

January 2022 Worship Guide

CHERRYVALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 709 CHERRY HILL DR, STAUNTON VA - 540 885 0098

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of January 2022.

As of the time of going to print, Sunday worship is in person, online and broadcast on the radio (you can listen in your car on FM 87.9, in the church parking lot). If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch online on our website and YouTube channel. Even if we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, and claim the promises for you and your family. - Pastor Jonathan

14 New Year Prayers for 2022

The arrival of a new year brings a great opportunity to renew our faith and love for God and Jesus. It's also a wonderful time to renew the joy of salvation in our hearts, as a new creation in Christ. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

Whether 2021 brought you success, fulfillment, and joy or you faced grief, setbacks, and struggle, you can look ahead to 2022 with hope. *Jeremiah 29:11 tells us "for I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Let's end this year with a thankful heart and start the new year with peace and faith. Let us release the bitterness and frustrations of the past year. Let us move into the next year knowing that God loves us and wants the best for us. Let's pray that the new year will be focused on healing ourselves through repentance and the renewing of our minds. We were not meant to do life alone! We can bring the light of hope into our own heart, home, and world.

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." ~ Romans 12:2

May these prayers for the new year bring you comfort and gratitude as you step into the next year! Share them with your friends and family to inspire the hearts of those you love most. God Bless!..... Pastor Jonathan.

A Prayer for New Days Ahead

Heavenly Father, thank You for making all things new! As another new year begins, help me live each day for You. May I continually have a new song in my heart to sing to You, no matter what comes my way. I trust in You because I know that Your mercies are new every morning, and nothing ahead of me will take You by surprise. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

For Peace in the New Year

At the start of each day, help us to recognize you above all else. Enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see you, and notice how you're at work through our lives. Give us the wisdom to make the best choices, fill us with a desire to seek after you more than anything else in this world. Let your Spirit and power breathe in us, through us, again, fresh and new. Thank you that you are greater than anything we may face in our day. Thank you that your presence goes with us and that your joy is never dependent on our circumstances, but it is our true and lasting strength, no matter what we're up against. We ask that your peace lead us, that it would guard our hearts and minds in you. We ask for your grace to cover our lives this day. We love you Lord...we need you. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

For New Beginnings

Dear God, Thank You for new beginnings. What an incredible day this is with a fresh year's potential stretched out before me. I want to be found faithful this year in each and every opportunity You bring to me. Thank You, Lord, for new beginnings. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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JANUARY WORSHIP

Worship January 2

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Jer 31:7-14; Ps 147:12-20; Eph 1:3-14; Jn 1:1-9, 10-18

Call To Worship

Blessed be God! Praise to the Father of Lord Jesus Christ! In Christ we are blessed, in Christ we are chosen to live in the praise of his glorious grace! In Christ we belong in the family, adopted to live in the praise of his glorious grace! In Christ the great mystery of God is revealed; to live in the praise of his glorious grace! In Christ we are called to be blameless and free, to live in the praise of his glorious grace! Blessed be God! Praise to the Father of our Incarnate Lord, Jesus!

Prayer of Confession

Eternal Word, as a new year begins, we leave behind our past year and walk in newness of life. We confess we have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us gracious Lord, as we commit this new year to you and your Kingdom.

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

King of Kings, we join the angels in singing your unending praise. You alone created the universe in all of its glory. We present these gifts knowing that they will be transformed into ministries of Good News. Bless this offering so our giving honors your glory. Lead us in your way into this new year. In Jesus' name, we pray. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we pray.

Worship January 9, Epiphany and Baptism of our Lord

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Isa 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-7, 10-14; Eph 3:1-12; Mt 2:1-12, Isa 43:1-7; Ps 29; Acts 8:14-17; Lk 3:15-17, 21-22

Call To Worship

Lost wandering without purpose, meaning, value, acceptance, or place. We wander lost. But the Spirit of God descends like a dove upon us. We hear the ancient words that name and claim us as children of God; Jew and Gentile alike. We are cleansed, refreshed, and made new in the love of those words. Let us journey to the Perfect Light as we sing our Alleluias.

Prayer of Confession

Covenant Making God, You have torn open the Heavens for all nations, Jews and Gentile alike. You have sent your Son to be a light unto the world. You call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. Forgive us for when we dim your light in our lives and in the lives of others. Forgive for when we do not fulfil our baptismal vows in faithfulness to you. Let us know again, that you have claimed us in the light that is Jesus Christ.

Verona Food Pantry - January - Cereal

JANUARY WORSHIP

Worship January 9, Epiphany and Baptism of our Lord Continued

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given – Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus’ resurrection. As we leave a painful year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves, as we faithfully participate in the ministries of the Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely to You and to others so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ! For it is in His name, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! Amen.

