

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, abstract composition of overlapping geometric shapes in a variety of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. In the lower-middle section, there is a stylized illustration of two hands, one in a light orange color and the other in a light blue color, reaching up to hold a small, textured globe. The globe is composed of many small, irregular polygons in various shades of green and blue.

# **A CALL TO PRAY**

**HOW TO PRAY  
FOR OUR COMMUNITY**



# PRAYER GUIDE CONTENTS

Purpose of Intercessory Prayer .....	1
Prepare Your Heart.....	1
Call to Intercession .....	1
Repentance.....	2
Commit to Pray .....	3
Your Kingdom Purpose in America .....	3
Our Town.....	4
Our Town Council .....	5
Our Police Department .....	6
Our Fire Department .....	7
Our Schools .....	8
Our Hope.....	10

## FROM THE PASTOR



**Deron Biles**  
**SENIOR PASTOR**

A number of years ago, there was an article in the Washington Post that alleged that America's largest export is culture. No longer is America most known for products, but rather for entertainment. Our movies, TV shows, music, and more are popular world-wide. Sadly, what people from other countries learn about our country from our exported culture isn't always positive.

Wouldn't it be amazing if we became known for exporting our faith?

I'm praying for the impact of the church on our communities. I'm praying that God uses Sunnyvale First Baptist Church to impact our community and the surrounding area for the cause of Christ.

One day, Jesus was asked by some religious leaders what is the greatest commandment. Jesus responded that the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. Then, Jesus added that the second greatest commandment is to love your neighbor as you love yourself.

This month, I want to encourage us to love our neighbors by praying for them. As we pray for our community, here are a few suggestions for how we can pray:

1. Pray for spread of the Gospel in our neighborhoods and through the ministry of our church
2. Pray every time you hear a siren for those who are involved
3. Pray when you read the local news for those needs around us
4. Pray for first responders
5. Pray for our schools, administrators, teachers, and students
6. Pray for other churches in our community
7. Pray for health care workers
8. Pray for local government leaders
9. Pray for parents and families
10. Pray for your neighbors
11. Pray for children you see in parks, neighborhoods, and playgrounds
12. Pray that our church makes an impact on the social issues impacting our communities, churches, and families.

## PURPOSE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

**Read: I Timothy 2:1–6, 8**

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ... Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.”

**Pray:** Lord, please be in our midst as we come together as your body to lift up our country and our leaders. Please protect our country from the division that challenges our ability to live lives pleasing to you. Defend the vulnerable and voiceless, and bring justice to those who have suffered injustice. Realign and unify your people in Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is the author and protector of our faith, as we cry out to you for our land.

## PREPARE YOUR HEART

**Read: Romans 8:26**

“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.”

**Pray:** Please lead and guide our prayers by the power of Your Spirit. Holy Spirit, pray in, through and for us so that we might pray in unity with Your will.

## CALL TO INTERCESSION

**Read: Jeremiah 29:7**

“Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

**Pray:** Lord, we are here to stand in the gap for our land before you. We confess our sin of putting our own will above Yours, which you have laid out in Your Word. Forgive us for losing sight of being Your body to the world. Purify our hearts. We pray for a national revival and spiritual healing. Please heal our land. We pray for Your peace and blessing to be poured out upon our nation according to Your mercy.

# REPENTANCE

## **Read: Jeremiah 8:6**

“I have listened attentively, but they do not say what is right. None of them repent of their wickedness, saying, ‘What have I done?’ Each pursues their own course like a horse charging into battle.”

## **Read: Proverbs 14:12**

“There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.”

**Pray:** Forgive us. We are prideful — wise in our own eyes — and have forsaken Your Word for our desires. Please humble us and help us to submit to Your ways.

## **Read: Psalm 139:23–24**

“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”

## **Read: II Corinthians 7:10**

“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.”

**Pray:** Please search our hearts and our minds. Reveal to us what is not of you. Purify us as we seek Your will and to be Your intercessors.

## **Read: James 5:16**

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

## **Read: I Kings 8:36**

“Hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your servants, Your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance.”

