

Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church
PRAYER AND PRAISE TO GOD
during Covid-19
NEWSLETTER

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★ **“PRAYER AND PRAISE TO GOD”** FROM PASTOR PRAYLOW

Dear Fifteenth Street Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace be unto you! Welcome to the launch of our “*Prayer and Praise to God*” newsletter. We are reminded in scripture, that as we go through the ebbs and flows of life, to “humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, trusting that God will lift us in due time, as we cast our cares upon God, who cares for us,” (1st Peter 5:7).

Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have relearned, afresh and anew, that “all of our help comes from the name of the Lord who made heaven and Earth (Psalm 121:1). Despite the challenges, tests of our faith and the local and national impact of racial unrest and public health crisis, our spiritual well-being, our faith, and our relationship with God has been strengthened and deepened.

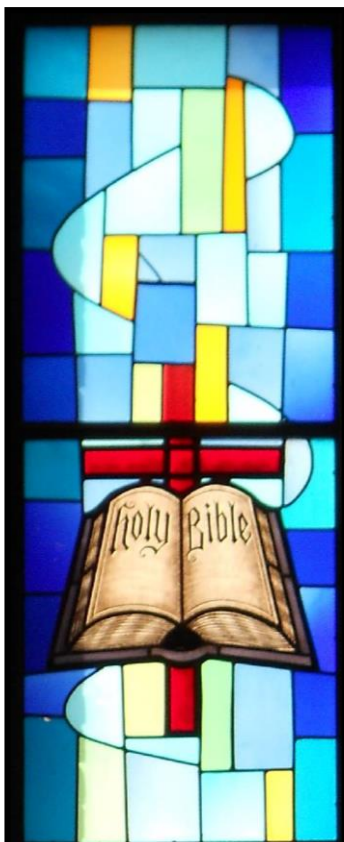
Changing circumstances in our day to day living, can either push us away from or towards God. Each of us, our families and extended church community, have relied upon our faith as we have sought to be resilient. Along the journey, at times, we have been uncertain and sometimes anxious as we have grieved the temporary loss of in person community while living through the impact of COVID-19. Despite this, our spiritual lives have been nurtured by corporate and congregational moments of prayer and praise to God.

While the journey under COVID-19 has not been easy, God has blessed us and kept us exceedingly, abundantly above all that we could ask or imagine,” (Ephesians 3:20). During this season we have been called to pray and praise God. Throughout the ministries of our church and during our Sunday morning virtual worship experience, our prayer and praise to God have been to us, the light of Christ. Through prayer, we have the opportunity to bring our worries to God, opportunity to ask God to meet our needs and an invitation to praise God for being a wonderful provider. (Philippians 4:6). Isn’t that good news!!!

It is my hope that this newsletter, “*Prayer and Praise to God*,” will be a source of encouragement to you, those you love and our church family. Please join us in sharing prayer and praise to our awesome God!

May God bless you richly.

Rev. Perzavia T. Praylow, PhD., Pastor
*Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church
 Washington, DC*



Psalm 96:1-4

“O sing to the LORD
a new song;
sing to the LORD,
all the earth.

Sing to the LORD,
bless his name;
tell of his
salvation from day
to day.

Declare his glory
among the nations,
his marvelous
works among all
the peoples.

For great is the
LORD, and greatly
to be praised;”

★ **I CANNOT CHANGE THE WORLD** - AUTHOR UNKNOWN

I cannot change the world, Lord, no matter how I try.
Only You, have power over things beneath the sky.
But still, You do encourage, the little things I do—
Like showing love and kindness, and telling folks of You.

I cannot change the world, Lord, but I can love and care.
I know that You will nurture, each seed I plant out there.
And You bring faith blessings from the little things I do.
I cannot change the world, Lord, but I'll do my best, for You.

Submitted by Elder Velma Cox

★ **IT'S JUST A THOUGHT** BY ELDER CEDRIC BOATMAN

Forget yesterday, it has already forgotten you. Don't sweat tomorrow, you haven't even met yet. Instead, open your eyes and heart to a truly precious gift from God. Today, life is a gift! It is precious and priceless. Appreciate and treasure every moment and acknowledge the Giver. Get up every morning knowing that God gave you everything to fulfill your destiny. Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. Every moment matters. May blessings of Grace and Peace be with you today and always. It's just a thought.

★ **PRAYER** BY PATRICIA PETTY MORSE

Dear God, please be with humanity as it experiences war, senseless killings, the great pandemic, horrific fires, hurricanes, storms, and earthquakes. Fortify those who are giving their lives and talents to help others. Give them strength and hope and let them know that the world is praying for them. I pray also for those suffering from cancer, COVID-19, grief, and sorrow and other ailments. Be their balm, their life waters to quench their thirst, and the oil that anoints their souls. In Jesus' name, I pray.

