

# How to Pray for the Election

By Dave Butts

## Part 4

This is the final installment for this series.

8. Pray for a spirit of repentance to fall upon the Church in America that would cause us to turn back to God and seek Him. (2 Cor. 5:10)

<sup>10</sup>because we must all stand before Christ to be judged. Each of us will receive what we should get—good or bad—for the things we did in the earthly body.

9. Pray for a spirit of courage to rise within the Church. Commit to enduring whatever it takes to see the fulfillment of God's purposes in our nation. (1 Thess.1:6)

<sup>6</sup>And you became like us and like the Lord. You suffered much, but still you accepted the teaching with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit.

10. Pray that the Church in America will live in such a way that the peace of Christ comes into the councils of our nation. (Rom.12:2)

<sup>2</sup>Do not be shaped by this world; instead be changed within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to decide what God wants for you; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect.

11. Pray for a movement of the Spirit that creates a dramatic cultural transformation in the United States, bringing about a nation that has learned to put its hope in the Word of God. (Matt. 4:16)

<sup>16</sup>These people who live in darkness will see a great light. They live in a place covered with the shadows of death, but a light will shine on them.

12. Ask the Lord to awaken the Church to the temporary nature of the nations and to the eternal nature of the reign of God. (Matt. 6:33)

<sup>33</sup>Seek first God's kingdom and what God wants. Then all your other needs will be met as well.

13. Pray that courage born of wisdom will be given to Christians in places of leadership in government, the courts, and law schools across the nation so that they will stand for a godly basis for law. (Joshua 1:9)

<sup>9</sup>Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. Don't be afraid, because the LORD your God will be with you everywhere you go.

### Confirmation Class Needs Volunteers

On Friday, October 21, beginning at 8:00 pm, the confirmands will begin their overnight retreat. Pastor Goodman is asking for volunteers to help with snacks, food and drinks for that evening and the following morning. If you would be interested in helping with this event, please contact the church office.

Also, on Sunday, October 30, the confirmation class will begin immediately following the worship service. We will need volunteers to feed the confirmands before the class begins. It does not have to be anything fancy. There are 4 confirmands plus Pastor Terry that will need to be fed. If you would like to help with this, please contact the church office.

### United Methodist Women Sunday

You are invited to join us next Sunday, October 23, for a special worship service. Our United Methodist Women's Circles will be planning and leading the worship service on this day. They have arranged for Lynice Broyles, the Holston Conference UMW President, to come and deliver the message for this event.

### Fall Festival Next Sunday

Our annual Fall Festival begins next Sunday at 3:00 pm. There will be lots of fun to be had! Plan on attending and be sure to invite along a FRAN (friend, relative, associate or neighbor). We will have a bounce house, cotton candy, popcorn, sno cones, a cake walk, a corn hole contest, and other games and activities for people of all ages. There will also be a potluck dinner following the festival. We will need baked items for the cake walk. The more items we have, the better. For more information, contact the church office or Nancy Toney.

