

Earle Street Baptist Church

Daily Prayer Guide

January – June 2022



The mission of Earle Street Baptist Church is to worship God (worship); to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed (missions); to be a home to all who would enter (fellowship); to minister to the needs of one another (ministry); and to assist in spiritual growth (spiritual growth).

FROM THE PASTOR

2022 is not just another year. It is our centennial year as a church. And we have so much for which to be thankful. That is why, throughout the year, we will be having a series of celebrations. But when we celebrate, we will not be celebrating our accomplishments. We will be celebrating the grace of God showered upon our church family over the past century. With each celebration, we will be reminded of our spiritual heritage, and how God has worked in and through our church. So every day, when we use this guide as a focus for our prayers, I hope you will join me in adding to the suggested prayer focus a prayer of thanksgiving for our church. Thank God for all the specific and personal ways God has blessed you through the worship, witness, ministry, and fellowship of our church. And as you reflect on our past with gratitude, pray about the future of our church - - that God will give us grace to know what should remain constant and what should change, and wisdom to know the difference. Pray that we will remain true to the vision God planted in the hearts of our spiritual ancestors a hundred years ago. And pray that we will have the same spirit of adventure that they had as we move into the future that God has in store for us. As glorious as the first 100 years have been, I am trusting and praying that our best days will still be ahead of us. And I am asking you to join me in that prayer.

Stephen

This daily prayer guide is offered as a way to encourage our church family to be unified in our daily praying, not as a substitute for our personal prayers.
ESBC Prayer Team

January

God is merciful

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:36

1. Father, as we begin a new year, help us adjust our priorities and resolve to devote ourselves to new habits of prayer.
2. Lord, help us to pour out our hearts to You and listen for the voice of Your Spirit. Remind us to prioritize time for Your Word.
3. God, remind us of Matt.6:6 pray to your Father who can't be seen. Your Father will reward you because he sees what you do secretly.
4. Jesus, when Peter asked how many times he should forgive, you said 70x7. We struggle to forgive 1 offense. Help me learn to forgive.
5. Lord, how often have You forgiven me? I have offended You far more than anyone has offended me. Help me remember mercy.
6. God, You gave us a parable: a man was forgiven a huge debt but wouldn't forgive the small debt of his neighbor. Matt 18:21-35
7. Father, soften my heart; help me to show mercy as You have shown me. Eph.4:32 Only Jesus can heal our broken relationships.
8. Lord, You first loved us; You enable us to love You & others. 1 John 4:19-21; Matt.22:36-40 You called it the greatest commandment.
9. God, love covers a multitude of sins, as Peter learned. 1 Pet.4:8 Guide our words and actions with Your love; we need You.
10. Father, help us to be merciful, like You, because mercy triumphs over judgment. Matt.5:7; Luke 6:36; James 2:13

January

God is our faithful protector

The LORD keeps you from all harm

Psalm 121:7

11. Lord, You are all-powerful; You use Your people as instruments to serve Your purposes: Joshua, Deborah, Gideon, Esther - even us.
12. God, as Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, he faced fierce opposition. He prayed & set a guard. Neh.4:9 Grant us courage.
13. Father, Samuel remembered Your faithfulness to Your people, placing an Ebenezer stone as a memorial. 1 Sam.7:12
14. Lord, Joshua set 12 stones at the river as a memorial forever, so the children would remember Your help in ages past. Josh.4
15. God, we pray for all who died serving our country: military, first responders and others. Comfort the loved ones they left behind.
16. Father, we honor those willing to die defending their neighbors, to bring others peace and liberty through their sacrifice.
17. Lord, You are our protector above all. We are thankful that Christ was willing to die for us - the ultimate, infinite sacrifice.
18. God, Christ is the Prince of Peace, the only source of true liberty from sin and death, our greatest enemy. Luke 4:18
19. Father, You gave us the ability to live in close relationship with You, thru prayer, Your Word and Your Spirit. 1 John 1:9; John 14:23
20. Lord, we confess we have fallen short; in our pride, we sin and turn away from You. But You are able to restore us when we repent.

January

God delivers us from fear and doubt

The LORD protects my life! I am afraid of no one!

