2020 Mustang UMC Prayer Vigil –

Calling People to Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

During your 20 minutes of prayer, we invite you to pray in ways that connect you most with God. God's people have longed used the Psalms as a prayer guide, and we invite you to these specific Psalms below. We also have included some specific prayer prompts to guide you during this time. Feel free to make this time a holy time for you, which could include playing some worship music, praying spontaneously, or even taking a prayer walk. Our goal is to have this 24-hour period be a time of us turning to God and trusting that God is turned towards us.

Opening Prayer

Dear Jesus, divine physician and healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of great distress. Jesus, with just one touch from your Almighty creative hand, You have healed the sick and raised the dead. You have saved Your people with Your redeeming love. Standing within your reign and rule we ask for restoration. May life and wellness grow in fullness until it overflows. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that You restore Your people and the land to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge Your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Psalms for Praying

Selah is used in some of the Psalms. It is used as a time to pause and reflect. It is known as a musical notation, which is used as a "musical rest." When you see the word, "Selah", "take a breath, pause and reflect.

Selah appears after a reference to God as "Elohim." Take a moment to remember who God is and what He has done, what He is doing and what He will do.

Psalm 3 – God is our Shield

- "LORD, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me!
- 2Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him."
- <u>3</u>But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.
- 4I call out to the LORD, and he answers me from his holy mountain.
- 5I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.
- 6I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side.
- 7Arise, LORD! Deliver me, my God! Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked.
- §From the LORD comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people."

Psalm 5:1-3; 11-12 – A morning prayer for protection

- "Listen to my words, LORD, consider my lament.
- 2Hear my cry for help, my King and my God, for to You I pray.

<u>3</u>In the morning, LORD, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait expectantly.

11But let all who take refuge in You be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread Your protection over them, that those who love Your name may rejoice in You.

12 Surely, LORD, You bless the righteous; You surround them with Your favor as with a shield."

Psalm 77:11-15 - Hope in the midst of troubled times

"I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember Your miracles of long ago.

- 12I will consider all Your works and meditate on all Your mighty deeds."
- 13 Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God?
- 14 You are the God who performs miracles; You display your power among the peoples.
- 15With your mighty arm You redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph."

Psalm 54 – Faith in God in times of trouble

"Save me, O God, by Your name; vindicate me by Your might.

2Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.

<u>3</u>Arrogant foes are attacking me; ruthless people are trying to kill me—people without regard for God.

4Surely God is my help; the Lord is the One who sustains me.

<u>5</u>Let evil recoil on those who slander me; in Your faithfulness destroy them.

6I will sacrifice a freewill offering to You; I will praise your name, LORD, for it is good.

7You have delivered me from all my troubles, and my eyes have looked in triumph on my foes."

Psalm 138 – A prayer of gratitude.

"I will praise You, LORD, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

<u>2</u>I will bow down toward Your holy temple and will praise Your name for Your unfailing love and Your faithfulness, for You have so exalted Your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.

3When I called, You answered me; You greatly emboldened me.

4May all the kings of the earth praise You, LORD, when they hear what You have decreed.

5May they sing of the ways of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD is great.

<u>6</u>Though the LORD is exalted, He looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, He sees them from afar.

7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with Your right hand You save me.

<u>8</u>The LORD will vindicate me; Your love, LORD, endures forever— do not abandon the works of Your hands."

Prayer Prompts

Those sick with COVID-19 Frontline workers Governmental leaders

Church leaders Your actual neighbors Parents

Those in the nursing homes Worldwide church Mental health struggles

Prayer

Jesus, You walked on this earth, You trudged upon hard places, You felt the strain of this world and the pressures of mental and physical torment. I ask for Your Spirit to come beside us now,

lead us through this time of uncertainty. Heal Your people and calm our inner thoughts, bring us Your peace. You are our refuge and our strength. You are our hope in ages past and our hope to come. We remember Your mighty acts, deeds and miracles. We lay our trust in You. In the name of the Father, Jesus Christ, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.