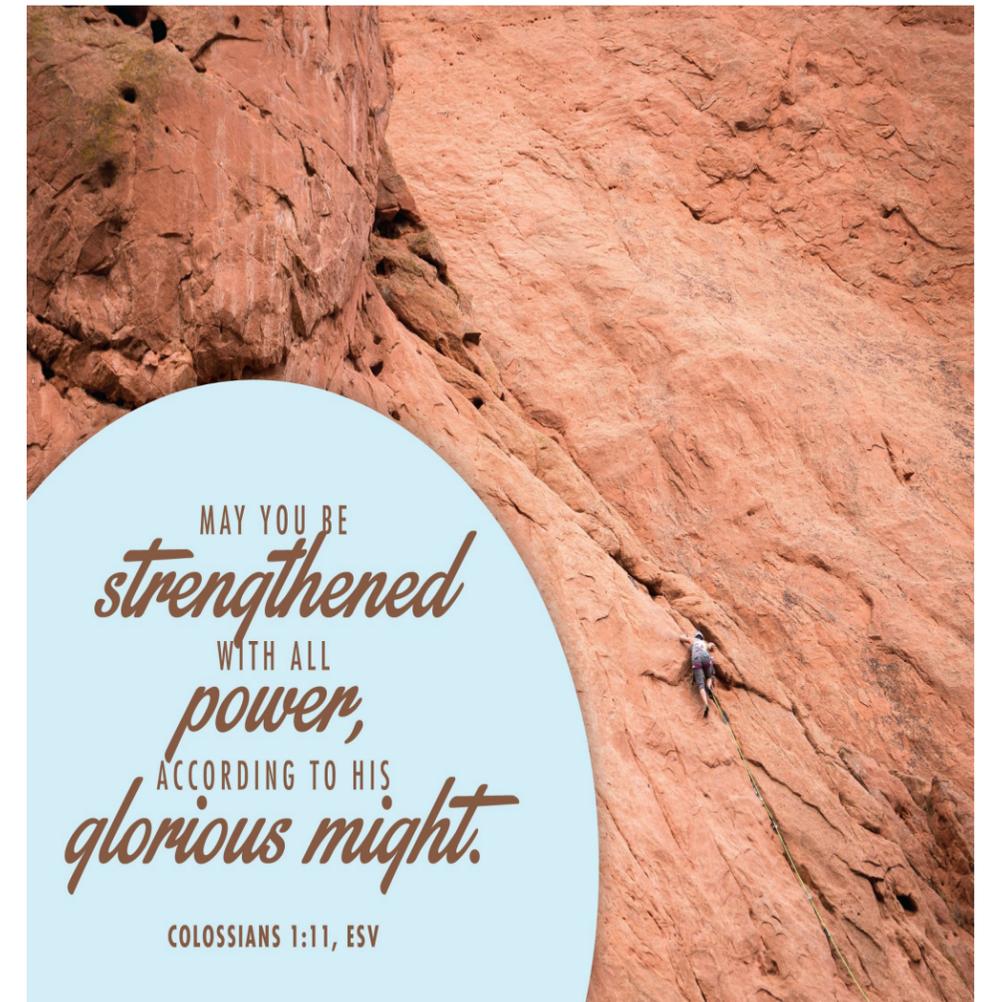
### Trunk or Treat

Get your candy and your vehicle ready! It's almost time for our Trunk or Treat event. The vehicles will be parked to the side of the church along First Street. If there is enough participation, we will block off First Street to make it safer for the children trick or treating. There is a sign up sheet available in the office. This event will take place October 31 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

### Who Wants to Help Feed Some Bears?

The church will continue its annual tradition of feeding the football team, cheerleaders, and coaches on Thursday, November 3, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. Volunteers will be needed for pre-meal setup, serving the meal, and post meal clean up. Look for a sign up sheet in the church office if you want to help.

## The Trinity Companion Sunday October 16, 2016



## Trinity United Methodist Church

203 E 1st St, South—POB 217  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219

Worship begins at 11:00 am

Pastor—Rev. Terry Goodman

Office: (276) 523-0789

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## Announcements, Welcome, and Introduction :

### Prelude

#### Pastoral Call to Worship:

We gather together as unique individuals with a variety of mindsets.

Some of us come reluctantly, some of us expectantly and some of us painfully.

However we come, we have come -- each of us carving out the time to be here, in this place of worship.

So let us *be here*. Leave behind at the door the problems you carried in and the lists of tasks that await you when you leave. Let us *be* in this place and in gratitude, let us lift our voices in praise!

## This is the Day

**No. 657**

*(Please join in on the repeat choruses as we are led by the choir.)*

## I Will Enter His Courts...

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart,  
I will enter His courts with praise,  
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made,  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

He has made me glad. He has made me glad.  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.  
He has made me glad. He has made me glad.  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad.

## We Have Come Into This House

We Have Come Into His House  
And Gathered In His Name To Worship Him;  
We Have Come Into His House  
And Gathered In His Name To Worship Him;  
We Have Come Into His House  
And Gathered In His Name To Worship Christ The Lord;  
Worship Him, Christ The Lord.

