FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

  12- Hour Prayer Vigil

8 AM – 8 PM, Good Friday, April 10, 2020

Our thanks to you for participating in this year’s Good Friday Prayer Vigil.   To accommodate Federal, State and Local Government guidelines this year, we are not asking you to come to the church.  IF you plan to come to the church, please let our pastor know.   Otherwise your sanctuary will be your "home."  At home, please select a spot where you can be undisturbed for your 30 minutes with God.  Silence your phones; turn off the TV.  Use your iPad, iPhone or computer only to read these suggestions for your time alone with our Lord.

 It is very IMPORTANT that our vigil be UNBROKEN. If you have an emergency on Friday and cannot make your time, please call Dave Troxler at 386-846-2679 or Billie Lynch at 386-671-1392.

**Please keep this document/email for your reference.**

INSTRUCTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. As you pray, you may kneel, sit, or stand.

2. You may wish to pray only for yourself. That is O.K.; do it.

3. You may wish to read one or several of the suggested Bible passages.  Or use a favorite devotional book or hymnal.

4. You may wish to follow the “Order of Worship Leading to Prayer”

5. Communion, if you wish, can be bread or a cracker and any juice.

May God Bless You and Enrich You as You Pray

STAY WITH ME, LORD

I pray, O Lord, that being Your servant always may be the primary vocation of my life.  Help me to find some measure of joy in my labors today, and to display joy in my personal relationships.

Above all, enable me to be faithful to You whatever the circumstances that close in about me.  I am Yours, dear Lord; never leave my side.  Stay with me, Lord; stay with me.  Amen.

Suggested Scripture Passages

The Beatitudes……………………………………….. … … ...Matthew 5:3-12 The Great Commandment………………………….. … …Matthew 22:36-40                          Mark 12:28-34 The Lord’s Prayer………………………………………… … Matthew 6:9-13                            Luke 11:2-4 On the New Birth……………………………………… … … … …John 3:1-21 On Justification by Faith……………………………… … … .Romans 3:19-28                  Galatians 2:16-21                  Ephesians 2:1-10 On Christian Love……………………………………… … …  1 Corinthians 13 On Christian Hope……………………………………… ...Romans 8:28,38-39 On Atonement………………………………………… … … … … Romans 5 On the Moral Life……………………………………… … …Romans 7:15-8:4 The Nature and Significance of the Resurrection… … … …  1 Corinthians 15

A fitting conclusion to such a period of prayer is a sincere, brief thanksgiving to the God of our hearts.

 12-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL—2020

A NOTE FROM PASTOR DAVE

 Taking time for prayer, even thirty minutes during our twelve-hour prayer chain, will be the most valuable time spent during this season of Lent.  You are responsible for your personal agenda during this time of prayer.  Our congregation’s agenda is focused on witness and growth as a people.  Not only in numbers do we seek to grow, but also in spiritual depth and understanding.  Prayer works.  We are heard, and we need to learn how to listen so that we can hear what God is saying to us.

 As you enter the chapel of the church building, or as you enter the sanctuary of your heart in your own home, for your thirty minutes with God alone, be prepared to express whatever is in your heart that you wish to express to God.  After you have had your say with God, then read the scriptures and let God speak with you.  Remember, prayer is a conversation, and, to have a conversation, one must speak and listen to what the other party is saying.

       Shalom,

       Dave

AN ORDER OF WORSHIP LEADING TO PRAYER

1.     Quiet time (Just to be silent and relax for a short time). 2. Scripture Reading.  Select some scriptures from the list or pick a special one of your own. 3. COMMUNION  -  (If you wish)   a. Read — I Corinthians 11:23-28.   b. Prayer of thanksgiving for the Bread and Cup.   c. Partake of the Supper.   d. Make a list of persons, things, situations, problems that you wish to re   member in  prayer.  (Paper and pencils are available.)  Remember to be    thankful, too! 4. Your Prayer (Maybe you would like to follow the ACTS of prayer):  A - Adoration of God and Christ  - Praise of God.  C - Confession  -     Confess your sinfulness.  T - Thanksgiving - Count your blessings and give thanks.  S - Supplication  -  Unload on God.  He can handle it.  Ask what you will.  He can do          anything, so let Him.  Always ask in the Name of our Load, Jesus                       Christ.

SUGGESTIONS TO ASSIST YOU IN YOUR PRAYER TIME, IF NEEDED

    Our nation and world at this time of health crisis.

      First responders who are serving on the front lines in this crisis.

• Our nation’s military forces are in harms’ way in many places in this world.  You may wish to lift up individuals familiar to  you.

• Stewardship Commitments for 2020

• You may lift up our meal ministry with Palmetto House.

• Focus on our community would include the civil citation for teenagers.

• The creation of job training and first hiring agreements for cities and county.

• Our continuing pursuit of the issue for effective services for the homeless in Volusia County.

• Our continuing battle with crime and drugs near our schools and churches that threaten and hinder our children’s education and/or ability to move safely to and from school or church.

• Our need for more jobs for people in Volusia County.

•  Our continuing efforts to help people get back to where they were in their homes and jobs before the coronavirus, earthquakes, hurricanes , tornadoes , floods and tropical storms.

• Any other issues or groups for which you have concern and need to lift up God.

• Our mission statement:  Serve God; Spread Love.

• Our Vision Statement:

         United in Christ, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) seeks to thrive by welcoming           everyone into a relationship with Christ; here the unique needs of individuals and a           commitment to diversity are sources of strength.

       We will continue to bear witness to the teachings of Jesus Christ by:

  = Sharing our enthusiasm for our life in Christ with others   = Assisting members in discovering their God given talents/skills    = Using our individual talents/skills   = Reaching out to others far and near   = Demonstrating a passion for justice.

2020 Prayer Vigil

Make a list of persons, things, situations, problems that you wish to  remember in  prayer this week prior to coming.  Remember to be  thankful, too!

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 2020 Good Friday, Prayer Vigil PRAYER FOR OUR PASTOR  We pray for our pastor, dear Lord.  We can only guess the pressures that besiege him, but we ought to be aware of his humanity, his weaknesses and his strengths, his need for human love and concern.

 We know, as well, how easy it is for us to expect superhuman feats from this man; to assure that he has some special corner on you, or some special grace or gift that will enable him to meet all our needs, calm our fears,     eliminate our conflicts, and make for us a kind of heaven in this world.  You sent him to us in response to our prayers.  But you sent us a man, not a god, with needs and wants equal to any man, and with temptations and conflicts that may be greater than those of most others.

 Help us, our loving God, to love him, respect him, confide in him, listen to him, and be patient with him.  And help us, his co-minister, to assist him in advancing our kingdom in our world. Amen.