

MAY 1 ★ 4:30PM

HEAR US FROM HEAVEN PRAYER AROUND NHS

• #NHSBELONGSTOJESUS •

THANK YOU!

Thank you for coming to pray for Northside High and Middle Schools.

WHERE / WHEN TO PRAY

Weather permitting, we will form a circle around NHS at 4:30 p.m. We will still form a circle if a light rain is falling – bring an umbrella! You may use this guide to assist you in praying if you would like. Please conclude praying, and leave the premises by 5:30 p.m.

WEATHER

This is a rain or shine event. If there is lightning, please do not exit your car. Simply stay in your car to pray, and park in a circle around the building – not on the grass of course, just in the parking lot.

WHY WE PRAY TOGETHER

We do not gather to pray to draw attention to ourselves or because God is unaware of what we need. Jesus' words about prayer from Matthew 6:5–8 provide a helpful reminder.

“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

Jesus' instructions to pray privately do not mean we should not ever pray corporately. His concern is our motive; our corporate prayers should come from the overflow of our private prayers. Let us all be praying for Northside privately as we prepare to pray publicly. We will come together not to be seen or to tell God something He does not already know but as an expression of our deep desire for King Jesus to get the glory in all things. The early church often prayed together, especially in times of concern or crisis. Today, the redeemed of God are coming together to pray as He has taught us to pray.

#NHSBELONGSTOJESUS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name.

Take some time to honor God the Father whose Name is set apart above all other names. Give Him praise for Who He Is (I Am, Lord God Almighty, Lord our Banner, Lord our Healer . . .), the Son He sent, and the Spirit who abides in those who have received true and eternal life through faith in Christ alone.

Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Thank Jesus for establishing His Kingdom by going to Calvary's cross to take our sin and reconcile all things to Himself. Thank Jesus for the victory we have in Him even when circumstances seem bleak because He is King of Kings. Thank Him for showing us His Kingdom does not come on earth as it is in heaven through our arrogance but through His sacrifice for the rebellious and prideful. Ask God to help us serve others and declare His love so they might know Jesus as their King. Pray that many who are trapped in fear, frustration, anger, bitterness and sin would look to Jesus, trust and honor Him as King, and join us in His everlasting Kingdom.

Give us this day our daily bread,

Thank God for His physical and eternal provision for you, your family, and His church. Thank Him for the teachers, administrators, police, and first responders who have responded to the threats. Ask Him to give the school board wisdom as they search for an Assistant Principal and Head Football Coach, and pray God's blessings upon Dominick McKee, the new building administrator. Thank Jesus for being the Bread of Life who blesses and satisfies all "who hunger and thirst for righteousness" (Matt 5:6). Ask God to use this time of crisis to give everyone a true hunger and thirst for King Jesus Who alone can heal our brokenness.

and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

God, we ask for Your forgiveness which we do not deserve. We have neglected to pray for our students and their parents and teachers. We have modeled behavior that is now reflected in our society and its structures. We have expected teachers to produce love and respect in children who do not see love and respect at home. We have forgotten You are not merely Lord of the Church but You are Lord of All. And, because you are Lord of all, we should seek the implications of Your Lordship in all things. Forgive us for any part we have played – directly or indirectly – in the sin which is presently impacting our community. Forgive us for not forgiving those who have threatened the safety of our school. Forgive us for not forgiving people in authority who have broken our trust. We ask that justice would be done in every circumstance and that You would also grant us Your love for any who have sinned against us. Thank you for the amazing grace You have given us in Christ. Help us extend Your grace to others. Guard us from bitterness toward those who have made threats, or stolen, or misled. Forgive us as we forgive.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

God, we are tempted to fear in times like these. Your perfect love casts out fear. We find your perfect love in the deliverance of evil which comes when we give ourselves to Jesus. Where the Son of God is honored, evil must flee. Help everyone involved to know the deep joy of running to You. King Jesus, we pray that Your rule and righteousness will be known at Northside, that many will place their trust in You. We ask that You would do as you have always done -- grow your Kingdom even in challenging circumstances. For yours is the Kingdom and the power and glory forever and ever. Amen.