



March 29, 2020



10:00 AM – WORSHIPPING TOGETHER ONLINE

Praise & Worship

How Great Thou Art

Revelation Song

Scripture Reading: Psalm 130 : 1 - 7

1 A song for pilgrims ascending to Jerusalem. From the depths of despair, O LORD, I call for your help.

2 Hear my cry, O Lord. Pay attention to my prayer.

3 LORD, if you kept a record of our sins, who, O Lord, could ever survive?

4 But you offer forgiveness, that we might learn to fear you.

5 I am counting on the LORD; yes, I am counting on him. I put my hope in his word.

6 I long for the Lord more than sentries long for the dawn, yes, more than sentries long for the dawn.

7 O Israel, hope in the LORD; for with the LORD there is unfailing love. His redemption overflows.

Good to Me

This I Believe (The Creed)

Church Life Prayer

Message — “There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friend”

Message Text — John 12 : 1 - 8

Benediction

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Care Givers of the Week: Esther Braun & Sandy Bell

Baptism

If you are interested in baptism or becoming more involved in our church family, please contact the pastoral staff.

Happening Online

- Friday Night Prayer @ 7:30 pm - We are not meeting in church but will pray together in our homes. Please join us at 7:30 in your home.
 - If you are in need of prayer, email the pastoral staff at our new email address: pastoralcare@pachurch.ca
 - Sunday morning worship services - Join us online Sundays @ 10 am at www.pachurch.ca
 - PAC Korean Fellowship Worship services - Join us online Wednesdays @ 7:30 pm at www.pachurch.ca/Korean-Fellowship
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Letter from Dave & Louise Sinclair-Peters

The reality of covid-19 has caused us to suddenly change our travel plans. We have prayed and decided that it is better, maybe even safer for us to stay here in Myanmar!

With all the churches in Canada closed and the need for us to be quarantined and limited in our travel, we feel we would not be helping anyone if we returned for "home assignment" in this season. We are sorry to say we will miss seeing you this spring!

When our national team here in Myanmar heard that we wouldn't be returning to Canada at this time, they actually started rejoicing. (I suppose that's a good sign that we are still loved!)

But the real reason is that we are in the midst of harvesting and preparing 5 tons of Lighthouse specialty coffee for export. There is still a lot of hulling, training and coffee sorting work to be done! So now we are in a city a few hours away from our coffee mountain waiting to get permission from the government to live in a place that foreigners have never lived before! Please pray for favour from God for us!

Our revised plan is to return to Canada for a short ministry assignment among our churches from September to end of October.

Thank you for your continued prayers for us. We are well!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Need Help?

During this time of social distancing we would like to reach out to our church family. If you are elderly, have a pre-existing health condition making you vulnerable to illness, or are under self-quarantine, we would like to offer you help in this time of need. We have individuals who are looking to serve by helping to pick up groceries or prescriptions, run errands, or assist in other tasks you may not currently be able to do yourself. Please email or call the office if you need help or can offer help. We, as a church family, are committed to serving each other during these times.

Police Prayer Watch

The 365 Police Prayer Watch was established in 2014. Every year 52 churches in Winnipeg sign up to pray for the Winnipeg Police Services and its members. Portage Ave Church has been invited to participate this week (March 29 - April 4). Please see the attachments to this bulletin for specific prayer suggestions and also a prayer page for children.

New Option for Giving

During this time you can mail in post-dated cheques, e-transfer and now give via credit card with the new link on our website. You will log into "Church Connect" where you can see and update your personal profile, view the photo directory, view the Church Family Phone Directory, view your giving to date, and now there is an additional link for online giving. For more information please view our website at www.pachurch.ca/donate.



BIBLE READING PLAN

Sunday	March	22	Exodus 34	John 13
Monday	March	23	Exodus 35	John 14
Tuesday	March	24	Exodus 36	John 15
Wednesday	March	25	Exodus 37	John 16
Thursday	March	26	Exodus 38	John 17
Friday	March	27	Exodus 39	John 18
Saturday	March	28	Exodus 40	John 19
Sunday	March	29	Leviticus 1	John 20
Monday	March	30	Leviticus 2-3	John 21
Tuesday	March	31	Leviticus 4	Psalms 1-2
Wednesday	April	1	Leviticus 5	Psalms 3-4
Thursday	April	2	Leviticus 6	Psalms 5-6
Friday	April	3	Leviticus 7	Psalms 7-8
Saturday	April	4	Leviticus 8	Psalms 9
Sunday	April	5	Leviticus 9	Psalms 10
Monday	April	6	Leviticus 10	Psalms 11-12
Tuesday	April	7	Leviticus 11-12	Psalms 13-14
Wednesday	April	8	Leviticus 13	Psalms 15-16
Thursday	April	9	Leviticus 14	Psalms 17
Friday	April	10	Leviticus 15	Psalms 18
Saturday	April	11	Leviticus 16	Psalms 19