Psalm 27:1

21. God, we are filled with doubts: we think we have nothing to offer; we're afraid of failure, afraid of what other people think.
22. Father, doubts & fears prevent us from living Your perfect plan for our lives. Your Word says pray in faith without doubt. James 1:6
23. Lord, Your Word says "Fear not"; You are with us. If You are for us, who can be against us? Rom.8:31 Your promises never fail.
24. God, drive away our fear, so we will boldly approach Your throne of grace, to receive mercy and help in our time of need. Heb.4:16
25. Father, we desperately need You, every hour. Deut.31:6 You are the all-powerful Creator. Set us free from what hinders us. Heb.12:1
26. Lord, our lives matter because we are Your ambassadors, Your children. John 1:12; 2 Cor.5:20 Our identity is in Christ. Gal.2:20
27. God, help us to live as if we believed what is already true: You gave us a good purpose - everything we need to live for Your glory.
28. Father, we praise You - the majesty and glory of Your name. You lead us in paths of righteousness for the sake of Your name. Psa.23:3
29. Lord, You created the earth as a place to walk with You, to honor You in all we do. 1 John 1:5-7; 1 Thes.5:5-11; Eph.5:8-21; 1 Cor.10:31
30. God, You created us in Your image with a purpose: to reflect Your glory to those around us. Matt.5:14-16; 1 Pet.2:9; 2 Cor.3:18
31. Father, strengthen us to be the light of Christ to the world today. Prov.4:18; Dan.12:3; Matt.13:43; Phil.2:15; 2 Cor.4:6

February

Pray that we may witness the Lord exalted on his throne:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts!" Isaiah 6:3b

1. "I know who you are – the Holy One of God." Lord, purge us of our demons. May your authority reign over us. (Luke 4:34ff)
2. Lord, restore us to physical and spiritual health. And may we rush to do your work when we are healed (Luke 4:38f)
3. We cherish your closeness to us, O God. May we not be selfish with your love, but share it widely. (Luke 4:42ff)
4. We cry with the angels and archangels, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory." (Is 6:3)
5. "The Lord is exalted, yet he cares for the lowly." Blessed be God, who honors those who humble themselves before him. (Ps 138:6)
6. Lord, continue to guide Earle Street Baptist Church. You have kept us strong through difficult times, and we are truly grateful.
7. Son of God, teach us how to "fish for men," for your name's sake. Show us where to cast our nets. May we do so fearlessly and with full confidence in you. (Luke 5:1ff)
8. "Blessed is anyone who trusts in the Lord, and rests his confidence on him." We have no fear, O King. (Jer 17:5ff)
9. Lord, you have called on us to love even our enemies. Yet, Lord, may we have discernment that we may not take the counsel of the wicked for our guide. Watch over our ways. (Ps 1)
10. "Strive to excel in building up the church." May our efforts all be to your glory, our Lord and King. (1 Cor 14:12)

February

Pray that we have eyes to see God's work on this earth:

"He satisfies me with all good in the prime of life." Psalm 103:5a

11. Lord, may we always put the needs of your whole people above our own desires. "I would rather speak five intelligible words... than thousands of words in the language of ecstasy." (1 Cor 14:19)
12. "Blessed are you who are in need; the kingdom of God is yours." We cry to you, Lord: see our needs; keep your word! (Luk 6:20)
13. For 100 years, God, you have allowed us to congregate on Earle Street to celebrate your sovereignty and lordship. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. May our respect never wane.
14. Lord God, today we celebrate love. Thank you for the loving relationships that enrich our lives and fill us with passion.
15. "If it is for this life only that Christ has given us hope, we of all people are most to be pitied." Thank you for the assurance of eternal life, my Lord. You give us deep meaning. (1 Cor 15:19)
16. "What is sown as a perishable thing is raised imperishable." Praise the Lord! (1 Cor 15:42)
17. Thank you, Lord, for giving us the tools and the wisdom to see past difficult times to your abundance which lies ahead. (Gen 45)
18. Even when we have rejected you, you have continued to protect us. Your mercy and steadfast love are awesome, God! (Gen 45)
19. Your love and compassion are our crown, O Lord. (Ps 103:4)
20. Gracious King, may our centennial celebration be to your glory, God. It is your will and your power that have seen us through. Use our hands, Lord; we confess their work is by your strength.

February

Pray that we may understand what it means to be created in God's own image: **"[Y]ou will be sons of the Most High."** Luke 6:35

21. "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who treat you spitefully." Thank you, Lord, for embodying these high virtues. (Luke 9:27f)
22. "If you do good only to those who do good to you, what credit is there in that?" God, may we give without expecting return. (Luke 9:33)
23. "Pardon, and you will be pardoned." Lord God, we pray for those who are in prison. Let them know your great mercy. (Luke 9:37)
24. "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" Lord God, grant new life to the congregation of Earle Street Baptist Church. May we help restore your kingdom! (Ps 85:6)
25. "As far as east is from west, so far from us has he put our offences." We cherish your forgiveness, gracious Lord. (Ps 103:12)
26. Heavenly king, your goodness is truly beyond our understanding. Remind us, as we need reminding, that you are not petty or spiteful. Free us from satanic terror.
27. I am grateful to be a part of a loving congregation, God. You have done special work in Greenville and in ESBC. May I be a part of the sweet spirit of the church, welcoming to others.
28. "Receive the Holy Spirit! If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven." Lord God, we forgive those who have sinned against us. Thank you for your unbounded mercy. (Jn 20:22f)