**Pray:** Forgive us our sins and grant us wisdom in how to walk before You in these trying times. May our prayers be in alignment with Your will, and may You hear them.

## COMMIT TO PRAY

### Read: Philippians 4:6

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

**Pray:** We are all plagued by anxiety on all fronts — our health, civil unrest, financial hardship, and controversies about opening schools, wearing masks and politics. And the uncertainty is so high on every front. We do not know what tomorrow will bring. Help us to rest in You, relentlessly trusting in Your sovereignty and plan. May we persevere, bringing all of our anxieties to You. With thanksgiving, may we endure through Your strength, and may we continuously lift one another up in prayer.

### Read: Ephesians 6:12–13, 18

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ... Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”

**Pray:** Lord, help us to daily put on the armor of God, stand firm, and commit to pray for our community and country. Help us shine the love and mercy of God, never losing sight that our struggle is not with other people but against the spiritual forces that influence us. We pray for revival and spiritual awakening to sweep throughout our country and the world. Amen.

## YOUR KINGDOM PURPOSE IN AMERICA

### Read: Matthew 6:9–10

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

### Read: Psalm 33:10–11

“The LORD foils the plans of the nations; He thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations.”

**Pray:** Lord, we know that in the midst of this time, You have kingdom purpose. You have brought our country to its knees. Nothing that is happening is a surprise to You. You see the big picture, and You are at work in ways that we cannot see. Please guide the direction of our country.

## OUR TOWN

### **Read: Ecclesiastes 7:19**

“Wisdom makes one wise man more powerful than ten rulers in a city.”

**Pray:** Lord, we thank you for your Wisdom. As citizens of Heaven, we ask you to fill us with Wisdom and Revelation by the power of your Spirit. Enable us to know you better, to know your will and your plans for our lives. Lord, give us a heart of Wisdom. May your Wisdom produce in us creative ideas, solutions to problems, new technologies and products. May you give us sound counsel and good judgment to help us make good decisions. May you also give us greater knowledge, understanding, and power so that we may live skillfully and give back what is good and excellent to our community. Amen.

### **Read: Proverbs 11:11**

“Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed.”

**Pray:** Father, thank you for empowering your people to preach the good news in our city. Let more people open their hearts to Jesus. May you revive our city with new life. May every person, marriage, family, school, and business in our community enjoy the blessings of God. Let the benefits of your people influence our city. Amen.

### **Read: Psalm 33:1,3**

“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! ...For there the Lord bestows His blessing, even life forevermore.”

### **Read: Ephesians 4:3**

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

**Pray:** Lord, give your people in our community a spirit of unity as we follow you, so that with one heart and mind we may work together for the good of our city and glorify your Name. Give us your humility Lord, and let all barriers, walls, strongholds, and divisions that keep us separated from you and one another come down in Jesus' name. Amen.





## OUR TOWN COUNCIL

### Read: Proverbs 8:15-17

“By me (Wisdom) kings reign and rulers make laws that are just; by me princes govern and all nobles who rule on earth. I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.”

**Pray:** Thank you Lord, for all our civil servants. Thank you for their hard work and sacrifice. May you continually bless them. May you generously give to each of them wise and discerning hearts to skillfully govern the people in our city. Give the mayor, city leaders, staff, and city council Wisdom so that they may solve problems, distinguish between right and wrong, and bring order, stability, and prosperity to our community. Amen.



Saji George  
MAYOR OF SUNNYVALE



Ryan Finch  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 1



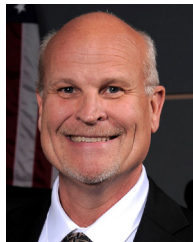
Kevin Clark  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 2



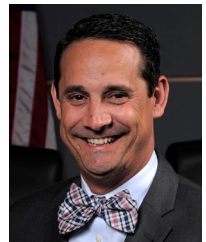
Manu Danny  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 3



Mark Eldridge  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 4  
MAYOR PRO TEM



Larry Allen  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 5



Jonathan Freeman  
COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 6

## OUR POLICE OFFICERS

### Read: Matthew 5:9

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

**Pray:** Dear Lord, remind these officers of the law that they are blessed peacemakers and when they call on the name of the Lord, they will also be sons and daughters of God. Help them to know that You will help them in their work, give them rest for their souls, and offer them strength for their journey. Amen.



