

Prayer Time

JANUARY 2022

A silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer, with hands clasped, against a sunset background. The person is positioned in the center-right of the frame, facing left. The background shows a bright orange and yellow sunset over a body of water, with a dark blue sky above. The foreground is a snowy or sandy landscape with some dry grass visible.

NIAGARA
UNITED
MENNONITE
CHURCH

NUMC: A PRAYING COMMUNITY

Because of rising COVID cases, the gathered prayer time in the sanctuary this month is canceled. Please take a moment anytime in your day to pray for our faith community and our world. We hope to meet again for prayer in February; date and time to be announced.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER TIME:

Choose a time & place that works best for you, and trust that God will make that space holy as He meets you there.

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You may want to light a candle to symbolize the warmth & light of God's presence.

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Switch off electronic entertainment or communication devices, to enable you to focus undisturbed.

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Sit comfortably, allowing your body to relax and unclench from the stresses of life.

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Make room for the Spirit to lead: Ask God what He would like you to hear, and spend some time just listening.

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Begin with praise and thanksgiving, before making any petitions. How have you experienced God's goodness or protection lately? Who has been a blessing to you? Who have you had opportunity to bless?

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Name what has been weighing on your mind, occupying your attention, and give these cares over to God.

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You may find it meaningful to write down the names of people or causes you pray for. Who do you know who is going through a difficult time? Who is causing you difficulty?

“Like art, like music, like so many other disciplines, prayer can only be appreciated when you actually spend time in it... The more you pray, the more will be revealed.”

~ Joni Eareckson Tada

WE COME BEFORE GOD WITH:

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Our gratitude for many good worship experiences over the Christmas season: at the NOTL Candlelight Stroll, the caroling at Pleasant Manor, the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day services.

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Our rejoicing over the thriving kids' ministry, and the volunteer leaders who have responded with enthusiasm & love.

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Prayers for healing from this pandemic; for medical workers, families affected by COVID; for equitable distribution of vaccines globally.

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Prayers for the family & friends of James Berg, who passed away suddenly at Christmas.

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Prayers for our Church Board and Ministry Teams, as they prepare annual reports to lay the groundwork for the coming year's visions & plans, and as they work towards the Annual Membership Meeting on Feb. 8.

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Prayer for the Home Church vision — that it may grow to provide everyone in our faith community with meaningful relationships among which to grow spiritually and find support.

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Our sister congregations, Vineland UMC, Vineland First MC, St. Cath UMC, who are all facing pastoral leadership needs; for the need for pastors in our denomination.

My Prayers throughout the month of January:

