

Day of Prayer Litany Service

Prelude:

“We Have Come Into This House”

Call to Worship

Leader: “Let us” is a very familiar phrase and this day it calls us to praise and prayer. Back to the old landmark let us go Kneel and pray to Him who loves us so
Let us blend our voices, minds, and hearts
And experience the joy only God imparts.

People: Let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise. We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord and we offer up to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving. And we offer up to you sacrifices of joy!

Song: “Let Us All Go Back to the Old Landmark”

Reader: Theme Scripture- Psalms 122

Reader: The old landmark of our theme is Jerusalem. It was in the time of David that Jerusalem was first chosen to be the city where God would record His name. When Cyrus released the Israelites from their Babylonian captivity, the first thing they did was to express gladness to God for allowing them to return to His place and to His ordinances.

Reader: We, too, must be glad to come in the house of the Lord. Isaiah 56:6 tells us “ And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to Him, to love the name of the Lord, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant- these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on

my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all people. Thus says the Lord who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered. NRSV

Song: “I Am So Glad I’m Here in Jesus’ Name”

Reader: Praise the Lord, we are God’s people, the chosen of the Lord. We are born of His Spirit and established by His Word. Our cornerstone is Christ alone. What a privilege it is to praise God together.

Litany of Praise

Reader: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

People: We praise your Holy Name.

Reader: Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom. You are exalted as Head over all. Wealth and honor come from you. You are the ruler of all things.

People: We praise your Holy Name.

Reader: In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

People: We praise your Holy Name.

Reader: Great is the Lord and most worthy of our praise.

People: Let every creature praise His Holy Name forever and ever.

Prayer of Praise

Our Father, we praise your name because you have lifted us from the miry clay, you have put our feet on a solid rock to stay. We rejoice because we have the opportunity to travel easily to our place of worship. We are grateful because we do not have to walk great distances as the children of Israel had to in order to pay homage and adoration to you. We confess our sins knowing that in your mercy you will forgive them. We thank you for your bountiful blessings. We thank you for your mercy and your amazing grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Song: "Amazing Grace"

Reader: Let us hear God's Word. Let us give Him thanks. Let us make prayers and supplication to Him. The psalmist speaks of the beautiful city of Jerusalem, not only for its situation, but, also, of its building. It is built uniform compact together, the houses strengthening and supporting one another.

Reader: It thus becomes a type of church, both local and universal, which is compact together in holy love and Christian communion. The church can be called a holy city. It is a place where people meet one another to hear what God has to say to them.

Reader: Our theme scripture says, "pray for the peace of Jerusalem." Pray for the welfare of it, pray for all good to come to it, pray particularly for the uniting of the inhabitants within it. Likewise, we have the duty to pray without ceasing for unity in the Christian community. We are one in the spirit; we are one in the Lord. The world will know us by our love.

Song: "We Are One in the Spirit"

Reader: Let us pray, for prayer is the key to the kingdom. Prayer is the word commonly used for all interaction with God. The word covers and includes three forms of interaction. All prayer grows up through and continues in three stages. The

first form is communion, fellowship with God. It involves coming to God through Jesus. It includes confession and forgiveness. Worship and adoration belong to this form of prayer.

Reader: The second form of prayer is petition, meaning asking, seeking, and knocking as detailed in Matthew 7:7: "Ask and it will be given you, search and you will find, knock and the door will open for you." Everything we need. God's got it. The door between God and ourselves must be kept open. Petition concerns just two. The old hymn expresses this twoness saying, "On the Jericho Road there's room for two, no more and no less, just Jesus and you. Each burden He'll bear, each sorrow He'll share. There's never a care for Jesus is there." Petition is subjective in its influence. Its reach is within. The soul sings, "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me."

Song: "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me."

Reader: The prayer never stops with confession and petition. It reaches out to others. The word intercession means standing as a go-between God and someone who is either out of touch with God or is in need of God's help. Indeed, communion, confession, and petition are upward and outward in motion, so intercession rests upon the two as foundation. Communion and petition furnish our lives with the power of God. Intercession is the outward movement of prayer.

Reader: So when the psalmist says, "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem," we are reminded of the great life of prayer that Jesus led. The apostle John records Jesus prayer on our behalf: "And now I am no longer in the world and I am coming to you. Holy Father protect them in your name that you have given me,

so that they may be one, as we are one.” John 17:11

Reader: Let us pray for our pastors and our church families.

Prayer by a participant

Reader: Let us pray for our community and leaders.

Prayer by a participant

Reader: Let us pray for the children and the young people all over the world.