March

Look to God and Live

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith

Heb.12:2

1. Father, we have the privilege and duty to praise You and look upward to You. Strengthen us to reflect Your light, now and forever.
2. Lord, You gave Adam dominion over all the earth. He lost it when he turned from You. Christ regained all that Adam lost, and far more.
3. God, You make us more like Jesus. As we fix our thoughts on Him and look up, we see Jesus on the throne. Heb.2:8-9, 3:1, 12:2
4. Father, Sin & death no longer have dominion over us. You gave us value & significance in Him: Christ in You, the hope of glory. Col.1:27
5. Lord, in Christ, we become the people You want us to be. Conform us to His image. Rom.8:29 We will give you glory for eternity.
6. God, Your Word says, "Look to Me, and be saved" Isa.45:22 KJV The Son of Man was lifted up like the bronze serpent. Look to Him & live. Numbers 21:9; John 3:14-15 Help us to never lose focus on Him.
7. Father, Jesus prayed just before He went to the cross, that His church would be made holy thru the truth of Your Word. John 17:17
8. Lord, Jesus sent His church into the world, with Your protection from Satan, to be *in* the world not *of* the world. John 17:14-16, 18
9. God, Jesus prayed for all who would believe thru the message of the disciples. John 17:20 Jesus prayed that His church would grow.
10. Father, the church shares the gospel so that people all over the earth may come to know Christ, thru faithful ministry of all believers.

March

What Can the Righteous Do?

the foundations are destroyed... The Lord is in his holy temple

Psalms 11:3-4

11. Lord, as we grieve the loss of life due to sin, we wonder why. What can we do? We *know* why; people have turned away from You.
12. God, David asked this question 3000 years ago. If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? Psa.11:3 We can pray.
13. Father, unsaved neighbors wander in darkness. We can trust in You as the only firm foundation. Help us seek You, serve You & pray.
14. Lord, David recognized that You are still in Your holy temple as ruler of all. We remember with David that our hope is in You.
15. God, help us turn to You and cling to You. You are on the throne in heaven. We look to You and see you are still in control.
16. Father, make us useful to love our neighbors and lead them out of the darkness, closer to You. 1 Pet.2:9
17. Lord, help us to be faithful in prayer for our nation to seek You. You are faithful to protect and provide for those who love You.
18. God, Jesus prayed often. Luke 5:16 Your answer is always Yes. His will is Your will. You grant every request that Jesus prayed.
19. Father, because Jesus prayed, we know that we will be together with You in heaven, cleansed from sin, reflecting Your glory forever.
20. Jesus, You *still* pray for us. Heb.7:25; Rom.8:34; 1 John 2:1 Enable us to reflect Your glory today and to lead one another closer to You.

March

Pray for Unity, Love and Harmony with One Another

Above all put on love, which binds everything together in harmony

Col. 3:14

21. God, help us follow Rom.12:16,18 and to live in harmony. As far as it depends on me, help me live at peace with everyone.
22. Father, fill us with Your Spirit, so that we desire unity. Make us eager to maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Eph.4:3
23. Lord, fill us with Your love. Enable us above all to put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Col.3:14
24. God, You created each of us with different strengths, experiences and perspectives. When 2 or more gather, there is potential conflict.
25. Father, 1 Cor.12-13 tells us we need each other. You enable us to cooperate in doing Your will, by filling us with Your love: Christ in us.
26. Lord, strengthen us, that we might live in harmony with one another, and bless one another, for Your glory.
27. God, loving others doesn't mean we approve of sinful actions. We don't approve of evil or hate. You are able to change hearts.
28. Father, love means that we desire what is best for others. The best thing for anyone is to draw closer to You. People need the Lord
29. Lord, love compels us to pray for those who desperately need You. Saul was Your enemy; he hated Christ. Acts 9:1
30. God, Saul tried to destroy the early church. You transformed his heart. Ananias & Barnabas saw the change. Acts 9:17, 9:26-27, 13:9
31. Father, You have placed people in our lives who need love and grace. Strengthen us to serve Your purpose today in their lives.

