# MY 2021 COMMITMENT

- Pray at least twice a week using the Life Support Prayer Calendar. We encourage at least once in the hearing of other Christians.
- Encourage other individuals in your congregation to join in the Life Support Prayer ministry. Notify PPL of those who are interested in making the commitment.
- 3. Encourage public prayers by the church for the efforts to protect preborn children and for the care of their mothers and families.
- 4. As you are led, renew your commitment yearly.

## PPL is so grateful for your prayers!

We know that the seasons of your life change. If you are unable to continue your commitment to PPL's prayer team, please contact us and we will remove you from these mailings.



NEW ADDRESS: PO Box 5239, Lancaster, PA 17606-5239

PH: 412-487-1990
Email: ppl@ppl.org
Website: www.ppl.org
Facebook.com/PPL.Page
Twitter @presbyprolife

## LIFE SUPPORT PRAYER CALENDAR

JAN | FEB | MAR | APR 2021 | VOL. 33 | NO. 1



Colossians 1:16-17

"For in Him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities. All things were created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."

## Hebrews 1:3a

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature, upholding all things by His powerful word."

## CALL TO PRAYER

As we turn the calendar away from the serial crises that were 2020, it feels like false optimism to imagine that crossing an imaginary line into 2021 will bring the fresh start that we associate with most new years. Surely there should be an earthquake or a comet signaling the coming of a New Era – or, as the world's economic gurus have christened it, some "Great Reset." Christ-followers are spending more time looking up. Each morning some people wake up and joyfully exclaim, "It seems we're still here!" while others wake and sadly sigh, "It seems we're still here." Which one are you?

In 1919 William Butler Yeats wrote a much-celebrated poem titled, "The Second Coming." It was written in the months immediately following World War I, as well as in the midst of the Spanish Flu pandemic, which hit his family hard: His pregnant wife, Georgie Hyde-Lees, caught the virus and nearly died. The highest death rates of the pandemic were among pregnant women – in some areas they had a 70% death rate. How it captures our contemporary moment!

Turning and turning in the widening gyre
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;
Things fall apart; the center cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Surely some revelation is at hand;
Surely the Second Coming is at hand.
The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out
When a vast image out of *Spiritus Mundi*Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert
A shape with lion body and the head of a man,
A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,
Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it
Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.
The darkness drops again; but now I know
That twenty centuries of stony sleep
Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,
And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,
Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

It seems that expectant mothers and their children have always been targets of The Enemy. The destiny of Eve's offspring was pronounced in the Garden (Gen. 3:15). Mary and the preborn Jesus were plagued by scandal and an arduous journey, to be quickly followed by a flight into exile.

And yet...

We know that every step taken from the stable to the cross was part of a journey that looked for all world like a Death March – was, in truth, a journey that would end the March of Death for all the world.

As we pray during these first months of the new year, remember that things are not falling apart, they are falling into place. Take heart, Believer! Christ holds the center!

Deborah Hollifield, Executive Director

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL

### **JAN 3-9**

#### Colossians 1:16-17 (ESV)

- 1. Worship God who has created all things, every human life, and is sovereign over all of creation, holding it together even in times when we see only chaos.
- 2. Pray for unity under the Lordship of Jesus Christ to be a reality in Presbyterian churches, in the whole Body of Christ, and among pro-life groups.

#### **JAN 10-16**

## **Daniel 2:20-22 (NRSV)**

- 1. Pray for a peaceful transition of power as the U.S. Presidency changes hands. Pray for human beings at every stage to be protected and respected in our nation.
- 2. Pray for light to shine in the hearts of Americans so that we will turn to God and submit to His rulership in our daily lives, especially in decisions of life and death.

#### JAN 17-23

## Matthew 2:16-18 (MSG)

- 1. Pray for an end to abortion—our current day slaughter of the innocents. Pray for God's mercy on our nation.
- 2. Pray for God's comfort to be with those who have experienced the death of a child before or during or after birth.
- 3. Pray for mercy and forgiveness for those who have participated in voluntary abortion.