Let's For-get About Ourselves  
And Concentrate On Him, And Worship Him.  
Let's Forget About Ourselves  
And Concentrate On Him, And Worship Him.  
Let's Forget About Ourselves  
And Concentrate On Him, And Worship Christ The Lord.  
Worship Him, Christ The Lord.

## Congregational Invocation (in unison)

"Lord, teach us to pray. Some of us are not skilled in the art of prayer. As we draw near to you in thought, our spirits long for your Spirit, and reach out for you, longing to feel you near. We know not how to express the deepest emotions that lie hidden in our hearts.

In these moments, we have no polished phrases with which to impress one another, no finely molded, delicately turned clauses to present to you. Nor would we be confined to conventional petitions and repeat our prayers like the unwinding of a much-exposed film. We know, our Father, that we are closest to you when we have left behind the things that have held us captive so long

We would not be ignorant in prayer and, like children, make want lists for you. Rather, we pray that you will give unto us only what we really need. We would not make our prayers the importuning of you, an omnipotent God, to do what we want you to do. Rather, give us the vision, the courage, that shall enlarge our horizons and stretch our faith to the adventure of seeking your loving will for our lives.

We thank you that you are hearing us even now. We thank you for the grace of prayer. We thank you for yourself. *Amen.* -Peter Marshall

## The Corporate Nature of Prayer — A Commentary

### Call to Confession

When we pray, we speak to God.

When we pray, God speaks to us.

Let us, therefore, enter into dialogue with our creator.

### Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

We confess without reservation that our dialogue with you, O God, is not really a dialogue. Most often, we are asking without listening and complaining without offering thanksgiving. We pray, and cannot understand why we get no response. Awaken us to wonder: If you called, would we answer? Or would you get a busy signal? Would you leave a message, and get no answer in return? We confess anew our impatience and our unwillingness to sit in the holy stillness of your presence. Forgive us, loving God. Thank you for letting us try again. In this minute of silence, let us be still and listen to what you would say to us this day.

*(One minute of silent prayer)*

### Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Even when we try and fail again and again, God loves us still. In the richness of God's grace, we accept the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding. Amen.

## Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

*( You will be given an opportunity to share joys and prayer concerns. Please raise your hand and wait until an usher comes to you with a microphone.)*

*After each petition is said, we will all then say: Lord. Hear Our Prayer.*

*After all have lifted up their petitions, the Pastor will then say...*

Pastor: Let us pray for one another without ceasing!

**People: Pray that we will abide in the True Vine and, thus, bear fruit for God's kingdom.**

Pastor: Pray that we will draw strength from the power of God's Spirit.

**People: Pray that we will patiently endure hardships and suffering.**

Pastor: Pray that we will joyfully embrace all our circumstances, giving thanks to God always.

**People: Pray that faith, love and hope will be the hallmarks of our lives.**

Pastor: We pray in this way because we belong to God our Father.

**People: God has rescued us from sin, darkness and evil.**

Pastor: God has made us heirs of God's kingdom.

**People: Can you believe it? We share God's inheritance with all the saints of every time and place!**

Pastor: We are redeemed, forgiven of all our sins and loved with an everlasting love.

**People: All praise, glory and honor to God -- Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Amen.**

*--Based on Colossians 1:3-14.*

**Gloria Patri**

No. 70

**Children's Message**

Kim Parsons

## The Presentation of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

**Ushers:** Phil Robbins, Spencer Quesenberry, Jack Williams, Ben Allen

### Offertory:

\* **The Doxology**

**No. 95**

**Musical Offering: "I Will Rise"**

**David Goodman**

### Sermon: Thoughts and Commentary on the Nature of Prayer

\* **Closing Hymn: "How Great Thou Art"**

No. 77

\* **Pastoral Benediction :**

**Postlude:**

**\* Please stand, as you are able**

*Musical lyrics reprinted using CCLI # 1083130*