

PRAYER LIST

Please Pray For - Our Nation, Our Church; Our
Pastor, Our Staff, Our Officers, Campus
Ministry, Our Community and especially:



MEMBERS AND CHURCH FRIENDS

HOMEBOUND &/OR IN

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Bob & B.J. Bryan

Rev. Bill Gettys

Mary Mackey

Nancy Miller

MEMBERS REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

WITH PRAYER GRAM ROTATION

Rev. Bill Gettys

Ronnie Greer

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:

- The family of Tony Miles (Gloria Johnson's brother)
who passed away on his 80th birthday following a long illness.
- Cathy Clark Reynolds' cousin Rhys Probert who has COVID-19 in Wales
 - Gloria Johnson's brother Basil Miles has COVID-19 in New York
 - Jim Buffalo, who has an eye infection
- Pray for Steve and Beth Spoon (Melanie's in-laws) - Steve has ALS
 - Shannon Kennedy (cancer; McFarlands' niece)

MISSIONARIES REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

- Benji & Esther Campbell, Push the Rock Intl.
- Lois & Tim Hunter, Wycliffe Bible Translators
- Anne D (India) Retired Presbyterian Missionary

Please notify the church office at 924-2162 or office@americuspresbyterian.org
if you would like to add someone to our prayer list and/or request a PrayerGram.

First Presbyterian Church Americus, Georgia

Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020

*Easter is not an event that has occurred
it's an adventure that has begun
not a place that we have visited
but a path on which we stand
a story not complete, but unfolding
characters still breathing
stations still teeming
with the promise of new life
not just for you and me
but for all people, in all places
a cosmic crux
a turning point of time
Easter is the season
of wild hope
of dangerous intent
of potent promise*

~written by the Iona Community & Craig Mitchell

WAYS TO WORSHIP:



RADIO

Church Service will continue to be on the radio. You are encouraged to tune in to WISK radio 98.7 or on the radio website www.americusradio.com

FACEBOOK

You can join us for Sunday Worship via Facebook live where you can see and hear Pastor Sommer deliver the message in person. Visit: for live stream at 11:00 am on the church Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/fpcamericus/>

CHURCH WEBSITE

If you cannot participate in Facebook Live then after the live stream is complete, the live stream will be on our church website www.americuspresbyterian.org

WAY TO CONTINUE GIVING:

You can now **GIVE ONLINE** on the church website through a secure portal hosted by Presbyterian Foundation:

<http://www.americuspresbyterian.org/give/>

or

Mail your offerings to:
First Presbyterian Church
125 S. Jackson St.
Americus, GA 31709

Prayer of Petition During the Coronavirus Pandemic

*Loving God,
If we are ill, strengthen us.
If we are tired, fortify our spirits.
If we are anxious, help us to consider the lillies of the field and the
birds of the air.*

*Help us not to stockpile treasures from supermarkets in the barns of our
larders. Don't let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others more
vulnerable than ourselves.*

Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your grace.

*Help us always to hold fast to the good,
See the good in others,
And remember there is just one world, one hope,
One everlasting love, with baskets of bread for everyone.*

*In Jesus we make our prayer,
The one who suffered, died and was raised to new life,
In whom we trust these days and all days,*

Amen.

~ written by The Rev. Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference and posted on
The Methodist Church website. www.methodist.org.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Like the disciples at Emmaus, we offer what we have. They offered their company, their table, their bread. We invite you to be with us, Jesus, as we offer you our love, our devotion, these gifts. May our eyes be opened to your holy presence among us, now and always. Amen.

***HYMN (Blue 280).....“Amazing Grace”.....**

*Amazing Grace, who sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.*

*‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.*

*When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE.....Camron Cummings, Organist**

Sunday, April 26 , 2020- 11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter

**All Are Invited to Stand in Body or in Spirit
The congregation is invited to respond at the **bold** print*

PRELUDE

Camron Cummings, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Sommer Bower

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Christ is with us on the journey,

Christ is with us at the table.

Christ is with us when we rest,

Christ is with us when we wake.

Christ is with us when we grieve,

Christ is with us when we rejoice.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

***HYMN (Blue 262).....“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”.....**

*God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.*

*Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.*

*From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase;
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.*

*Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.*

PRAYER OF BROKENNESS/CONFESSION

Almighty One, we come to You confessing our weariness, our unease, our struggle in this time. There is so much that is unknown, so much to be afraid of. We worry about illness, about death, about finances and education. We worry about our future because we cannot plan for it, we cannot perceive it. We confess to You that we are waiting for some sort of sign, some sort of assurance, and this is difficult for us. But we also confess that You are the Risen Christ. You are with us on this journey, even when we are not sure where we are going or for how long. You are with us when we collapse with exhaustion and when we rise because we must. You remain faithful, even when we do not. Guide us into a deeper faith—not one where we have the answers, but one in which we have the assurance we are not alone, and that You will see us through. In Your name, Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*In the times we think we are most alone, Christ is with us.
When we are most distraught, Christ is beside us.
When we are grieving, Christ is silently listening.
When we rejoice, Christ is celebrating with us.
Know that you are never truly alone. Know that you are always loved.
Know that the hairs on your head are accounted for. You are God’s beloved.
Live with the assurance of God’s steadfast love, now and always. Amen.*

RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS (Blue 579)

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

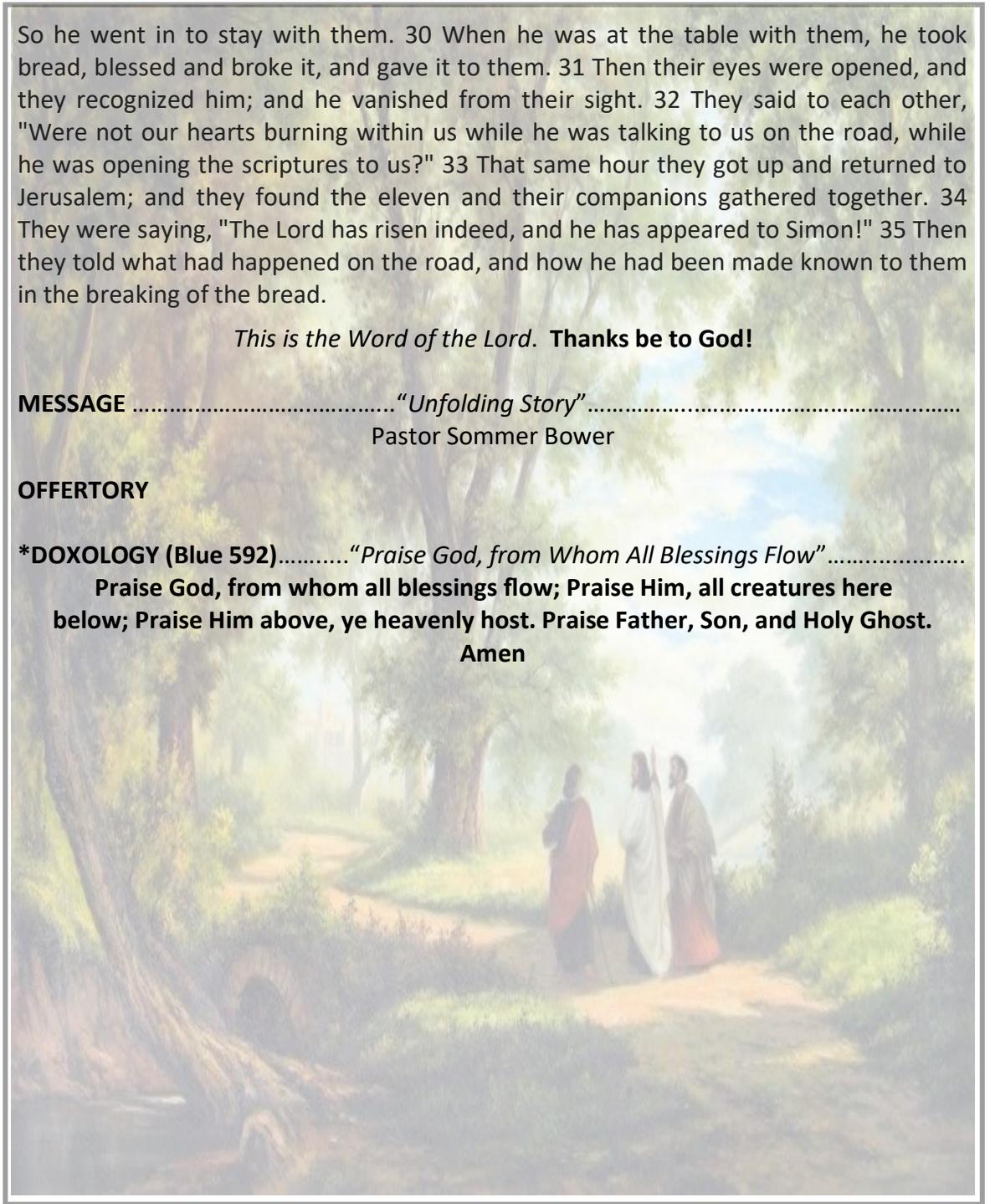
So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE“*Unfolding Story*”
Pastor Sommer Bower

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY (Blue 592)**.....“*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*”
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen



LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jesus our Guide, you explained the scriptures and revealed yourself to the disciples at Emmaus. Now, by your Spirit, enlighten our minds to understand their witness and ignite our hearts to receive you at the table. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" 19 He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." 25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. 28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over."

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

and also with you

Let us share the peace of Christ with our neighbors.

***HYMN (Glory to God 735).....“I Need Thee Every Hour”**

I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord;

No tender voice like thine can peace afford.

I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!

O bless me now, my Savior I come to thee!

I need thee every hour; stay thou near by;

Temptations lose their power when thou art nigh.

I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!

O bless me now, my Savior I come to thee!

I need thee every hour; teach me thy will,

And thy rich promises in me fulfill.

I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!

O bless me now, my Savior I come to thee!

I need thee very hour, Most Holy One;

O make me thine indeed, thou blessed Son.

I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!

O bless me now, my Savior I come to thee!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

We need your presence on the long road, Lord.

The road between fear and hope,

the road between the place where all is lost

and the place of resurrection.

Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus,

we are in need of your company!

Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power,

let this time of worship, be a hallowed hour.

This we pray, in the name of our Savior who taught us to pray,