

Pray for GA

A four-week preparation

Week 4
**May 30-
June 5**
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 fourth and final weekly prayer guide 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."

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.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/
j/99496195857](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/99496195857)

All are welcome.



Pray for the PCC

Let us begin with . . .

Timeless, ancient prayers

We ask you, Master, be our helper and defender. Rescue those of our number in distress; raise up the fallen; assist the needy; heal the sick; turn back those of your people who stray; feed the hungry; release our captives; revive the weak; encourage those who lose heart. Let all the nations realize that you are the only God, that Jesus Christ is your Child, and that we are your people and the sheep of your pasture.

— 1 Clement c. 96

Enable us, Lord, to reach the end of this luminous feast in peace, forsaking all idle words, acting virtuously, shunning our passions, and raising ourselves above the things of this world. . . Bless your church, which you brought into being long ago and attached to yourself through your own life-giving blood. Help all orthodox pastors, heads of churches, and theologians. . . Bless your servants, whose trust is all in you; bless all Christian souls, the sick, those tormented by evil spirits, and those who have asked us to pray for them. . . Show yourself as merciful as you are rich in grace; save and preserve us; enable us to obtain those good things to come which will never know an end. . . May we celebrate your glorious birth, and the Father who sent you to redeem us, and your Spirit, the Giver of life, now and forever, age after age. Amen.

— A Syriac Christmas liturgy - late third or early fourth century

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This week's theme: intercession

We are broken people living in a messy world. And the church holds no immunity from sin. All of our creeds, confessions and doctrine can't save us. Not our prayers. Not our deed. It's only by openly declaring that Jesus is Lord and believing in our hearts that God raised Him from the dead that we are saved (Romans 10:9).

And only in that state can we boldly ask for God's healing hands to begin fixing our brokenness. In our lives. In our congregations. And in our denominations. May we humbly submit the business of General Assembly to God's Holy Will. May we do with fear and trembling, with no pride whatsoever. May we park our human agendas at the door and boldly, humbly seek God's will.

The Song "Waymaker" is a powerful anthem of praise and invocation — seeking the mighty hands of God to intervene in broken places and make it right. Take a moment and search for the song as performed by its composer Sinach (Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QM8jQHE5AAk>



"You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You, You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You
You are Way maker, miracle worker, promise keeper
Light in the darkness, My God, that is who You are . . ."

Holy Spirit, you are welcome at General Assembly. Move in our midst, we pray.

A prayer guide for the week to come:

Monday – Holy Spirit, open the doors and allow time and space for each commissioner to be adequately prepared. We especially ask for your hands to empower first-time commissioners and those recently appointed to replace those who have stepped aside at the last minute.

Tuesday – God of harmony, we point to those with musical gifts, asking that they are moved by your hands and are able to wholly offer themselves as instruments of worship.

Wednesday – Creator, move in the minds of the men and women anointed with the ability to proclaim the Word. May they provide authentic witness and teaching.

Thursday – Father, we ask that your holy hands provide peace and rest for the one to be elected moderator of Assembly. May he submit to the Spirit of Christ in his words and actions.

Friday – Jehovah Jirah, provide the Clerks of Assembly with insight and wisdom to provide Godly advice. Grant the same to the members of the Committee on Business as they navigate through reports and prepare the agendas.

Saturday – Waymaker, thank you for technology. May it be seamless and easy to operate. May it allow voices to proclaim the truth. Grant insight to those on help desk as they assist commissioners.

Sunday – Today, we invite the light of The Holy Spirit to pierce the darkness. May today's opening sederunt usher in a wave of righteousness. Protect our online Prayer Room throughout the days to come. Amen.

This week's prayer is authored by Rev. Andy Cornell

Ancient Prayer
https://www.faithandworship.com/early_Christian_prayers.htm#gsc.tab=0
accessed May 26, 2022