Prayer by a participant

Reader: Let us pray for health, wealth, and wholeness of the people in need of physical, mental, and spiritual healing.

Prayer by a participant

Reader: Let us pray for God’s people in Israel realizing that there can be no peace in our world until the Prince of Peace rules His people and there is peace in Jerusalem.

Prayer by a participant

Leader: Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

People: O Lord, you will keep us in peace if our minds are stayed on you.

Leader: He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. He will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust Him.

Closing Song: “ I Will Trust in the Lord”

Offertory

Prayer

Remarks

Benediction

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In January 1978, at the adjourned session of PNBC in Memphis, Tennessee, President Margaret Smith of the Women’s Department, called upon the women to engage themselves in a time of serious prayer. Mrs. Smith felt the need for prayer for our nation, for our world, and for ourselves as individuals. She thought we should organize a National “Prayer-A-Thon”, gathering ourselves daily in a circle of prayer. Dr. Aurelia R. Downey was asked to serve as coordinator. That night in a bedroom in the Holiday Inn in Memphis, about thirty women met and prayed. God blessed the meeting with His presence and power. Thus the PNBC Women’s Department “Prayer-A-Thon” was born.

Telephone prayer chains were then organized around the country. Prayer chains were later organized in Europe, Africa, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Trinidad, the Phillipines, Brazil, and Switzerland. Over 5,000 women and men are praying daily now. We have gained strength from one another’s prayers. People have come into a saving knowledge of our Lord, some have been healed. Hospitals have called upon some of us to pray for patients before operations.

Miss Peggy A. Garnett, successor to Mrs. Margaret Smith as president, amplified the idea and declared the second Wednesday in June to be PNBC Women’s Day. The Eastern Region begins the day with the lighting of a candle and prayers at the rising of the sun. The Midwest picks up the mid-morning followed by the Southern Region in the afternoon. The Southwest Region closes the day with a candlelight service at sunset. The International Region is asked to join the Southwest Region praying at sunset with the understanding that the actual times will vary Depending on geographic locale. The regions look forward to this Annual day each year.

Message From the PWDOP Coordinator

The women of the Progressive National Baptist Convention are called into a special period of prayer each year during the month of June. These meetings are convened at various times of the day making a chain of prayers ascending up to Heaven.

It has been my privilege for the past two years to submit a prayer order of service. The first had The Garden of Gethsemane as its focus. Last year we detailed and prayed for the plight of children who are victims of the horrific pandemic of HIV/AIDS in countries around the world.

This year's service, "Let Us Praise and Pray", uses the one hundred twenty-third Psalm as its theme. It is my prayer that as the participants share the script with clear and interpretive voices and the audiences sing and respond, the presence of the Holy Spirit will be felt in the churches. Indeed, "King Jesus Is A Listening All Day Long" to hear sinners, saved by grace, utter praise and prayers.

May God richly bless all who interact with this service.

Deacon Justine Lofton
President, Mission Department
Hartford Memorial Baptist Church

Message From the President

O Lord, I will praise you with all my heart and tell everyone about the marvelous things you do. I will be glad, yes, filled with joy because of you. I will sing your praises, O Lord God above all gods. Ps.9:1-2

Greetings, My Progressive Sisters:
Once again, it is time for us to prepare our hearts and minds for our annual Progressive Women's Day of Prayer. As I reflect on "How It All Began", I can't help but think that we, in this present period of time, find ourselves facing the fact that we are in dire need of a time of serious prayer. Our nation, our world, our communities, our families, our leaders, our youth, our churches are in turmoil. However, we have the assurance that praying unlocks the doors of Heaven and releases the power of God. And it is for this

reason that I am pleading with my sisters across the land and water to assemble together at your Region's designated time and yield yourself to God in praise and fervent prayer. Involve as many participants as possible to be actively involved in the service, seniors, youth, young adult, etc.. Plan your service in order that your church, state convention, district or fellowship can come together as a unit. Reach out and invite others outside our PNBC family to join in your service and perhaps take part.

I can not stress enough the need to take up an offering. This offering is earmarked for our own (PNBC) Nannie Helen Burroughs School. Please send your offering to PNBC, 601 50th St .NE, Washington, DC 20019. Checks should be made out to PNBC with PWDOP written in the memo section of the check. If for some reason, it is not sent to PNBC, please bring it to the Annual Session to report.

In closing, I thank you for all you have done these past four years of my tenure and all you will do in the future.

ALL PRAISE, GLORY, AND HONOR TO GOD.

His servant,
Arlene C. Tyler