



# Prayer

is God's gift to you...



Sugar Land  First United Methodist  
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the *Art* of prayer  
A LENTEN JOURNEY  
Starting February 21

...to be used as naturally  
as breathing. Yet, few  
people truly understand  
or utilize this precious  
treasure that comes from  
a relationship with God.

During the season of  
Lent, the prayers of  
faithful people lifted  
from the pages of  
scripture will reveal the  
mysterious, profound,  
and life-changing  
dimensions of prayer  
and will help you grow in  
The Art of Prayer.



W. Martin Nicholas  
Senior Pastor

## Sermon Series

**February 21—First Sunday of Lent**

**With Clenched Fists** PSALM 51.1-5

All too often, our guilt, shame or sense of  
imperfection hinders the practice of prayer.

**February 28—Second Sunday of Lent**

**Prayer and Listening** GENESIS 25.19-23

In times of doubt and confusion, answers from God  
come from our relationship with him that is  
supported and sustained by an active prayer life.

**March 7—Third Sunday of Lent**

**Prayer and Acceptance** EZRA 9.5-15

Through prayer God's purpose for us can be  
understood in a way that leads to acceptance.

**March 14—Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**Prayer and Hope** NEHEMIAH 1.4-11

As we embrace God through prayer, we can begin  
to expect something new to happen.

**March 21—Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Prayer and Compassion** MATTHEW 6.9-13

Our love for God and our reliance on him to meet  
our needs increases when we pray.

**March 28—Palm Sunday**

**With Open Hands** LUKE 22.39-46

Even in the midst of struggle and pain, prayer  
opens our hearts to God's will.

**April 4—Easter Sunday**

**What Easter Means** LUKE 23.55—24.10

God used the empty tomb to demonstrate that  
Jesus can be trusted and we were created to live.

## Special Events

**Ash Wednesday**

**February 17, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

The forty day season of Lent begins with this  
service of prayer, ashes and communion.

**Lord's Prayer Experience**

**February 21, 5:00-7:00 p.m., The Commons**

We recite it every Sunday, but does it come  
from memory or from our heart? Come  
experience in a new way the prayer  
that Jesus taught to his disciples.

**Palm Sunday**

**March 28, 9:00 & 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary**

A celebration of the gathering of the people in  
Jerusalem praising the arrival of Jesus the King. A  
Family Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt immediately  
follows the 11:15 a.m. service.

**Maundy Thursday**

**April 1, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

This holy night of worship remembers how  
Jesus prayed for his followers and shared  
a meal with them.

**Good Friday—Stations of the Cross**

**April 2, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Hope Garden**

Experience Jesus' final steps through  
scripture and prayer in this interactive  
journey to the Cross.

**Good Friday Tenebrae Service**

**April 2, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

A dramatic presentation of the suffering, death,  
and burial of Jesus Christ ending in darkness to  
symbolize the fading devotion of the disciples.

**Easter Sunday Worship**

**April 4, 7:00, 9:00, 10:10 & 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary**

A glorious morning of worship in celebration of the  
triumphant resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
Easter Breakfast is served from 7:35 -10:00 a.m.  
No Sunday school. Childcare is available  
from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.