Weekly Prayer Night

Fridays at 7:30pm

PRAYER ALERT

Pray for those who are in hospital

George Schmidt—Concordia Hospital

Pray for those who are shut-in and unable to attend

At home – Peter Brown, Erna Friesen, Rudy & Susanne Thiessen

Bethania – Jake & Betty Suderman, Mary Unger

Bethel Place – George Petkau, Agnes Pauls

Concordia Place – John E. Friesen

Concordia Village – Margaret Pospishell, Martha Thielman

Donwood Personal Care – Elvira Loewen, Louise (Lois) Peters,

Martha Reimer, Helen Wiens, Peter Klassen

Donwood Manor Apartments – Arnold Teichrieb

Pembina Place – Helen Doerksen

Riverwood Square – John W. Sawatzky

Riverwood Square (Harmony Court) – Mary Bergen

Sturgeon Creek Retirement Residence – Bertha Toews

Tuxedo Villa Extended Care – Cornie Schroeder

Daily Bread, Bulletins & Library Books

A copy of the Church Bulletin and Our Daily Bread is available for you. Drop by the office or we will try to get one out to you. Our Library is also open for people who wish to take out books. Please contact the church office.

Donwood Fundraising Banquet

The Donwood 50th Anniversary Fundraising Banquet will be held on Monday, April 27, at Alloway Hall at the Manitoba Museum, 190 Rupert Avenue. The reception is 5:30 - 6:30 pm and dinner is at 6:30 pm. Parking is available at the Impark lots on Rupert Ave and Market St. Free street parking is also available in the area.

Please contact Olga Moldovanenko or David Klassen for more information and to obtain tickets.

Mission Giving Update

- The quarterly support for Matt Peters is currently short by \$80 this month.
- The quarterly support for our PAC Multiply Missionaries is currently short by \$2,400.

SERMON NOTES

For Further Reflection

Use these questions for personal reflection or with your small group.

- 1) What did you learn about God through the sermon?
- 2) What does your response need to be?



THIS WEEK

Mar 29-Apr 4 Prayer for Police

Sun. Mar 29 10.00 am Worship Service Online
Speaker: Pierre Gilbert

Wed. Apr 1 7:30 pm PAC Korean Praise & Worship Online

Fri. Apr 3 7:30 pm Prayer Night Online

NEXT WEEK (Tentatively)

Sun. Apr 5 10:00 am Palm Sunday Worship Service Online
Speaker: Jedidiah Carpentier

Wed. Apr 8 7:30 pm PAC Korean Praise & Worship Online

Fri. Apr 10 Good Friday
7:30 pm Prayer Night Online

JOIN US ONLINE—www.pachurch.ca

- Sunday Worship Service
- PAC Korean Wednesday Devotional video series
- Devotionals
- “The More You Know” video series
- “Have a Sit” video series
- Friday Night Prayer
- Worship playlists
- Biblical encouragements
- Library recommendations
- Updates on church events & more!

Contact Us: Office: 204.774.4414 Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9 am-3 pm
Pastor – Jedidiah Carpentier – Ext. 1 jedidiah@pachurch.ca
Associate Pastor – Scott Koop – Ext. 2 scott@pachurch.ca
Pastor of Korean Fellowship – Jennifer Choi – Ext. 3 jchoi@pachurch.ca
Director of Worship & Media – Jeremy Penner – Ext. 4 jeremy@pachurch.ca
Administrative Director – Melanie Kramp – Ext. 0 office@pachurch.ca
Prayer Line – Ext. 5
Fellowship Line – Ext. 6
General Information and Church Hours – Ext. 7
E-transfer donations (www.pachurch.ca/donate) payments@pachurch.ca



Portage Avenue Church

A Mennonite Brethren Church

1420 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3G 0W2

Email: office@pachurch.ca Web: www.pachurch.ca

365 Police Prayer Watch

The 365 Police Prayer Watch was established in 2014. Every year 52 churches in Winnipeg signed up to each take one week to pray for the Winnipeg Police Services and its members.

The impact of our prayers is making a difference! Thank you for being involved in this partnership!