#### **JAN 24-30**

## Psalm 34:16-22 (NASB)

- 1. Pray for protection for all those attending the March for Life in D.C. or in their own locality.
- 2. Pray for the ECO (Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians) Virtual Gathering that resulting initiatives will "recognize and honor the image of God in every human being from conception to natural death." (Essential Tenets, p8, #6)

#### **JAN 31 – FEB 6**

#### Deuteronomy 30:19 (NRSV)

- 1. Pray for private and public decision-makers to consider the lives of generations yet to be born and choose life for all.
- 2. Pray for Pregnancy Care Centers to have God's abundant provision in funding & volunteers so that they may offer support and care to women who are pregnant and needing help.

#### FEB 7-13

#### I Thessalonians 2:1-4 (ESV)

- 1. Pray for champions of human life who will not be discouraged or silenced by attacks in social media or personal conversations, but will continue to speak God's truth in love.
- 2. Pray that we will be faithful to defend human life at every stage with humility and grace—never disregarding the person behind the words.

#### FEB 14-20

## I Thessalonians 2:5-8 (NASB)

- 1. Pray that our love might be genuine as we interact with those who are abortion-minded or considering euthanasia. May we never come from a position of condemnation but always speak with love and grace.
- 2. Pray that we might take action to care in tangible ways doing all within our power to meet each need for as long as it takes.

#### FEB 21-27

## I Thessalonians 4:13-18 (MSG)

- 1. Pray for God's triumphant hope to fill the hearts of all those who are grieving the passing of loved ones from this earth and for them to be confident in Christ's victory over death.
- 2. Pray for those who are aging and have been cut off from family and friends because of the pandemic, perhaps even while they face their own imminent death. Pray for God's presence to infuse them with unstoppable hope.

#### FEB 28 – MAR 6

## Psalm 31:1-5 (MSG)

- 1. Give praise to God who is both hiding place and fortress when we are overwhelmed & exhausted as champions of life.
- 2. Pray for women alone/afraid in a pregnancy to turn to God for defense against those who advise abortion as a solution.

#### **MAR 7-13**

## Psalm 121 (NRSV)

- 1. Pray for strength for medical providers exhausted by patient needs magnified by the pandemic. Pray for their families.
- 2. Praise God, keeper of our lives, Who sustains our breath, blesses our way, protects us from evil and brings us safely home at the end of life to dwell in his presence forever.

#### **MAR 14-20**

#### John 4:10-15 (ESV)

- 1. Give thanks to God for the Living Water, Jesus who quenches our thirst and brings satisfaction that lasts forever.
- 2. Pray for those who are bound by addiction to be set free by the Holy Spirit's power and know Jesus satisfies every craving.

#### **MAR 21-27**

## Ephesians 5:8-10 (NRSV)

- 1. Worship the LORD who is the light!
- 2. Ask God to enable you to walk as a child of the light in doing all that is good, right & true in actions, words, & relationships.
- 3. Pray for those living in darkness—especially those considering suicide, abortion, or euthanasia —to find Jesus the Light.

#### **MAR 28 – APR 3**

## Romans 8:10-11 (NASB)

- 1. Ask God to empower hospice workers & pregnancy center staff/volunteers to share the gospel with clients/patients so that many will know Christ's spirit alive in them.
- 2. Pray for those suffering and dying to believe in the power of God to raise them to life as Christ Jesus has been raised.

#### **APR 4-10**

## Isaiah 25:8-9 (ESV)

- 1. Pray rejoicing in God's salvation and victory over death!
- 2. Pray that God will bring an end to abortion and cause our nation to view children as a blessing from God.
- 3. Pray for Christian couples to consider building their families through the adoption of waiting children.

#### **APR 11-17**

#### John 20:19-22 (NASB)

- 1. Pray for God's peace in the face of controversy and for God's Spirit which empowers boldness to do the work that God has sent you to do.
- 2. Pray for volunteers to step forward in congregations across Presbyterian and Reformed denominations and partner with PPL to become equipped to be champions of human life!

#### **APR 18-24**

## Psalm 116:12-16 (NRSV)

- 1. Pray each morning this week submitting to God as His servant and ask what tasks He would have you do this day to protect human lives at every stage.
- 2. Pray for God to raise Presbyterians across the nation with a passion in their heart to defend the value of human life.

## **APR 25 - MAY 1**

## Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

- 1. Pray for God's people to be bound together in unity and to be compelled by the gospel to share what they have with those in need—especially those who are pregnant and alone, who are suffering and near death, who are in despair and without hope, who are unable to care for themselves.
- 2. Pray for churches to develop ministries that welcome and take measures to include those with special needs.