

# Outdoor Prayer Walk

Use this guide for a self-led prayer walk around our church's building and grounds. You'll be invited to pause at ten different locations to reflect on and lift up in prayer an aspect of our life together as a church. Take a few minutes at each stop to connect with a sense of God's presence.



## 1. Begin in front of the **stained glass of St. Cecilia** on the west side of the Sanctuary.

St. Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of music and is often depicted with instruments, as she is here with an organ. As you look up at her image, **reflect** on a special moment with sacred music or on one of your favorite hymns, and offer a **prayer** of gratitude for God's presence within music and beauty.

*God who sings over us, your beauty shines through endless rhythms & harmonies.  
Tune our ears to hear your sound.*

## 2. Walk around the south entrance into the staff parking lot to look at the **stained glass in the sanctuary**.

These panels depict characters from different stories throughout our Bible. **Reflect** on one of your favorite stories from Scripture. What does it mean to you? Say a **prayer** acknowledging God's presence in the sacred stories we have passed down for generations.

*God of our ancestors, you began history with a story that continues with us today.  
Speak to us your wisdom & love.*

## 3. Walk around the corner & down the hill to the **East Entrance**.

As our "front door" during business hours, the East Entrance sees so much of the action of our church life throughout the week. Take a moment to **reflect** on the ways in which you have been involved within the life of the church and **pray** we may continue to be a hub of community life for years to come.

*God who enlivens our work, may we be eager & faithful in our call to love our neighbors as ourselves.*

## 4. Now walk towards the fence of the **church backyard**.

Classroom, youth center, board room, social hall, and Sanctuary—the backyard has become all of these things and more for the various things we've done together in-person since March. Take a moment to **reflect** on the new ways you have stayed connected with others this year, whether here with the church or elsewhere, and say a **prayer** of gratitude for the creative opportunities we have had for connection.

*God of creative connection, thank you for the ways you continue to bring us together in community.*

## 5. Walk towards and pause by the **playground**

In recent weeks, students across the country have resumed school, from preschoolers to college students and beyond. **Reflect** on both the challenges and importance of education in our dynamic and evolving world and **pray** for students and educators across the world.

*God who leads us in lives of learning, empower & protect those pursuing & facilitating education today.*

6. Cross the street and walk to the **small chapel garden** on the northeast corner of the chapel.

This beautiful, quiet space is sheltered from the busyness of the street. Many people come to sit on the benches and pray. As you pause here, **call** our Daily Prayer Line (816-333-4920) to hear a special brief one-minute meditation. At the end of the meditation you may leave a personal **prayer** request.

*God who walks with us, create for us quiet space to sense your Spirit with us within the noise of our lives.*

7. Walk around the chapel and step into the **columbarium** garden on the southwest corner of the chapel.

You can't see them with your eyes or hear them with your ears, but this beautiful space is filled with memories and prayers. Many of our spiritual ancestors, including the people who built this church, are buried here, and live on as part of our community. Take a moment to **reflect** on your loved ones who have gone on before you and offer a **prayer** for those who will go after us.

*God of every generation, you use us to fulfill the dreams of those before us.  
Dream with us what the world might be for generations to come.*

8. Cross the street and stand in the lawn, looking at the northwest corner of the building now and the windows across the first floor. These are some of our offices.

Throughout the week, our staff and volunteers work hard to support the programs and ministry across the church. **Reflect** on the staff members you know and their work and say a **prayer** for all those whose time and effort make possible our community life.

*God of mission & ministry, you breathe meaning into our work. Bless the diligence of our staff and leaders.*

9. Now walk near the **front doors** of the church.

Even over the last few months, we've been able to be a community of welcome and invitation, bringing new people into our life and community as a church. Take a moment to **reflect** on how you practice welcome and inclusion in your life and **pray** that we may continue to extend God's love to everyone in our city.

*God who welcomes us with everlasting love, you make a seat for everyone at your table.  
Empower us to share with all your hope & love.*

10. Finally, turn your gaze up to the top of the church's **steeple**.

Our church building stands in an iconic location in Ward Parkway, and we seek to be a church known for proclaiming God's justice, love, and peace. **Reflect** for a moment on what the church means to you and what message we share with our city, and **pray** that God may speak through us words of hope and wholeness.

*God of all people, you lead us into proclaiming good news to the poor and the year of your favor.  
Fill us with Christ's Spirit so that we may bring wholeness to our fragmented world.*

Thank you for joining in the prayer walk! Continue to join us in prayer by sharing a prayer concern with our clergy and prayer team by calling the church's **prayer line** at 816-333-4920 or sign up to record our prayer line greeting & meditation by emailing [joe@cccckc.org](mailto:joe@cccckc.org).