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## Worship January 16

### **Scriptures to read and meditate on**

Isa 62:1-5; Ps 36:5-10; 1 Cor 12:1-11; Jn 2:1-11

### **Call To Worship**

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD. How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

### **Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we have failed to be obedient to your Word, we have not done your will, and we have broken your law. Forgive us when we use the gifts you have given to us to selfishly. Forgive us when we fail to support your Body, the Church, with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Forgive us when we think someone else will carry the load in our absence. Embolden our faith and embolden our gifts by your Spirit to serve you however you deem worthy, in the name of Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Generous God, we are reminded through scripture of the spiritual gifts that you give. We know that these are not for us to hold onto but are gifts for us to share – gifts from you meant for giving. As we offer our tithes and offerings, prompt us to commit more than dollars, but to see the gifts you have written on our hearts and to share generously of these as well! We pray these words in the name of Jesus, in whose way we follow, for whose love we are eternally grateful. Amen.

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Worship January 23

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19; 1 Cor 12:12-31a; Lk 4:14-21

Call To Worship

We have come to worship God, the living God, Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness. We have come to praise God, the almighty God, Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace. We have come to worship God, all-gracious God, Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. All glory to God!

JANUARY WORSHIP

Worship January 23 continued

Prayer of Confession

We have not cared for all people in the same way. We often think some are more gifted, or superior, or better looking. We are more willing to rejoice with someone, than to suffer with another. We are not sure the prisoners should be set free, or the poor given hope. We are more ready to tear down than build up another. Redeemer of all people, forgive us. Anoint us with your Spirit's power so our eyes might be opened, and our ears freed to listen to what Jesus teaches us about your love and grace for our lives.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God who created us, as we gathered to worship you, we are conscious that we are all one body in Christ. When one part of the body is hurting, the whole body is wounded; when healing happens, the whole body is blessed. May our giving this morning bring love to the parts of Christ's body that are feeling unloved and forgotten; and may it bring justice and mercy to those parts that are oppressed and burdened. In our giving, may we find the joy of blessing the whole body of Christ, as we give you thanks this day, and always, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## Worship January 30

### **Scriptures to read and meditate on**

Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6; 1 Cor 13:1-13; Lk 4:21-30

### **Call To Worship**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. Soften our heart, and open our minds. Mold us and shape us, Loving God, into love that never ends

### **Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, how often does selfishness wash through our good intentions? How often do we speak bold, sophisticated words to impress others? How often do we forget that we are what we are because of you? Remind us that our abilities are your gifts to us. Remind us that that you loaned us some possessions in hopes that we would help others with them. If we are guilty of living only to impress others – forgive us. If we gain status only by putting someone else down – forgive us. If we do things only for applause – forgive us. If all we do sounds like clanging cymbals and noisy gongs to you – call us to repent. Humble us enough to serve. Humble us enough to pray. Humble us enough to love you and people who may never say thank you to us.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Loving God, we have been blessed with so much through your goodness. As we bring our gifts in gratitude this morning, you remind us that it doesn't matter what we have in our lives, if we do not have love, we have nothing. This love is not the love of Valentine's Day cards, and not even the love we feel among families, which are both rich blessings. You long for us to experience agape love – the love of the world, the love for those we don't even know. Open our eyes and our hearts. In Christ, our teacher, we pray. Amen.

Sunday Service is now available on a DVD. If you would like a copy delivered to your home, please call the church office and we will take care of getting one to you.

## 14 New Year Prayers for 2022

Continued from front cover...

### **New Year's Prayer: Name of Jesus**

O Jesus, our Savior and our Lord, by the proclamation of your grace, you took the yoke of the law from our necks, and removed the burden from our shoulders to your own; Hear the prayers of your Church, that we may joyfully serve you here, and see your glorious presence in all its joy in the life to come; through your mercy, O our God, you are blessed, and live and govern all things, now and forever. Amen.

### **A Prayer to Keep God First This New Year**

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways. Amen.

### **New Year Prayer**

O God, your days are without beginning and without end. We dedicate this coming year to you. Give us such prosperity as you know is good for us, and make us abound in doing whatever is pleasing to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **For God's Presence in the New Year**

Lord Jesus, I thank You that You are with me, that You are in me. Resolutions might come in one year and go out the other. Open my ears this year, so that I can hear You and enjoy You at every junction, when You tell me to turn right or left. Amen.

### **For Strength in the New Year**

Lord, moving in a new direction, opposite my comfort, is hard. I need Your strength, Your wisdom, Your confidence. I believe You will empower me as I step out in faith. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

### **Prayer for a Renewed Heart**

O Lord, you have mercy on all. Take away my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of your Holy Spirit. Take away my heart of stone and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you, to follow and to enjoy you, for Christ's sake. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Hope in the New Year**

Dear Lord, As the new year begins, I look to You for our hope, joy, and peace. Give me the courage to do all that You ask of me. Please also make me brave to not do what isn't from You. Show me how to walk in grace and embrace Your love for me even more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Continued on page 8

# Psalm 147 Word Search

Just for fun, or use as a teaching aide with your younger family members.