Bill Vegas  
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

### Read: Deuteronomy 31:6

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of enemies, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.”

**Pray:** Dear Lord, guide these police officers to serve with courage and power, as well as self-control and discernment. Help them to capture wrongdoers so that their victims will receive justice. Help them to be as bold as lions, but also have a love for the people they serve so that their minds are not fogged up by personal prejudices. Amen.

### Read: Psalm 144:1-2

“Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle. He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge.”

**Pray:** Dear Lord, help these men and women of law enforcement to look to You for their strength and power. Protect them so that they can stand up against evil schemes. Remind them that they stand for truth, justice, righteousness, and peace. Give them the faith to know that You are helping them as they live out the honorable occupation of law enforcement. Amen.



## OUR FIRE FIGHTERS

### Read: Isaiah 41:10

“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

### Read: II Timothy 1:7

“God has not given us the spirit of fear...”

**Pray:** Lord, give our firefighters faith in their training and the ability to do whatever job you place before them. Remind them they will face nothing today that You can't handle for You will never leave them alone. Help them with Your strong right arm and enable them to move forward into any danger with confidence, whether they face an out-of-control fire, an unstable structure, dense smoke, or emotionally unstable and violent people. When they are unsure of the next step, help them to listen for Your still, small voice and follow Your lead. Help them to make the right decision in every situation so they and their teammates, as well as those they serve, will be safe and have positive outcomes.

### Read: Psalm 23:1-2, 4

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul...Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

**Pray:** Lord, pray for our firefighters as they work today. Keep them safe in body, mind, and spirit. Protect them from every danger and give them a constant awareness of their situations and surroundings. Deliver them from fear and help them to recognize Your presence with them. Bless them with wisdom, discernment, and right choices. Help them to be a unified team and to trust in You for every need. Protect them from equipment failures and help them to have everything they need when they need it. Surround them like a shield today, Lord.



Doug Kendrick  
FIRE CHIEF



## OUR SCHOOLS

### Read: Luke 6:40

“A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

### Read: Proverbs 22:6

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

**Pray:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have committed to your holy Church the care and nurture of your children. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Matt Kimball  
SUPERINTENDENT

### Read: Matthew 5:14-16

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

**Pray:** God, there is a reason You tell us to have faith like that of a child. They are bursting with curiosity and full of love. Protect their innocence and preserve the spark in their eyes from the darkness of the world. Let them be little lights to their parents and teachers. Allow them to grow and have a fair opportunity to learn. May they be kind on the playground and quiet in the hallways. Protect our children from gossip and bullying. May they know and hear Your voice louder than all the others. Godly friends are important, and we pray today that You bless our children with those friends. May their friendships be innocent and light, and may they be filled with kindness, understanding, and compassionate consideration for one another.

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Ashlee Graham  
HIGH SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL



Ryon Thompson  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL



SARA STALEY  
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL



Brittany Dlabaj  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PRINCIPAL

## OUR HOPE

### **Read: Psalm 33:14-22**

“From His dwelling place He watches all who live on earth — He who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in You.”

### **Read: Psalm 22:27-28**

“All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow down before Him, for dominion belongs to the LORD and He rules over the nations.”

**Pray:** Lord Jesus, though our hearts are heavy for our nation, may we not lose sight of the fact that our hope is in You. One day, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that You are Lord (Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10-11). You are our only hope.

Forgive us for placing our hope in the government, political ideologies, comfort, financial security and other circumstances. We repent that, in our prosperity, we have forgotten You and have become self-reliant (Deuteronomy 8:11-14). Our hearts are so quick to wander. We repent of idolatry.

By Your power, teach us to live with the realization in the forefront of our minds that our citizenship is in heaven (Philippians 3:20). We commit our future as a nation and as Your people to Your Hands. Your will be done. Amen.





**SUNNYVALE**  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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