The Bible teaches us to pray for those in authority so that peaceful order may prevail. (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Suggestions for Daily Prayer

Monday Thank God for police willing to do a job that is often sacrificial and challenging. Thank for officers you know personally. Pray:

- about crimes that have affected you or people you know.
- for Chief of Police Danny Smythe, and all in leadership in the Winnipeg Police. Pray for wisdom in how they use the resources available to them as they face increasing budget constraints.

Tuesday Pray:

- for change in our city's reputation as "murder capital of Canada" to "City of Refuge".
- that God will expose and root out violent crime, paedophilia, human trafficking, drugs, pornography, domestic violence & child abuse.
- for God's wisdom for those dealing with these types of crime.
- Pray for a change of heart in offenders. Pray that they would come to know God's love for them and find purpose in their lives.
- Ask the Lord to end the Meth Epidemic in our city and to provide a detox centre and long term rehabilitation centre for users.

Wednesday Pray:

- for victims or people affected by crime,
- for healing and peace, for a new sense of safety and hope.
- that God would help them to forgive those who have hurt them, so they can be free from bitterness, depression and hopelessness.
- for an end to anti-social behaviour, gang culture, knife & gun crime.

- Ask the Lord to protect new immigrants and refugees from gangs, and to move the Church to action in reaching out to these newcomers.

Thursday Pray for the legal system:

- that it would truly be founded on God's truth and justice.
- that people will feel confident to trust the integrity of the system, and that breach or failure would be dealt with firmly and appropriately to restore confidence.
- for integrity for judges, magistrates, and all who uphold the law.

Friday Thank God for relationships that police have in many communities where they are welcomed and respected. Pray:

- for relationships with groups that find it hard to trust the police.
- that God would bring down barriers and build bridges, creating opportunities for relationships to be built and that police officers would show compassion, even in very difficult situations.
- especially for relationships with young people who feel marginalized or disaffected.
- for protection over police, physically, spiritually, emotionally, mentally as they engage with people who do not respond positively.

Saturday Pray for police officers and staff:

- for their marriages and families.
- that they would have opportunities to spend quality time with their families, and that they would be able to manage their work / life balance effectively.
- for support and healing for those who have experienced traumatic situations in their work.
- for spiritual protection over them as they face some of the darkest aspects of human nature. Ask God to give them the qualities they need to be able to do their job and not to become hardened and cynical. Pray that they would find hope and peace in Jesus. Pray for continued integrity and fairness in all that the police do.

365 Police Prayer Watch - Areas of concern for 2020

1. Sadly Winnipeg experienced 44 murders in 2019. That is double the number of murders in 2018. Many of these deaths were gang-related. Cry out to the Lord on behalf of our city asking that He would restore our city and deliver it from the darkness. Let's ask for the promises of Jeremiah 33:4 & 9 to be for Winnipeg. That we would know His peace and security, and that this great city would bring Him renown!
2. Pray for continued success for the WPS in the prevention and solution of crimes; for wisdom in creating new and innovative strategies; and for opportunities to have positive engagements with the public.
3. Pray that each member of the public would have compassion and be spurred into action to initiate ways in which they themselves, their families, and their churches can create a culture of safety within their own respective communities.
4. Pray for the leadership of the WPS within the service at all levels – working with Police Executive members as well as the Manitoba Independent Investigation Unit & the Police Board. Unity is so crucial to the effectiveness of their work.
5. Pray for the WPS Behavioral Health team & WPS chaplains, who specializes in the care of our members in difficult times; that they would have wisdom and discernment to help the members and their families.
6. The most crime-riddled postal code area within Canada is located in a 21-block area of the north end of Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Police Service is deploying significant resources and programming to that 21-block area. Pray for:
 - The success in addressing the violence and poverty in that area.
 - Safety of the police officers involved in patrolling the area.
 - Wisdom for the police officers in dealing with the social and criminal problems that have devastated the area.
 - Partnership options by which the police service can collaborate with others in order to bring long-term sustainable results.
 - Pray for the Bear Clan Patrol as they walk the street of the North End working to increase safety.
7. Family and domestic violence reach their highest levels during the Christmas season, but it is a year-round problem. Pray for:
 - Safety and wisdom for the police officers as they deal with violent and volatile incidents.
 - Freedom from alcohol dependency and consequential abuse within these homes.
8. Pray for the families of police officers. Pray especially for marriages to be strengthened. Divorce rates among police officers are higher than average (~60%). Ask the Lord to protect these families and give them ways to overcome the unique challenges they face.
9. Give thanks for Winnipeg's Chief of Police, Danny Smyth. Ask the Lord to enable him to fulfil God's will for our city. Pray that God's grace and wisdom will fill him. Also pray that the executive team he has gathered will continue to serve the WPS well, especially in the area of crime prevention through social development.
10. Other issues:
 - Pray for the Police Board. Pray for integrity and good relationships with the Police Chief, the Mayor and one another. Ask the Lord for unity and clear communication between them
 - Continued strength, faith, and support from all intergovernmental agencies and other partners working to bring safety and hope to some of our more troubled neighbourhoods.
 - Vulnerable youth who are drawn into gangs in hopes of filling deep voids in their lives.
 - Pray for wisdom and discernment for the officers on evening and night shifts to prioritize and respond in good time. Ask the Lord to direct those who are patrolling the streets.
 - Pray for protection for Indigenous women and girls visiting from northern communities who are targeted by human traffickers.

“Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men.” (quoting Reverend Phillips Brooks during Remarks at Presidential Prayer Breakfast, February 7, 1963). –John F. Kennedy.

How You Can Pray

Ask the Lord to bring home each officer safely at the end of each shift. “Pray that God will protect their families. Law enforcement personnel deal with such horrifying situations. They cannot share the details, yet, they must live with the details 24-7,” says Bob Kilmer, chaplain of Aston, PA Police Department. “When police officers graduate from the Academy, everyone wants to hear their stories. As time goes on the officers soon find that the only ones they have to share with are other officers. Their circle of support grows smaller and smaller.”

Kilmer mentions specific ways officers are affected by this diminishing support base. “This can lead to substance abuse, addictions of many kinds and, for far too many, loss of job or suicide. Police officers have the highest rate of suicide of any profession. Their divorce rate is approximately 85 percent,” Kilmer said. “For the last few years, in-the-line-of-duty deaths have risen. They and their families pay a great price in order to keep the peace as God has called them to do.”

B.G. Nevitt, chaplain for the Decatur, IL Police Department, says Christians are needed who will dedicate themselves to pray beyond just one special day. “Pray that a great army of committed believers will respond to the call to stand in the gap for these valiant men and women throughout the year,” he said. “Those with a badge cannot alone turn the tide of society’s ills. But if we will partner with them in faith, our community and our nation will experience a great victory.”

How you can support

1. When split seconds make the difference between life and death, pray for officers’ courage and decisiveness. Quick reflexes and instincts are essential for the safety of the community as well as the officers involved.
2. Pray for people to stand in support of Canada’s finest heroes. In today’s society, there is a rush to judgment against officers. Instead, honour these ones who sacrifice so much to keep the peace in order to protect the nation’s communities.
3. These public servants see and experience more devastation in a week than most will in a lifetime. Pray for their peace of mind.
4. Pray for the families of law enforcement officers. They miss out on family time so their loved ones can serve and protect. And there’s often a black cloud of worry overshadowing the times they do get to enjoy together.
5. Lift up the needs of law enforcement officers: spiritual, physical, emotional, mental and relational. They have real needs and go through tough times.

Adapted from: <https://saminaiqbal27.wordpress.com/2014/07/17/police-officers-prayer/>

An Hour of Prayer for our Police – A Prayer Guide

Please note: This is a suggested format breaking the hour down into 5-minute sections, but be open to God's plan and purpose for your time of prayer. The times are a rough guide – please feel free to adjust them according to what the Lord gives you a burden to pray about or according to the amount of time you have to pray. It is useful to have a Bible, a pen and some paper handy to note down things that God shares with you.

0 - 5 minutes: Praise & Thanksgiving

Send a couple of minutes thanking God for His presence, for hearing our prayers, for sharing His heart with us. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead the hour of prayer. Thank God for the work of the police, for their dedication to peace and justice. Thank Him that they are willing to do a job that is often sacrificial and challenging. Ask that even as you are praying, God will transform the Winnipeg Police Service and Winnipeg. Pray for His Spirit to be poured out across this city.

5 - 10 minutes: Dramatic Reduction in Crime

Pray for a dramatic reduction in crime across Winnipeg. Ask God to reveal any specific types or hotspots of crime that He wants to act on during this time. Pray about crimes that have affected you or people you know. Pray about crime that is affecting your local area, that God would break any strongholds, and bring peace.