April

Pray that we may have strength and courage to accomplish God's work: **"I press towards the finishing line."** Philippians 3:14

1. "For anyone united to Christ, there is a new creation: the old order has gone; a new order has already begun." May we witness your new creation with reconciled eyes, O Lord. (2 Cor 5:17)
2. "I have not yet reached perfection, but I press on." (Phi 3:12)
3. Lord God, please bless the ministers at Earle Street Baptist Church. May your work be accomplished in partnership with them – but reassure them of your mastery.
4. May we run our race so as to win it, Lord God. May complacency and mediocrity be anathema to our heavenly mission. (Phi 3:14)
5. "Stop dwelling on past events and brooding over days gone by." Lord, may we strain on for what lies ahead. (Isa 43:18)
6. "Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy." We have confidence, blessed Redeemer, that you have good things in store for us. Great things you have done for us! (Ps 126)
7. Lord, be with our brothers and sisters who feel weak, down-trodden, and exhausted. Reveal to us new ways to love them.
8. May the shalom which passes all understanding guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Phi 4:6)
9. "The Lord will judge his people and have compassion on his servants; for he will see that their strength is gone." (Deut 32:36)
10. "You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy, at your right hand are pleasures for evermore." (Ps 16:11)

April

Pray that we may see God's redemptive arc:

"The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." Exodus 12:12

11. "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, for his love endures forever." Truly, we thank you, O God. (Ps 118:29)
12. "My fortunes are in your hand... Let your face shine on your servant." Enlighten my path, Lord. (Ps 31:15f)
13. May every tongue acclaim, to the glory of God the Father: "Jesus Christ is Lord." (Yes, even Peter, O God!) (Phi 2:11)
14. "I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the Lord by name." Christ, thank you for inviting us to your feast. (Ps 116:13)
15. "Into your hand I commit my spirit. You have delivered me, Lord, you God of truth... You have not abandoned me to the power of the enemy, but have set me where I have untrammelled liberty. (Ps 31: 5,8)
16. "My servant will achieve success, he will be raised to honour, high and exalted." We wait patiently, O God.
17. "I know that my vindicator lives and that he will rise last to speak in court; I shall discern my witness standing at my side and see my defending counsel, even God himself." Christ is risen! (Job 19:25f)
18. "Why search among the dead for one who is alive?" Praise God! He is the God of the living. He renews life! (Luke 24:5)
19. We know that our church is more than bricks and mortar, dear God. Yet, protect our building, and may we be good stewards.
20. "My chosen ones will enjoy the fruit of their labour." Praise God, who has guaranteed our victory! (Is 65:22)

April

Pray for our future, that Jesus may soon return to restore the Kingdom:

"Arise, shine, Jerusalem, for your light has come." Isaiah 60:1

21. "Go, stand in the temple and tell the people all about this new life." Give us opportunities to share your Gospel, Lord. (Acts 5:20)
22. "Shall we make three shelters, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah?" May we always try to be helpful, God. (Luk 9:33)
23. "Happy are those who find faith without seeing me." Lord God, count me among the happy. (Jn 20:29)
24. "Can one blind man guide another?" Lord, thank you for our teachers. Bless them and their high calling. (Luke 9:39)
25. Lord, give us the conviction of Saul, who changed his life for your sake after you revealed yourself to him. (Acts 9)
26. When you call out to me, O God, give me the courage to respond, "here I am, Lord!" to your overwhelming voice. (Acts 9:10 *et al.*)
27. "You have turned my laments into dancing; you have stripped off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that I may sing psalms to you without ceasing." (Ps 30:11f)
28. "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth, wisdom and might, honor and glory and praise!" (Rev 5:12)
29. "Praise and honour, glory and might, to him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb for ever!" (Rev 5:13)
30. May we strive to find good spiritual food to offer the many lambs and sheep that need to receive your blessing, Lord. (Jn 21:15ff)

May

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. - Thomas Ken

1. I will praise You every day; I will honor Your name forever and ever. Psalm 145:2
2. Praising You today, Lord, because You are the Almighty, the King of creation.
3. You are our Rock and our Refuge. Today we praise Your faithfulness to us.
4. It is good to praise the Lord and make music to Your name, O Most High. Psalm 92:1
5. Today we sing "Praise Him. Praise Him all ye little Children. God is Love. God is Love."
6. Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee. - Reginald Heber from Revelation 4:8-11
7. Father, we worship You with our praises knowing that we can never praise You enough.
8. We praise You for who You are and for what You have done for us.
9. "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your blessings, see what God has done. – Johnson Oatman, Jr.
10. Be not afraid of saying too much in the praises of God. All the danger is of saying too little. – Matthew Henry

