

#### Prayers of Thanks and Guidance

#### WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SET ASIDE A FEW MINUTES EVERY DAY FOR ONE WEEK TO PRAY OVER YOUR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO ST. LUKE'S IN 2021.

**DAY 1** Lord, we offer words of thanksgiving to you. We know that we are benefactors of your steadfast, everlasting love. May our hearts be prepared to approach your throne room of grace with an attitude of generosity at the end of this week. You have given us much, and our desire is to be faithful with what we have received. With gratitude we pray. Amen.

## Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever. 2 CHRONICLES 20:21

**DAY 2** God of Grace, we find ourselves longing to fill the emptiness of this world with material things that do not last. It is in the simplicity of offering bread to the poor that we discover the depths of your divine generosity. We hold on to our bread, thinking it sustains us in the moment. But you know the boundless supply that flows freely when there is need. Let us willingly share from the endless abundance of your provision. Amen.

## Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. PROVERBS 22:9

**DAY 3** Almighty Creator, we know the treasure we store up on earth is of limited value. It will be consumed and destroyed and stolen away over time. Our desire is to build eternal treasure in heaven, a place where our investments return holy dividends. When we invest in kingdom priorities, we follow the wisdom of our heart's desire to serve you above all. May our stewardship reflect the generosity of our hearts. Amen.

#### For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. MATTHEW 6:21

**DAY 4** Loving God, we offer our time, talents, gifts, service and witness to you as a gesture of faithful commitment to the Body of Christ. Let us give every aspect of our lives to you with radical generosity and reckless abandon. Lord, you gave your life for us without limit or reservation, and in full measure for all time. Help us to generously offer ourselves and our treasures to you with the sacrificial devotion that you offered on our behalf. Amen.

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back. LUKE 6:38

**DAY 5** God of Hope, when we open our hearts to you, we find your love being poured out upon us with abundance. When we open our minds to you, we find your knowledge and wisdom to be a constant companion, guiding and directing our path. When we open our finances to you, we find that you are the provision that we ultimately seek. Help us to give freely, generously, and with joyful delight. God loves a cheerful giver, and God loves us more than enough to provide for every act of generous giving! Amen.

# Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

**DAY 6** Lord of Provision, we pray to experience your presence with us now as we lift up our resources before you and embark on the spiritual discipline of deciding on our financial commitment to the church. We ask that you guide our intentions, free us from insecurities, and help us to be bold in our prayers and confident in our conversations with our families as we decide upon this annual pledge amount for 2021. We enter this worshipful moment with an offering from the heart, and we give sacrificially according to the blessings we have received and those yet to come. Amen. *With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.* PSALM 54:6

**DAY 7** Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for our 2021 family commitment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_\_ to St. Luke's United Methodist Church. We thank you for opening our hearts to your calling on our family, for the blessings you've bestowed upon us which make this pledge possible, and for the joy, peace, and freedom from financial strongholds that we feel in making this pledge. Help us to celebrate this commitment and share the light of this campaign with others through continued prayer, songs of praise, and words of affirmation to encourage others to give generously and courageously. Today and every day, we celebrate the light you bring to the world. Amen. *Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.* JAMES 1:17



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