and appropriate in your life.

- For God to awaken us from slumber
- For the Lord to break up the fallow ground in our hearts and sow seeds of awakening (Hos. 10:12)
- For the Lord to give ear to our words and listen to our cries for help (Ps. 5:1-2)
- For God to raise the level of holy discontent within us that we might long for more of Him
- For God to manifest the fruit of the Spirit in us and the gifts of the Spirit through us

- For God to awaken us to our belovedness in the midst of our brokenness
- For God to give us a hunger for his Word and a thirst for his Spirit like never before
- For God to help us love our enemies
- That we would forgive those who have hurt us
- That we would be filled with love and compassion
- May we put on the armor of God (Eph. 6):
 - » Take a stand against the devil's schemes
 - » The belt of truth around our waist
 - » The breastplate of righteousness in place
 - » Feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace
 - » We take up the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God

PRAY FOR AWAKENING IN HOMES

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”*
—Numbers 6:24-26

Begin by speaking out the names of your children or family members before God for blessing and favor.

- For God's presence to fill our homes
- For the strengthening of marriages in Christ
- For the hearts of fathers and mothers to be turned to their children
- Declare over your home: “as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.” (Josh. 24:5)
- For all family members to experience saving grace and for all to be taught the Christian faith in their homes—that they would grow in wisdom, stature, and the favor of God and people
- For families in distress, crisis, financial strain, and health challenges—that Christ would turn agony into awakening
- For any personal needs in your family (provision, employment, reconciliation, peace, sickness, mental illness, or others struggles)
- For families who are suffering with or who have lost loved ones from COVID-19
- All the above for our neighbors—speak them by name: “[Name]—peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have.” (1 Sam. 25:6)

PRAY FOR AWAKENING IN CHURCHES

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
—1 Peter 2:4-5

Begin by naming your own church and other churches in your town or city.

- For a joyful unified recognition of Jesus Christ as Lord
- For the many different churches in a particular community to begin to recognize they are only together the Body of Christ and pray for unity among them.
- For a hungering and thirsting after the Word of God and the Spirit of God in our local churches
- For our pastors and leaders struggling to give leadership through this pandemic
- For a deepened appetite for prayer to arise and be mobilized in our churches
- For our churches to become agencies of all manner of healing in our communities
- For banded discipleship to take root and bring deep wholeness to people

- For the raising up of spiritually gifted apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers within our churches (Eph. 4:11)
- That churches would be awakened to their mission to make disciples who reach the lost
- For churches to rescue the perishing, care for the dying, and serve the poor
- That churches would rise up into their apostolic calling to be the central agencies of salvation and grace, healing and wholeness, prophetic justice, and extravagant mercy in a local community and beyond.
- For churches to be blessed with financial provision to serve their communities
- For local churches to move toward one another in unity for the sake of awakening in the larger community in which they are located

PRAY FOR AWAKENING IN TOWNS AND CITIES

They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. —Isaiah 61:4

Begin by naming your town or city and perhaps neighboring towns and cities in the region.

- For God to bring an awakening to Jesus Christ through his Spirit upon our city, town, and region (name where you live)
- For local churches to move toward one another in unity for the sake of awakening in the larger community in which they are located
- For God to bring awakening to Jesus Christ through his Spirit upon our city, town, and region (name where you live)
- For many to come to faith in Jesus Christ
- For the Kingdom of God to break in on towns and cities with all manner of transformation in every sector of society
- For the delivering work of the Holy Spirit to set people free from all manner of addiction, bondage and strongholds of sin
- For our towns and cities to become increasingly delivered from strongholds of darkness and death
- For the decrease of alcohol and drug addiction
- For the decrease of homelessness, poverty, and crime
- For the decrease of depression, anxiety, and mental illness
- For the decrease of sexual brokenness, physical violence, and all manner of hatred
- For the increase of peace across bitter political and ideological divisions
- For the increase of good will across the community
- For the increase of racial harmony
- For the increase of love, one to another
- For the peace and prosperity of the city in which you have been assigned (Jer. 29:7)

CLOSING THE WATCH

PRAYER FOR ONE ANOTHER:

Thank you Father for meeting with us in this time of watching and praying. We close by praying for any and everyone who has joined during this particular time of prayer, near and far.

If praying with a group, each person pray for another person by name. If praying alone, pray for others who are also keeping the watch for awakening.

Close out with the Lord's Prayer.