15 - 20 minutes: Specific Types of Crime

Pray that God will expose and root out violent crime, paedophilia, drugs, pornography, terrorism, domestic violence & child abuse. Ask for His wisdom and insight for those dealing with these types of crime. Pray for continued integrity and fairness in all that the police do. Pray for an end to anti-social behaviour, gang culture, knife & gun crime, youth offending.

20 - 25 minutes: Offenders – Change of Heart

Pray for a change of heart in offenders. Pray that they would come to know God's love for them and find purpose in their lives. Pray that God would set them free from habitual and destructive behaviour patterns. Pray that there would be positive role models to get alongside them. Pray that God would help them turn their lives around.

25 - 30 minutes: Victims of Crime

Pray for healing and peace for people who have been victims of or affected by crime. Pray for a new sense of safety and hope. Pray that their experience would turn them towards God and not drive them away from Him. Pray that God would help them to forgive those who have hurt them, so that they can be free from bitterness, depression and hopelessness. Pray that God would bring good out of their suffering.

30 - 35 minutes: Justice System

Pray for the legal system, that it would truly be founded on God's truth and justice. Ask God to raise up more Christians in the legal system who will bring His light into dark places. Pray that people will feel confident to trust the integrity of the system, and that any breach or failure would be dealt with firmly and appropriately to restore confidence. Pray that technicalities would not allow offenders to escape justice, leading to doubt and mistrust. Pray for wisdom and integrity for judges and magistrates, and all who uphold the law.

35 - 40 minutes: Leadership

Pray for Police Chief Danny Smyth, and all in leadership in the Winnipeg Police. Pray for wisdom in how they use the resources available to them as they face increasing budget constraints. Pray for the strategic decisions that they make in these very challenging times, that they will have a long-term effect of reducing crime and increasing public confidence in the City.

Pray for health, strength, opportunities to relax. Pray for your local divisional commander, and the team that support them, both police officers and staff.

40 - 45 minutes: Relationships with Communities

Thank God for the positive relationship that the police have in many communities where they are welcomed and respected. Pray for relationships with communities and groups of society that find it hard to trust the police. Pray that God would bring down barriers and build bridges.

Pray that He would create opportunities for relationships to be built and for police and local communities to get alongside each other. Pray especially for relationships with young people who feel marginalized or disaffected. Pray that police officers would show compassion, even in very difficult situations. Pray for protection for the police: physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally as they engage with people who do not respond positively.

45 - 50 minutes: Marriage, Family, Work/Life Balance

Pray for police officers and staff – for their marriages and families. Pray that they would have opportunities to spend quality time with their families, and that they would be able to manage their work / life balance effectively. Pray for support and healing for those who have experienced traumatic situations in their work and find it hard to deal with them. Pray that there would be spiritual protection over them as they face some of the darkest aspects of human nature. Ask God to give them the qualities they need to be able to do their job and not to become hardened and cynical. Pray that they would find hope and peace in Jesus.

50 - 55 minutes: Restoration & Revival

Pray that God would work out His plan to bring His love and hope into the lives of all who work in the Winnipeg Police. Thank Him for the Chaplaincy, and for the ways He has allowed them to serve in the Police Service. Pray that Christians throughout Winnipeg would be willing to heed God's call to reach out to those who don't know Him. Cry out to God for restoration of His Church in Winnipeg, and for the Holy Spirit to come in mighty, transforming power. Pray for revival across Winnipeg, in and through the Winnipeg Police Service.

55 - 60 minutes: Thanks & Passing on the Baton

Thank God for all that He has done through your time of prayer. Pray for the next person or group who will be taking the baton of prayer from you, that God would stir up His passion in their hearts and lead them in a time of powerful intercession. Pray a blessing on them as they humble themselves and are obedient to His will. Pray for energy, focus and enthusiasm as they pray.

Bless you for being a part of this week of prayer. I pray that God will reward you richly for your obedience and sacrifice.

From the Winnipeg Police Service Chaplain

I, MY NAME remembered to pray for the police on:

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

I can pray for Police officers

- that God will keep them safe and healthy
- that they will be able to show love and compassion to the people they serve, even in difficult times
- that they will build strong, positive relationships within their communities
- that they will find time to rest and be with their families

I can pray for the chief

- that God will bless him with wisdom
- that he will find time to rest
- that his family will stay safe and healthy

I can pray for Winnipeg

- that people who are hurting will find help, healing and peace
- that the police and city workers will work together to improve our communities
- that everyone would see the good work God is doing in our city
- that people will love and care for each other
- that people will continue to pray for the police and city throughout the year

