

Remember to ask God to bring to your mind things that you need to be praying for, and pray for them! Don't be afraid to have silence in your prayer time as your mind searches for the heart of God! For some of us, having a brief list of topics to remember in prayer can be helpful. Below are some things we can be praying for specifically at Northlake as well as some county-wide needs that other churches are praying for.

- Families and marriages at Northlake – more than ever before, our families are under attack. Pray for marriages to be rooted in Christ and for parents as they struggle to lead their children.
- Northlake LifeGroups – pray that Northlakers who aren't connected in community will find a home in one of our small groups. Pray for the new Sunday morning group led by Bill and Marilyn, and for our YAM's group (Young Adults). Pray that God would raise up new leaders who are passionate about biblical community.
- Children's Ministry Re-model – we are putting plans together right now to give our children's ministry spaces a facelift. Pray for wisdom for those involved in this work and for unity as we move forward.
- Pray for our leaders as we look to the future of Northlake and do the hard work of prioritizing needs for the future. Pray for God's wisdom and courage as we consider things like facilities, staff, missions & missionaries, ministries of our church, & more.
- Whatcom County – Pray for the Kingdom of God to invade families! Pray for selfless love, strong marriages, freedom from sins and addictions, the Lord's healing where there has been brokenness, and hope for those who are hurting!

Looking for more prayer ideas? Sign up for our weekly prayer sheet. Every Friday we email this prayer sheet out to over 150 people who pray for needs in our Northlake Community. Email us at info@northlakeonline.org to sign up. Have a prayer need that you want added to the sheet? Simply fill out one of the green prayer cards in the seat-backs and drop them in the offering or turn them in at the info counter.

NORTHLAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Leading People into a Growing
Relationship with Jesus Christ



24 HOURS OF
Prayer

Prayer Guide

Northlake is joining about 40 other churches by committing to a whole day of prayer once a month to cover Bellingham and Whatcom County. This guide is designed to help you wherever you are in your prayer journey. To sign up for the Day of Prayer, visit our website at northlakeonline.org.

There are many ways to pray and no one, "right" way. Prayer is more than just talking to God – it's listening to Him, to His Spirit, and aligning our heart and will with His. It is both a discipline and a mystery. Prayer is both setting aside time to go deep, and an all day conversation with God that never ends. Prayer can be out loud, in your mind, or written down. Remember, though, that all your prayers, no matter what they look like, are precious to God. He loves us so much and anytime we seek Him, He is near. Check out this amazing glimpse we get of the throne-room in heaven:

"And when he [Jesus] had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people." (Rev 5:8)

Our prayers are so precious to God that they are kept in golden bowls, burning as incense before God Himself. Wow! He LOVES you. So go into your time of prayer as one would approach an all-powerful, just, pure and perfect Father who listens and responds when His children cry out to Him. What follows are two ideas that could help you in your time of prayer...

A Pattern for Prayer – A.C.T.S.

Adoration – Begin your time of prayer by telling God that you love Him. Think about the cross, the price that Jesus paid for us, and the life that we now have. Reflect on the nature of God, who He has revealed Himself to be, and thank Him for those qualities for which you are most grateful. Think about your future, a new heaven and new earth, a future free of sin and pain. Pray, listen, and let your heart fill up with the “awesomeness” of God.

Confession - After getting a proper view of God, spend some time in confession, asking God's forgiveness for sins. Ask God if there are attitudes or actions that are displeasing to Him. If God brings something to mind, be specific in confessing it. Maybe write down your confessions and after you've confessed them, cross them out! Remember: “as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:12)

Thanksgiving - After confessing to God, take some time to specifically thank God for all the things He's doing in your life and the lives of those you care for. He loves to hear your thank-yous just like you do. Make a list. Make it a long one, or maybe set a goal of listing 5 things every day that you are thankful for. Think back to prayers you've prayed that God has answered.

Supplication - Finally, bring your needs before God. The word supplication means “to ask humbly and earnestly.” Talk to God about your needs and the needs of those you care about. Beyond praying for those things, there is an additional list of suggestions on the back cover of this guide.

Another Way to Pray – The Lord's Prayer

Use the Lord's Prayer as a pattern to guide your conversation with God.

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one
for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”*

- ➡ Upward: “Our Abba in heaven, hallowed be Your Name...”
Pray to your loving Father in heaven, that His name would be hallowed, revered, and holy.
- ⬇ Downward: “Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven...”
Pray that God's Kingdom is established, the King embraced, and His will accomplished on earth. Let your mind wander to areas and things where God's rule needs to be realized.
- ⬅ Inward: “Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we have forgiven our debtors...”

Now bring your needs to Him. Pray for faith, the Gospel to go out, for families and marriages, pray for hearts to be softened.

Cancel all our Debts – confess your sin, forgive those who've wronged you and pray for a spirit of unity.
- ➡ Outward: “Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.”
Finally, ask God to lead you and to help your fight against sin and against the evil one. Pray the same thing for others.