



We had a wonderful Easter weekend celebrating Jesus' victory. Together we took a significant step forward in establishing victory against fear and anxiety.

Easter has introduced Spring. Gardens are not random, they reflect intentional design and effort. Routine inspection, analysis and action —these are necessary components of a flourishing garden. They are equally important components of a vibrant spiritual life.

Let's invite the Holy Spirit to direct our year toward growth and maturity in our faith. Challenges will inevitably present—drought, insects, destructive weather. The good news is that God is a God of restoration. He is well able to protect, restore and deliver us to our destination. Let's not shrink back in fear and unbelief.

**Reading:** Hebrews; note the "Let Us" passages.

### Morning Prayer

**I am persuaded; Jesus of Nazareth is the Way, the Truth and the Life.**

John 14:6 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

**I am persuaded; Scripture is inspired by God —a necessary and profitable part of God's provision for my life.**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (HCSB)

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

**I am persuaded; God Almighty made the heavens, the earth and all that is in them.**

Colossians 1:16-17 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

### Mid-Day Prayer

**I am persuaded; I have been reconciled to God, accepted and approved by Him.**

Colossians 1:21-22 (NIV)

<sup>21</sup> Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

<sup>22</sup> But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation--

**I am persuaded; I have been delivered from the domain of darkness. I belong to the eternal kingdom of God. I have been redeemed and forgiven.**

Colossians 1:13-14 (NASB)

<sup>13</sup> For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**I am persuaded; Jesus is returning to the earth, triumphant. He will reward those who have honored him and bring judgment against those who have rejected him.**

Revelation 1:5-7 (NIV)

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen.

## Evening Prayer

**I am persuaded; Jesus is building his church and I intend to assist in every possible way.**

Matthew 16:18-19 (NIV)

. . . I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

**I am persuaded; to honor God with my life—with all my heart, mind, soul and body. I will invest my time, my treasure and my talent as an expression of honor to my Lord and King.**

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

<sup>19</sup> Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; <sup>20</sup> you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

**I am persuaded; I will endure, persevere, complete my course AND receive the reward which the Lord, the righteous judge will present.**

2 Timothy 2:3, 4:6-8 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. . . . <sup>6</sup> For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day--and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

**I am persuaded; God has made complete provision for my life in time and eternity. In Christ I have been given everything I need to overcome, be victorious and demonstrate the faithfulness of my God.**

2 Peter 1:3 (NIV)

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.