PRAYER AND PRAISE TO GOD

during Covid-19

★ **JUST ANOTHER ELECTION?** BY RONALD RAGLAND

It's 2020 and America faces merely another Election. Ours is a Democratic Nation. Thus, why so much worry? American Ideals, inscribed on parchment, that's our protection. Still, something seems amiss and our future is now blurry.

None ought to doubt another's patriotism. We Americans love our Nation; such is true blue. Nonetheless something is awry - perhaps a lack of wisdom. With the passage of time, insightful leadership should accrue.

But the 2020 Election is unlike others: The American Soul is on the line. The unfortunate reality is that many in high office have lost their way. Undaunted deception is an intoxicant. Sobriety is now needed, not wine. In truthful tether, together we must rise to this occasion and save the day.

Four years have elapsed, and bullying officials seek to lead via mere bluster. Wisdom and foresight now cast aside, and more Locker Room talk is their offer. Under burden of bloat, Great Nations destroy themselves in titanic disaster. The weighty duty to vote now falls to each. To be sure, this Election is like none other.

★ **IN HIS LOVE AND MINE** BY ELDER VELMA DARDEN COX

To my Precious Church Family,

To God be the glory for each one of you!

I love and appreciate you not only for who you are,

But most importantly WHOSE you are.

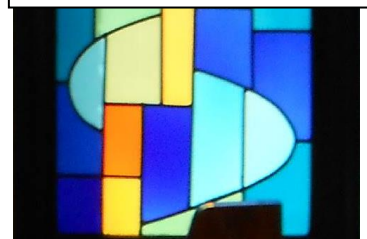
Though we are physically apart, we are always close at heart.

I miss you, everyone! 😞



PSALM 103:2-3

"Bless the
LORD, O my
soul,
and forget not
all his benefits,
who forgives all
your iniquity,
who heals all
your diseases,"



"The Peace of God fills me because I AM the expression of God in Action; healed, comforted and renewed."

One of my many self-created affirmations keeping me spiritually strong and grounded. Stay safe and well. Blessings.

BY DEACON PAMELA NELSON

★ **TEN THINGS THAT MONEY CANNOT BUY**

SUBMITTED BY ELDER VELMA DARDEN COX

1. Morals
2. Manners
3. Respect
4. Character
5. Common Sense
6. Trust
7. Patience
8. Class
9. Integrity
10. Love



FROM: [HTTP://THEQUOTESMASTER.COM/2016/04/10-THINGS-MONEY-CANT-BUY/](http://thequotesmaster.com/2016/04/10-things-money-cant-buy/)

★ **YOUR CHILD FOREVER** BY JOHNNIE SEABERRY

Heavenly Father, I come before you every day asking for forgiveness of my sins. I pray that You will always be with me and my family, stand by me and my family, help me and my family, and never leave us. I ask God to bless me and my family and the entire world to live, be fruitful, and multiply, and to love forever. This is for everyone under the sound of my weak voice. Kind heavenly Father, be merciful unto all of us. I cannot help but pray to Him every day and night for everyone. I ask God to overrule the devil every day because he is a tempter, a disbeliever, and a liar and will be forever. God will be with us every day of our lives and that is forever.



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★ COMFORT IN PRAYER AND PRAISE

BY DEACON JANET LEONARD

It was Friday, May 1, 2020. We had begun our 7th week of COVID-19 Quarantine. All alone in my home, the isolation was causing me to hear an echo when I spoke aloud. I heard words being spoken but I dismissed the echo. Turned up the television to hear the TV echoing too. It was sound but not any identifiable words. Again, I just went to bed believing I was just tired. Not able to rest my mind, I decided to send a Zoom meeting invite to a friend, hoping that talking with them would push out the echoes I was hearing. As I waited to get on Zoom, I realized I needed to talk with God. A talk with God? It was a rough talk. It was full of raw anxiety, fearful that I was getting sick and a need for immediate help. No, there was not an immediate rescue. However, my heart began singing and the praise released the echo from my ears. Wow, prayer and praise was the release for all my needs. From that 7th week until this day I have spent every day praying and praising God for all things.

★ JESUS CHRIST HAS OVERCOME THE WORLD

BIBLE VERSES SUBMITTED BY DEACON GLADYS E. BATES
Deacon Bates finds comfort and courage in John 16:25-33 NKJV

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; ²⁷ for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. ²⁸ I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.”

²⁹ His disciples said to Him, “See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! ³⁰ Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God.”

³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. ³³ These things, I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”