



2026

PRAYER GUIDE



WEEKLY PRAYERS FOR FORMING COMPASSIONATE HEARTS

April - June

"Prayers are tools not for doing or getting, but for being and becoming."

- Eugene Peterson

At Christian Heritage, prayer is a vital part of our ministry to children and families. Because of that, we want to invite you into a deeper partnership with us through prayer in the new year.

We have created this weekly prayer guide for 2026 to support that shared commitment. Each week includes a short Scripture passage followed by a suggested prayer. You can read the passage and pray the prayer once a week or daily. It's completely up to you. And you don't have to pray these exact words—they are simply offered as a prompt to help orient your heart as you come before the Lord.

These prayers focus less on praying for the families we serve (though we certainly do that at times), and more on aligning our hearts with God's nature, character, and work in the world. Our goal in these prayers—as in all our prayers—is not mainly to get things done, but to become the kind of people God desires for us to be.

We want to become more compassionate, more mindful of trauma, and more responsive to the God who lives among and identifies with the vulnerable.

As you pray, we invite you to lift up both the children and families Christian Heritage serves and your own life before God. We believe that as we learn to abide in Christ, walk with him through suffering and restoration, and attend to his presence, our prayers become a means through which God brings healing, wisdom, and hope—to others and to us.

This guide will be released in four parts, one for each quarter of the year. This guide is for April-June 2026.

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer. We are grateful for you, and we trust that the Lord will use these shared rhythms to deepen our dependence on him and our love for those he has entrusted to our care.

April

**resurrection,
new creation**

resurrection, new creation

April 5-11



SCRIPTURE

Read Matthew 28:1-10



PRAY

Almighty God, who conquered sin and death through the resurrection of your son Jesus Christ, grant that we may rejoice in and celebrate your victory this day and week. May the reality and power of the resurrected Jesus rush through every fiber of our being and transform our thoughts, feelings, words, and actions, so that our lives might bear witness to the glory of your new creation. Amen.

resurrection, new creation

April 12-18



SCRIPTURE

Read John 20:11-16



PRAY

O Lord of the universe, the one who knows each of us intimately, may we hear you tenderly and lovingly call us by name just as you did Mary on that first Easter. We delight in the fact that you see us, pursue us, and want us. Your resurrection proves this. Open our eyes to the beauty and wonder of your affection for us. Amen.

resurrection, new creation

April 19-25



SCRIPTURE

Read Ephesians 1:18-23



PRAY

O Lord of life, whose victory over the grave gives us hope, we ask that we might know the riches of your inheritance with us as children of God, and the incomparable power that dwells within us—the same power that raised Jesus from the dead. Grant us to live lives worthy of this calling and serve others with love, joy, and humility, that they might know Jesus and experience his redemption. Amen.

resurrection, new creation

April 26-May 2



SCRIPTURE

Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18



PRAY

O Lord of Glory, who knows loss and affliction, we admit it feels like some days we are wasting away. Our bodies are tired. Our minds are weary. Our hearts are heavy. Renew our gaze and refresh us in the hope that the troubles and trauma and death we face now will be swallowed up in victory. Grant that we may not look past what is temporary or try to flippantly discount it, but rather see through it to the eternal glory that is to come. Amen.

May

**peace, healing,
restoration**

peace, healing, restoration

May 3-9



SCRIPTURE

Read John 14:23-27



PRAY

God of Peace, who fought our greatest battle for us, we acknowledge we feel at war within ourselves and that our longing for quiet and calm seems elusive. The peace you give is greater than the world's version of peace. You offer connection, safety, security, life. We want that. We want that for the families we support. Grant that we all might drink deeply of your Spirit so we can experience your abundant peace this very moment. Amen.

peace, healing, restoration

May 10-16



SCRIPTURE

Read Mark 10:46-52



PRAY

O Jesus our Healer, you know what we want before we ask, and yet you nevertheless invite us to participate in our healing. If we're honest, we are sometimes too proud to think you'd ever ask us, "What do you want me to do for you?" Just like Bartimaeus, we want to be healed—maybe it's physical, mental, social, physical. Give us and the families we serve the faith to ask and the faith to trust you are kind, generous, and ready to meet us where we need you most. Amen.

peace, healing, restoration

May 17-23



SCRIPTURE

Read John 20:24-29



PRAY

O Lord of our Doubts, who welcomes even the most hardened skeptic, we haven't seen you, but we believe. We think. If we're honest, sometimes, because of toil and trouble and trauma, we wonder if your resurrection is real. We admit that we'd give anything just to touch the scars in your hands. Grant us to "come and see" just as we are, doubts and all, and thank you for never chiding or shaming us. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.

peace, healing, restoration

May 24-30



SCRIPTURE

Read John 21:15-19



PRAY

O God of Restoration, who loves us more than we can imagine, you restore us back to yourself even when we have wondered far from you, even when we have claimed we don't know you. What love! What tenderness! What kindness! We love you, but we admit our love is fickle and it fades faster than we'd like to believe. Grant that we might keep running back to you knowing you always welcome us with open arms. Amen.

June

**freedom, hope,
joy**

freedom, hope, joy

May 31-June 6



SCRIPTURE

Read Romans 8:14:17



PRAY

O Father of the Free, who has given us his Spirit, we are no longer slaves—to fear, to people, to our past, to our worries about the future. We have been adopted by and belong to you, our Father. You are worthy of our trust and love. Grant us to embrace our identity as children, knowing that you are always with us, for us, and always drawing us nearer to yourself. Amen.

freedom, hope, joy

June 7-13



SCRIPTURE

Read Romans 8:22-27



PRAY

O God of Hope, we groan because this world is a mess. We are a mess. We admit that sometimes, we don't even know what to pray for. The pain and trauma we experience and encounter is real, and it breaks our hearts. Spirit, groan for us. Reach us. Minister to us. Search our hearts, and grant us to take hold of that hope that is promised and to every child of God. Amen.

freedom, hope, joy

June 14-20



SCRIPTURE

Read Psalm 16



PRAY

O God my Refuge, we can only know your presence and joy when we see and experience how dangerous the world really is. Keep us safe, God! Trouble is all around us. Keep the families we serve safe, God! Trouble is all around them, and is often felt even more intensely. But you will not abandon us. Grant us a deeper awareness of your presence—that we might know your way, be filled with your joy, and delight in you forever. Amen.

freedom, hope, joy

June 21-27



SCRIPTURE

Read John 15:5-17



PRAY

O God of Joy, you did not send your Son to take away from us, but to give. You came to give us your joy—abundant, extravagant, overflowing joy. We admit the troubles around us and within us can keep us from you, choking us from the nourishment you provide that feeds our joy. Grant that we might be connected to you like a branch is to a vine, that we might receive the nourishment we need to really, truly live in you and for you. Amen.