May

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8

11. We thank You, God, with our hearts, our hands, and our voices for the wonderful things You have done.
12. We thank You for our gifted, faithful, and loving staff. You have blessed us through them.
13. Thank You, Lord, for _____ (Someone who is an inspiration to you)
14. Thank You, Lord, for _____ (Someone who is an encourager to you)
15. Thank You for our church family.
16. Thank You, Lord, for loving us.
17. Thank You for the ESBC members who took the risk to begin our church.
18. Thank You for the wisdom and resources which have enabled our church to minister to others.
19. We thank You, God, for Your goodness and that Your love endures forever.
20. Thanks be to God.

May

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

21. Trust and obey, for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey. – D.B. Towner
22. Lord, we trust Your guidance as we continue our faith journey with you.
23. Help us to simply trust You every day.
24. When life is hard, help us to remember how faithful You are and continue to trust you.
25. I trust Your lordship. I belong to You. Nothing comes to me that hasn't passed through You.
26. We trust that you are protecting us because Your promises are true.
27. You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in You. Isaiah 26:3
28. Father, we cast our cares on You for we trust that You will sustain us. Psalm 55:22
29. As we trust You, help us to be trustworthy.
30. Father, we trust that the plans You have for us are plans to prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11-13
31. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God. Trust also in me." John 14:1

June

"We have the hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."

Hebrews 6:19

1. Our hope comes from you alone, O God. We praise your name. Psalm 62: 5
2. Father, thank you for your comfort in our troubles. May we comfort others because of your work in our own lives. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4
3. Lord, you provide victory over sin for us when we believe on you. What a blessed promise. 1 Corinthians 15: 56-57
4. Dear God, we do love you. We rest upon your promise that "in all things you work for the good of those who love you and are called according to your purpose." Romans 8:28
5. Father, you are our refuge in times of trouble. Thank you, Lord. Psalm 61:3
6. Lord, I trust in you to be my rock of refuge always. What a blessing to be in your care. Psalm 71:1-3
7. When I have difficulties in life, I know that I can depend on you, Lord. You are the strength of my heart. Psalm 73:26
8. Sometimes, Lord, I just need to be restored. Please make "your face to shine on me." Psalm 80:3
9. Father, please turn my eyes away from worthless things and turn them toward you. Psalm 119:37
10. Lord, please remind me that my help comes, not from my own efforts, but from you, the maker of heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2

June

“The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.” Psalm 29:11

11. Father, please help us all at Earle Street to work together in unity for your glory. Psalm 133:1

12. Father, C.S. Lewis taught that if we “aim at Heaven we will get earth ‘thrown in’.” Please guide us to aim toward heaven so we will better fulfill your mission for us here on earth.

13. Lord, please deliver us from the temptation of putting our hope in the things of this world. Psalm 42:5

14. Lord, you are the maker of heaven and earth and everything in them; help us put our trust in you each day. Psalm 146: 3,5

15. Father, may we sow seeds of joy and justice in the soil of our world today. Psalm 126:5-6

16. Lord, let us live by faith, assured of your presence in darkness and in light. Job 38:1-7

17. Look on me today with compassion, O Lord. Soften my heart, that I might love as you love. Mark 10:17-23

18. God, lift my eyes above the afflictions in life. Let me be your hands and feet in our community. Psalm 90:12-17

19. Jesus, may my devotion for you always move me to acts of generosity and love of my neighbors. Mark 12:38-44

20. O God, may I put my trust in you, see the world through your eyes, and follow you as you move the world toward wholeness. Psalm 146

June

Pray for a loving heart: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only son, that whoever believed in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

21. O Lord, may I sleep in peace, knowing that my hope is in you. Psalm 127

22. Open my ears, O Lord, that I might truly hear the cries of those who need comfort. I Samuel 1:4-16

23. Surround me, O God, with your comfort so that I may rest securely in your care. Psalm 16:9

24. Jesus, shine your light on me so that I may become light for others. John 1:1-14

25. Lord, make us instruments of your peace at Earle Street and in our community. John 1:2

26. Father, as we move closer to our Centennial celebration, please guide us into serving our community as you would have us serve. Psalm 100:2

27. May we serve you wholeheartedly, Lord. Ephesians 6:7

28. Jesus, may we follow in your footsteps and be servants to our community. Matthew 20:28

29. May we be valid servants of yours, Lord. I Timothy 3:13

30. Father, we pray on behalf of those who are suffering. May they know your peace which passes all understanding. I Timothy 2:1-2