

Pray for GA

A four-week preparation

Week 2
May 16-22
2022

As friends, members, adherents, elders and ministers in The Presbyterian Church in Canada, we are fervently praying for the 147th General Assembly, to be held online June 5-8, 2022.

We are praying in advance for the commissioners, the moderator, the clerks, the General Assembly Office and all of those who have a role of some influence on the gathering. We are praying for God's holy hands to prepare us for something new. It might be something counter-cultural. But we submit ourselves to something that is entirely in God's holy will, something that conforms to the authentic and timeless reading of scripture.

This is the second of four weekly prayer guides leading up to the gathering. We invite you to consider setting aside a designated time each day to pray. Feel free to share insights with others who are praying on our dedicated Facebook page, search "Pray for GA 2022."

This week's prayer guide is authored by Renewal Fellowship executive director Rev. Andy Cornell.

Join us in our GA Prayer Room June 5-8, which will open at least 30 minutes prior to each sederunt. It will remain open while GA is in session and afterwards for discussion and debriefing for commissioners. Link will be distributed the week of May 30.

All are welcome.



Pray for the PCC

Let us begin with . . .

Timeless, ancient prayer

Jesus, my feet are dirty. Come even as a slave to me, pour water into your bowl, come and wash my feet. In asking such a thing I know I am overbold, but I dread what was threatened when you said to me, "If I do not wash your feet I have no fellowship with you." Wash my feet then, because I long for your companionship.

Origen, c. 185–254

O Lord, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me my
sins,
and mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit.
Take away from me the heart of stone,
and give me a heart of flesh,
a heart to love and adore thee,
a heart to delight in thee,
to follow and to enjoy thee,
for Christ's sake.

Ambrose of Milan, c 339-397

This week's theme: confession & assurance

“My feet are dirty” — Origen’s powerful opening line in that ancient prayer sums up the condition of human-kind. Paul went on at length about this:

And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can’t. I want to do what is good, but I don’t. (Romans 7:18-19 NLT)

Paul anguished over his propensity to sin and be at odds with God’s divine will, no matter how hard he tried. We are invited to do the same and recognize our fundamental state. Only then can we be open to fully embrace His forgiveness. Assurance is found in the very next chapter of Romans.

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. (Romans 8:1-2)

Take a moment and search for the song “Freely, freely.”



God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name
I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name
And in Jesus’ name I come to you
To share His love as He told me to . . .

Our prayer for General Assembly is that the court will earnestly and humbly confess and then with cleansed hearts be willing to submit to the Holy will of God.

A prayer guide for the week to come:

Monday – Forgiving God, we pray that you work in the hearts and minds of all commissioners to humbly confess any preconceived thoughts that do not come from you. Guide them as they continue to read the reports.

Tuesday – Lord of the dance, we thank you for musical gifting. We ask that you instill in the Assembly musicians a heartfelt desire to worship in spirit and in truth. May their souls have been washed by your most precious blood.

Wednesday – Lord of the Word, we thank you for those anointed to preach. May their hearts be in a regular state of confession so that they may be able and willing to be filled with Holy wisdom.

Thursday – God of mercy, we lift the one who will be appointed to moderate. May he engage in regular confession checks and be able to pause long enough to hear your voice. We continue to ask that he be provided ample opportunity to prepare body, mind and spirit for the rigours of Assembly.

Friday – God of order, we lift up the clerks of Assembly. Instill in them the desire to frame all opinions in submission to your Holiness. May they be reminded of the heart of our polity and be reacquainted with the spirit of the law; grant them also with the time to prepare body, mind and spirit.

Saturday – God of provision, we confess that technology is not always used to serve your Kingdom. Wash our devices and memories of anything contrary to your will. Protect our channels from the interference from the enemy, both in advance and during each sederunt.

Sunday – Father, may we restore worship to include a time to confess and hear words of assurance of pardon. May General Assembly begin each sederunt in a similar vein and thereby be truly open to divine guidance and protection.

Amen!