

**PRAYER GUIDE FOR THE 8 DAYS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, JUNE 21-28, 2008**

**An Explanation of the Prayer Guide for the 8 days of GA:**

**Each day will provide highlights for the proposed docket, as far as we know them.**

**Please pray for those specific items. The highlights will be followed by a simple, classic prayer from**

**the whole Church. Pray the words for yourself, and for the commissioners at General Assembly.**

**Saturday, June 21:** Lift up the first 3 business meetings, and the election of the Moderator.

God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in my eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be in my end, and at my departing.

(Old Sarum Primer)

**Sunday, June 22:** Lift up the Opening Worship Service, business meeting 4, the Stated Clerk Nomination, and the first meetings of Committees.

Bless all who worship Thee, from the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same. Of Thy goodness, give us; with Thy love, inspire us; by Thy Spirit, guide us; by Thy power, protect us; in Thy mercy receive us now and always. (Ancient Collect)

**Monday, June 23:** Lift up the Committee Meetings 2-4 and the Evening Worship Service.

Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth. Grant us ears to hear, eyes to see, wills to obey, hearts to love; then declare what Thou wilt, reveal what Thou wilt, command what Thou wilt, demand what Thou wilt.

(Christina Rossetti)

**Tuesday, June 24:** Lift up the Morning Worship, Committee meetings 5-6, and the "free evening" for most commissioners. Pray especially that commissioners will use that time for rest and discernment, before the business meetings and voting processes resume.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with Thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by Thy governance, may be righteous in Thy sight.

(Book of Common Prayer)

**Wednesday, June 25:** Lift up the Ecumenical Worship service, the report reading time, the "Meet and Greet" time with Stated Clerk candidates, and Business meetings 5-6.

O God, animate us to cheerfulness. May we have a joyful sense of our blessings, learn to look on the bright circumstances of our lot, and maintain a perpetual contentedness. Preserve us from despondency and from yielding to dejection. Teach us that nothing can hurt us if, with true loyalty of affection, we keep Thy commandments and take refuge in Thee. (William E. Channing)

**Thursday, June 26:** Lift up the commissioners and pray extra energy and attentiveness for them, as this will be a LONG day, with business meetings 7, 8 and 9.

I need Thee to teach me day by day, according to each day's opportunities and needs. Give me, O my Lord, that purity of conscience which alone can receive, which alone can improve Thy inspirations.

My ears are dull, so that I cannot hear Thy voice. My eyes are dim, so that I cannot see Thy token. Thou alone canst quicken my hearing, and purge my sight, and cleanse and renew my heart.

Teach me to sit at Thy feet, and to hear Thy word. (John Henry Newman)

**Friday, June 27:** Lift up the election of the Stated Clerk, which will take place in the morning, during business meeting #10. It is likely that this will also be the day when overtures dealing with ordination standards will be presented for vote. It will be another long, intense day, with 3 business meetings.

Grant me, O Lord, to know what I ought to know, to love what I ought to love, to praise what delights Thee most, to value what is precious in Thy sight, to hate what is offensive to Thee.

Do not suffer me to judge according to the sight of my eyes, nor to pass sentence according to the hearing of the ears, but to discern with a true judgement between things visible and spiritual, and above all things always to inquire what is the good pleasure of Thy will. (Thomas A. Kempis)

**Saturday, June 28:** Lift up the Morning Worship service and the final business meeting. Pray for extra alertness for the commissioners, who will likely be feeling physically and emotionally tired. Pray that they will serve faithfully to the final prayer, and that our Lord Jesus will provide traveling mercies for all who will be returning home that day.

May the strength of God pilot us. May the power of God preserve us. May the wisdom of God instruct us. May the hand of God protect us. May the way of God direct us. May the shield of God defend us. May the host of God guard us against the snares of the Evil One and the temptations of the world. (St. Patrick)