

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE NATION  
FOR INAUGURATION WEEK  
SUNDAY, 17 JANUARY 2021

Pastor Rusty Stuart

Lord of all the nations, save this nation of many peoples and nations — this land of our sojourn as exiles waiting upon the coming of Your Heavenly Country in which we will know our true peace and home.

Yet while we are troubled and hectored on every side by open and veiled enemies in this present time, we seek to serve You our One Triune Lord, God & King. We know that we serve You alone in what we do by Your grace. We confess that we bring disrepute upon Your name and glory by what we do unrighteously or fail to do at all through inaction.

And yet, in this age of distrust, insecurity, peril and strife, You have called us, Your Church to be Your priesthood of believers offering prayer and intercession for the world around us, both converted and unconverted. You command us to hold both leaders and peoples in constant prayer as we discharge our call and duty to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and extend His grace to a broken world.

On this Your Day as we are gathered around Your House in this community of North Liberty, Pennsylvania, we lift before You, this people Whom you have called to be members of this unique people known as the United States of America. As we hold them before Your throne we ask Your healing touch upon our affections, hearts and minds so that we may be a nation that serves good and opposes evil.

Be present with and bring healing and renewed purpose to President Trump, Vice President Pence and the outgoing Cabinet. Touch the hearts, lives, and minds of President-Elect Biden and Vice President Harris and the incoming Cabinet. Heal the wounds, physical and mental inflicted upon the Houses of Congress and those who serve in them and provide for their staffing and safety. Be also, we pray with the judges who serve this nation's courts and seek to serve and provide justice. Provide healing and protection to those of our citizenry tasked with providing for the common defense, for good order and tranquility.

Lastly, O Sovereign Lord and King, forgive and heal us from our warring madness, our spite, suspicion and desire for vengeance apart from Your just judgment. Awaken in us all a new thirst for Your will and the good of Your people into whom You have placed Your own image. Hear our plea, O Lord as we beg this of You in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Elder Susan Blacks; Clerk of Session

Dear Heavenly Father,

We gather as your people, and we come boldly before your throne because of the saving work of Your Son and guided by your Spirit. We lament the anguish in our land, the anger and mistrust and the hate

we have seen. We confess that we have not loved as you have commanded. Father, forgive us; we call for your healing hand. Enable us by your love to see Christ in our neighbor and love them. Help us to be a light in our country. Let our speech and actions reflect those we are. We pray for our leaders, our government, our protectors of the peace and ask that you bless our land.

We pray for all levels of government and ask for your guidance for these leaders.

We pray for the new officers here at North Liberty and ask as you equip them to serve, we might follow their lead.

As many of this community have served this country, allow us to look beyond ourselves to the needs of our community and country. Bring us together to serve those in need. Help us to live out our faith and demonstrate that love is greater than hate. Let us witness to our Savior, Jesus Christ

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

### DAILY PRAYER FOR TUESDAY, 19 JANUARY 2021

Pastor Rusty Stuart

O Lord God, King of the Universe, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ & sender of Your Holy Spirit, as we come to You this night, we approach You in a spirit of reverence, and not as some supernatural vending machine. We know that we are in Your debt.

Please hear the cries we raise before You. Grant us vindication against injustice, grant us peace, grant us healing.

BUT, in the doing of these things, allow us to see others as you see them and not as we do. Allow us the ability to continually hold up in prayer even those who now despite-fully use us. Use the pains we suffer physically & morally to magnify to us the sufferings of Your Son on our account. Touch us deeply & powerfully, in this body, by that same Spirit, we implore You.

Grant patience to those who earnestly seek after it. Grant swift treatment to those who wait. it with a spirit of long-suffering, grant prosperity to those who have known want & seek it as the redress of injustice.

Give to each what we Need, even when it is NOT what we think we seek, and use all of it to further hone & refine us for the good of our Souls and the comfort of our bodies

Lord we ask this on behalf of believer and unbeliever alike for the good of Your Kingdom, in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

### DAILY PRAYER FOR THURSDAY, 21 JANUARY 2021

Pastor Rusty Stuart

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and sender of Your Holy Spirit, as we come to You this day with a spirit of expectant reverence. Some of us approach with hearts overwhelmed by a sense of restored hope and joy, while others do so feeling angry, broken or fearful. Yet, regardless how we approach, we do so with a deep need for, and dependence upon You as our only genuine Rock, Refuge, Fortress and Strong Deliverer.

