## **GOD SPEAKS**

Behold, I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## **REVELATION 21-22**

At His ascension, Jesus told His disciples, Acts 1, to "wait" for the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came with power. The disciples were sent, and they went! The world was turned upside down (Acts 17:6). In these last chapters of the Bible, we hear Jesus say, "Behold, I am coming soon!"

When Jesus returns, God will dwell with us, and we will be with Him in perfect Shalom, perfect beauty, and harmony. Until then, we have plenty to do! The end of the church year reminds us without uncertainty that Jesus is coming again. The time is short.

How does that impact our lives? We live daily in the joy of sins forgiven, the light of God's Word and promises, and the certain hope of God With Us today and eternally! That turns our world upside down!

And how does that impact our witness? We know we are sent to invite others to know the same satisfaction and joy that we have found in Jesus. That's the greatest cause to live for here on this earth! Jesus is our Savior, our Messiah, our Soon-to-Return King.

Praise Him - Share Him!

Amen! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!



The grace of the Lord Jesus be with everyone. Amen.

## CALL TO PRAYER

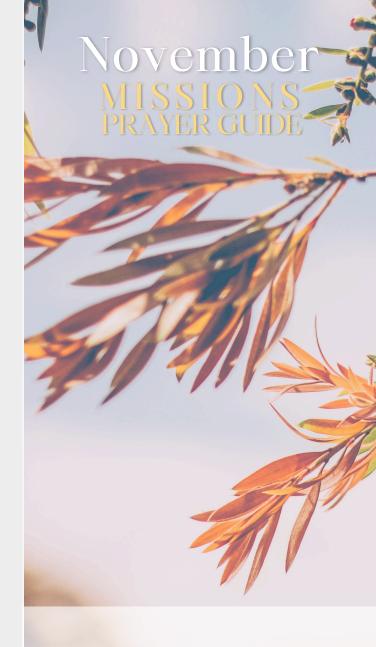
Luke 10:2

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

**SET YOUR ALARM FOR 10:02** 



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**EQUIP, EMPOWER, ENGAGE,**CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS.



- All Saints Day Praise God for those Christian individuals in your life who have shared their faith with you and given godly influence. Pray that your life may be a discipling model for your family, friends, and co-workers as you pass on the faith.
- Pray for the District Board of Directors, that the Holy Spirit will give counsel and bless their discussions and decisions. Give thanks for Board Chair, Rev. Jay Winters; Vice Presidents Jeffrey Jordan, Jay Winters, Charles Reich, David Brockhoff, Scott Henze; District Secretary Greg Michael; and all our board members and District staff. Pray they continue to work together in unity and focus on God's mission in FLGA.
- Jesus asks us to pray for those who persecute. Pray that the true Gospel peace between God and people would bring spiritual and physical hope to hurting people and places. Pray especially for countries where persecution of Christians is significant: Nigeria, Sudan, Somalia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Yemen and Syria. Pray that the church will be a witness to those around them, and that God will provide opportunities for believers to love their neighbors in Jesus' name.
- Pray to the Lord to help us not to be anxious about anything, but in everything come to God in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to make our requests be known to Him.
- Lift up a prayer of thanksgiving and rejoicing to the Lord, giving thanks to Him in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to continue and increase His work of aligning our hearts and minds with the mind of Christ so that our lives always point to Jesus.
- Give thanks to the Lord for the privilege and joy of being chosen by God to share His blessings through our relationships.
- For everyday disciples, that they may see and learn to love their personal mission fields and so engage as the priesthood of all believers. Ask God to show you to whom He is sending you, enabling you to listen and to share the Good News.
- Ask God to forgive our lack of courage to speak of His salvation boldly in the face of the world's opposition and our failure to depend on His strength, wisdom, and creativity as we plan our outreach and engage in congregation activities.

- Give thanks and ask God's blessing on our District leadership for pastors and local church leaders who understand the purpose of the Church and who take the mission seriously, especially in these challenging times.
- Veteran's Day Give thanks for our Nation's veterans, who have served and sacrificed for our freedoms; ask God's protection for our military personnel and their families, especially those deployed in "hot spots" around the world.
- Pray with confidence to the Lord, that if we ask anything according to His will that He hears us.
- Pray for our Concordia Universities across the country and Christian ministries on college campuses in the FLGA District and around the world.
- Pray that every congregation will see themselves as participants in raising up new ministers, new ministries and new mission starts (i.e., new churches).
- Pray for students in our elementary schools that they will know and love the Bible as God's word and that they will memorize and treasure Scripture as a foundation for their faith and lives.
- Pray that every believer will feel a burden for the lost and will pray for open doors, open hearts, and boldness in witness and service.
- That all people in our nation, beginning with our leaders, would respect life as a gift from God, seeking to protect all life from the unborn to the elderly and vulnerable
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will protect and enrich the marriages and families of our congregation leaders and church workers so that the Evil One will not separate what God has joined together.
- Pray for our District Executive Staff. Give thanks for district president James Rockey, Laura Zirbel, Jay Wendland, Jennifer Tanner, Eric Sahlberg, Rusty Huseman, and support staff Andrea Ellis, Cindy Hammerstrom, Debbie Arington, and Tais Brekke.

- Pray for the many not-yet-believers who attend our Lutheran schools and Early Childhood Centers. Pray that God would work through His Gospel to bring them to faith in Jesus, and that they would share this Good News with their families.
- Ask the Lord to use your mouth and hands to bless others in His name, and that others will be ready to receive our loving witness.
- Pray that God's people will be blessed with perseverance, especially when facing challenges to their faith. Pray for boldness in sharing the Gospel, and assurance of God's strong presence.
- Pray for everyday missionaries near and far that God will give them an understanding of the culture around them, knowledge of the people to whom they are called, and insights for the most effective methods to share the Good News of Jesus.
- Give thanks for the mission interest and engagement among the people and congregations in our District. Pray that as we await Jesus' return, we will not weaken in witness or hold back in mission action.
- Ask the Lord of the Harvest to give wisdom and creativity to congregations who want to begin new community outreach ministries.
- Pray that each believer will know the Father's heart in such an intimate and beautiful way that they will be moved to share God's great love with others.
- Thanksgiving Day: Give thanks for our nation and for all the blessings we enjoy—and often take for granted—as citizens and residents of the United States.
- Give thanks for opportunities to worship together with other Christians and for the joy of seeing others come to know Jesus as their Savior, forgiven, loved, restored, and precious in His sight.
- Pray that your neighbors will experience the joy and peace found in Jesus alone and that you might have the privilege and opportunity to share these gifts with them.
- Pray that the coming weeks leading up to Christmas and the New Year will be an opportunity seized by churches and schools to share the Hope of the World—Jesus!