S R Q P L M D B I H P E L V K G Q R M N D Q E M S G X O W U  
T Z Q A Q R M Z C L T S W K R O I E B U J M R B C F M J K F  
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A J A A V K A Y C T W X C D I Z G O Y B O C S F O P F N E W  
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I N O N O N W M Q N J Q C D Z D Q G S U Z Z L T M G E U X N  
H P I D U S I U D U N H Z S E C R S A G J F F I R Y D J U I  
X A A Q A P C F Z J D H Y E O K G G Q M R Y W A U O Q C F M  
R J F U R X K O B N S R P V N E Y L S N H O V R L Z D C Y A  
R U N N E R E V W Q U S L Z V R R L N K Q E W A U J B D C L  
V Z F G I P D T N U L W B Z Z J P M E J N Z C X L O B C E S  
B R O K E N H E A R T E D P B A T K V S I H M O U V B K Y N  
S Z Y V Z W A J I Z L X O P Q S Q L A F X Z U T G X N A F V  
U Q H U M L N M E Z O W Y X T R P D E U L W Z U V Y J R Z H  
J Q G Z Y V N L M P F O P L F E A N H M V B V J J S N S Q D  
P Q Y C P M U D P Y S E C W N H T G N E R T S G H K V R S D  
Z P S W X S U B X M D Q E W B T Z F V H Q V Z C X K N H H M  
D S E L X S J G C I F O S F U A D R O L R U O S I T A E R G  
G N I V I G S K N A H T L I S G E A R T H Y P B F T U X K F  
Q B F P V A G P Q I J L B E G Z N W C D H H A N B I X Q T C  
X W A K R B B U P P Q N W T M B F K W Q O N Q Q P A H J D F

Find the **33 bold** words or phrases from Psalm 147

<sup>1</sup> **Praise** the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is **gracious**, and a song of praise is **fitting**. <sup>2</sup> The Lord builds up **Jerusalem**; he **gathers** the **outcasts** of Israel. <sup>3</sup> He heals the **brokenhearted**, and binds up their **wounds**. <sup>4</sup> He determines the **number** of the **stars**; he gives to all of them their names. <sup>5</sup> **Great is our Lord**, and **abundant** in **power**; his **understanding** is **beyond measure**. <sup>6</sup> The Lord lifts up the **downtrodden**; he casts the **wicked** to the **ground**. <sup>7</sup> Sing to the Lord with **thanksgiving**; make **melody** to our God on the lyre. <sup>8</sup> He covers the **heavens** with clouds, prepares **rain** for the **earth**, makes **grass grow** on the hills. <sup>9</sup> He gives to the **animals** their food, and to the **young ravens** when they cry. <sup>10</sup> His delight is not in the **strength** of the **horse**, nor his **pleasure** in the **speed** of a **runner** <sup>11</sup> but the Lord takes pleasure in those who **fear him**, in those who hope in his **steadfast love**.

## 14 New Year Prayers for 2022

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### **Prayer for a Victorious New Year**

Lord Jesus, I come to you in this brand new year with a desire to move forward, not backward. Last year is gone and with it all the foolish mistakes I made. I'm eager to put the past behind and to press on toward the mark of knowing you, loving you, serving you, and making Your name known in this coming year.

I need You, Lord. Without You, I can't meet the heavy demands of life or the unrelenting pressures that I'll face this coming year. I am making a new commitment today—not a New Year's resolution—but a new desire to place You where You always belong, first place in my life. Make the "I will's" of Scripture become my affirmations: "I will trust You; I will praise You; I will follow You." I will replace fear with faith, knowing You are always with me. And with You on my side, it will be a victorious New Year.

I lay down my broken armor, my rusty tools, my self-defenses, and every excuse I've used for not living victoriously. Purge my bad habits; free me from wrong expectations; and fill my heart, soul, and mind with praiseworthy thoughts and actions. I want to exchange my past disappointments for Your divine appointments this year. My life is Yours; my relationships belong to You; everything I have is Yours, Jesus. Set my feet on the right path this year, and grant wisdom so I can make the right choices that will honor You. Let me see others as You see them, as precious ones You created. Renew the gifts and abilities You've so generously given me so I can bless others as You've blessed me.

I realize my desire for perfection is misplaced. My relationship with You doesn't depend on my performance but upon Your presence in my life. I will make mistakes. But I don't have to be perfect! You've already made me acceptable in Your sight because of Your death and resurrection. You covered my past, present, and future. You have given me everything I could possibly need for the coming year. In You, I am complete, Lord. Help me to accept my faults and make Your mirror my own. I want to reflect You daily.

Because of Your love and the price, You paid for my sin, I can not only enjoy a victorious new year but a triumphant life. You put a new "want-to" in my life and in my heart. And as the calendar turns another page in this brand new year, I want more than ever, to live it for You. There is no battle in my life too great with You in my life. There is victory in You, Jesus!

### **Prayer for Strength and Power in the Year Ahead**

Lord, we ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you. In Jesus Name, Amen.

### **Prayer for Grace and Favor in the New Year**

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. In Jesus Name, Amen.

### **A Prayer for Salvation**

Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for forgiving me of my sins and giving me eternal life. Take control of my life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be. Amen.