We know that we are in Your debt. And we confess that as often as we publically acknowledge that need, we, just as often, resent that we are needy or that we are forbidden to do whatever our transient desires, opinions and passions, may dictate in the moment. Help us to mourn and grieve those failings in ourselves even as we seek Your forgiveness and attempt to offer moments of grace to those with whom we are at odds.

So, merciful Father, whether we are in the throes of wild enthusiasm, or the swampy morass of deepest despond, we beg You to encourage us with the grace of the Gospel in the midst of despondency and to temper, and to bridle our wilder flights of fancy and passionate exuberance. Renew in us a deep and humble gratitude for Your Son's completed work and for the steady unfolding of Your will in Your world, even when we do not understand it.

We lovingly petition You to continue to work in us in such a way that we rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn, grieve with those who grieve and seek the physical, mental and spiritual health and restoration of the broken, helpless, hopeless, arrogant and the vainly proud. Make us instruments of Your grace and peace in such a way that the full symphony of Christ's Gospel may be seen and heard in the tenor and timbre of our lives.

Lastly, Our Lord of Life, we beg of You to remind us that we are all bearers of Your Image resident within us. Let us rejoice in and celebrate that, not only in our own lives, but in the lives of others. Remind us always that if genuine desserts are reckoned in our tally-books, none of us could stand and that all of us deserve only the love that we exhibit to others, not the love that You have shown in Christ. We praise You in Your mercy and ask sincerely that You would bring to our hearts and minds the words and truths of Your Word in our moments of need, especially when we don't recognize that need ourselves.

All of this we ask in the Name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit, one God blessed now and forever. Amen

DAILY PRAYER FOR FRIDAY, 22 JANUARY 2021

Pastor Rusty Stuart

O Lord of all that does now or ever has existed:

You have exhibited Your love and grace to us in ways we cannot begin to calculate on account of the life, ministry, sacrificial death and Resurrection of Your own dear Son. At our best, we remember, honor and grieve that fact. In our more sober and honest self-reflective moments, we admit that we are uncomfortable with it because it makes us feel inadequate and guilty. And we hate and resent those feelings.

AND YET, we acknowledge these feelings with great sorrow — or at least we try to be sorrowful. We seek to be thankful and sorrowful, but know we can be petty and ugly. And in acknowledging that we place it before You and crave Your forgiveness and covering, trusting that You indeed know both our need and neediness. We place before You all of our manifest sinfulness and many inadequacies. But in so doing, we know that Your Son's Blood and sacrifice

are adequate and capable of bringing pardon, healing and transformation.

And at the same time we are crushed and feeling the weight of this same sins, allow us, we pray, the gift of humor to see how trite, small and banal our outrages are in the face of Your effulgent holiness. We are as petulant children yelling pointless complaints to our Eternal Parent. How can You do other than laugh bitterly at our stupidity and pride?

But, Father, we know that You have encouraged and commanded us to come before You, to bring our darkest secrets, deepest pains, most serious maladies, critical infirmities and most overwhelming needs before You — to seek Your healing, cleansing, and transformation. We beg You, most Holy Father to take the detritus we have made of our lives and make it over into the finest gold and greatest treasure that we can return to You as offerings of thanks and praise. Indeed, we seek to present ourselves before Your holiness, and plead with You to accept those lives as genuine offerings of thanks and praise for Your grace and glory.

As You look at us, consider us and make us new on His account, make us useful and fruitful. Transform even our dumbest and most amusing snippets of witness into the glorious and fruitful TESTIMONY of Your grace and glory in our lives. When You heal us, make those moments ones that touch the doubtful. When You confirm our sufferings, make them moments when others see Yours Son's suffering on our behalf. In all of it, give us hearts, minds and souls that seek the recovery, healing and transformation of the lost and the broken.

The needs are deep this night & day. The pain is almost overwhelming, but we know that You, O Mighty God of Israel can bring about more than all we can ask or imagine and use us to a mighty purpose. This we pray in the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit, one God blessed now and forever more. Amen.