



Each Day a Prayer for Conference

Keep the United Methodist Church General Conference in prayer each day.

The theme of this General Conference is "...and know that I am God."

As we pray for this group, we hope that we and they embrace calm and an open mindset as this group gathers to do the work of the church. Remember we are all God's children.

To use this guide:

Find a place where you can be alone.

Sit in silence and breathe deep in and out, in and out. . .

When you can focus,

Read and meditate on each verse.

Think about the words.

Read the verse(s) again and focus on one word or thought.

Take the time to be with God on purpose – listen and pray.

Pray for all our leadership involved with the General Conference.

DAY 1:

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” — John 16:33

It is sometimes hard to see more than one side of an issue.

I pray on this day that each member attending conference has an open heart, mind, and ears to really hear, with love and understanding each and every voice.

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” — [2 Thessalonians 3:16](#)

Thought for today:

It's all good. Thank God for all creation.

DAY 2:

“Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?” — 2 Chronicles 1:10

Today as you reflect on these verses, pray for our Bishop. He will feel the weight of leadership throughout this conference. If you remember, Moses did not want to have the burden of leadership if fact he tried to talk God into sending someone else (Exodus 3 and 4) Hold our Bishop in your hearts and prayers today. Leadership is hard.

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.” — [1 Corinthians 14:33](#)

Thought for today:

Who can I help today?

DAY 3:

“I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.” — 1 Corinthians 1:10

And when was the last time that happened?? Let this be a day of prayer for the members coming to the conference, the delegates that will represent their country, their area. Every group is different - different areas, different

size communities, different age groups, different traditions, different styles of worship living under different laws. We are each an individual and each in a different place on our journey. Wesley puts us on a path to complete understanding — a path starting when we are little and continuing throughout our life.

“Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.” — Psalm 31:3

Thought for today:

“Prayer in action is love and love in action is service...” — Mother Teresa

DAY 4:

“You gave me life and showed me kindness, and in your providence watched over my spirit.” — Job 10:12

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” — Colossians 3:1

Wesley tells us to “Do no harm.” Have you ever unpacked that statement? (It's one of those 3 simple rules, but maybe not so simple.) As you think about it you realize that harm doesn't have to be loud and recognized by everyone. It can be caused by an unkind look or even in our hurry, the lack of patience. Today as we pray for the people at the conference let's send the message of kindness. In a world where you can be anything, Be Kind. Be Kind. We are constantly repeating this to others. Do we understand kindness? Be Kind — are we always aware when we are not? Today we pray for kindness as the members of this body of believers discuss the issues and petitions presented.

“The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.” — [Psalm 29:11](#)

Thought for the day:

We can disagree without being disagreeable.

DAY 5:

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” — [Romans 12:18](#)

Today I pray that those attending the conference can find and feel peace. Peaceful feelings are not always easy; we get caught up in everything around us, and like the wind in a storm we are tossed and fearful and unsettled.

Think about Jesus calming the storm and let that calming influence bring you peace. Sometimes the craziness of the day makes it so hard to even think rationally. Relax one part of your body at a time, your arms, your legs, your whole body. Calm your mind and spirit and feel peace overtake your storm. Pray for peacefulness on this day.

“Again, Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’” — [John 20:21](#)

Thought for the day:

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” — Desmond Tutu

DAY 6:

“I do not call you servants, Jesus said, but I have called you friends.” — John 15:15

As a friend how are we to live? What are we to do? How is Faith, Justice, and Peace in the mix? Petitions are being read, discussed, argued and delegates are trying to be faithful, promote justice and keep the peace (spread peace). Pray for those striving to have an open mind and make the best decisions possible. These decisions affect the whole body. We know that God is working through all the people. Micah 6:8 is one of my favorite verses — “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Pray as our leaders strive to keep these principles of Faith, Justice and Peace in their decision making.

“For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving.” — 1 Timothy 4:4

Thought for the day:

God knows me and loves me anyway.

DAY 7:

“When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them.” — Psalm 91:15

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.” — Isaiah 41:10

No matter where the members of this General Conference have come from, we are connected by prayer. We pray that the whole body of the UMC can be connected in our shared mission of doing no harm, doing good and staying in love with God. Regardless of our language or the way we pray, we are hopeful that we find unity in our mission and ministry. Pray this day that we can leave our personal agendas behind and see what God can do through you.

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.” — Hebrews 6:15

Thought for the day:

“Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.” — John F. Kennedy

DAY 8:

“Let your conversations be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.” — Colossians 4:2-6

“Give thanks in all circumstances.” — 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Say that again—give thanks in all circumstances—that must be a misprint, right?? How can I be giving thanks when this body of delegates gathered at this conference can’t agree on anything?! I hear harsh words and see hurt feelings. Today we pray for all those that feel hurt, disappointed, or feel that the progress is too slow. But here we are, trying to be in control and forgetting to just love each other. We need to let love happen. We pray for all the members of the conference to know that they are loved.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” — John 13:34-35

Three times in two short verses we are told to “Love one another.”

Thought for the day:

Today pray boldly.

DAY 9:

He says,

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” — Psalm 46:10

“God said to Moses, ‘I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” — Exodus 3:1

Our prayers this day take us back to the beginning theme of the conference “...and know that I am God.” We wait to see the progress that has been made and pray that we are able to understand the decisions that have been made. We were given extra time. This conference was to have taken place in 2020, but due to Covid it was moved to 2024. In that time have we grown in our understanding of God? Pray for the Bishop, the delegates and all the people attending this gathering that they have grown to understand each other, value each other and love each other. The following prayer is found in *The Divine Dance* by Richard Rohr, “God for us, we call you Father. God alongside us, we call you Jesus. God within us, we call you Holy Spirit. You are the eternal mystery that enables, enfolds, and enlivens all things. Even us and even me.”

Thought for the day:

Teach love, teach peace.

DAY 10:

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

Blessing a person in the name of God is powerful. You are asking that God’s face shine upon them and to work for their good. You are asking for God’s power to surround them and to hold them in God’s light. We are to reflect God’s light into the world. Pray that each member, each delegate, each person takes the Love expressed in this blessing home with them. Always remember “You have nothing to be afraid of. God is for you. God is leaping toward you! God is on your side, honestly more than you are on your own.” Taken from *The Divine Dance* by Richard Rohr. In the Celtic tradition God is seen in all of creation. God is seen as encompassing us with a gentleness of strength and care. “God to enfold me, God to surround me, God in my speaking, God in my thinking.” Our mission is to make disciples...Kind words, peaceful hearts living God’s love into the world.

“Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” — [John 14:27](#)

Thought for the day:

“Peace begins with a smile.” — Mother Teresa

Remember to live God’s love into the world.



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