



ALLEN TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., Pastor Emeritus

21 Day

Prayer Consecration

JANUARY 1-21, 2024

Praying the Names of God

*The name of the Lord is a strong tower;
The righteous runs into it and is safe.*

Proverbs 18:10

Sponsored by the
Prayer Warriors Ministry



PASTORAL GREETINGS

Dear Allen Temple Family and Friends,

Welcome to our 21 Day Prayer Consecration: *Praying the Names of God*.

We begin this new year seeking God's wisdom and direction in every area of our lives. No matter what goals we set for ourselves, our families and ministry, Zechariah 4:6 reminds us that they can only be accomplished through God. *"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord*".

During these next 21 days, I encourage you to be intentional in setting aside time each day for devotion. Our Prayer Warriors Ministry has developed this guide to assist us as we endeavor to grow in grace and in the knowledge of God.

Our 2024 theme admonishes us to be **ROOTED IN CHRIST, REACHING OUR WORLD**. I invite each of you to join us on this journey of deepening our roots and expanding our reach. I hope you reach out to others and invite them as well. My prayer is that you begin this new year being anxious for nothing but by prayer and petition with thanksgiving - you experience the peace of God that transcends all understanding!

Prayerfully,



Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson
Senior Pastor



CONSECRATION GUIDE

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Follow along with the devotional reading and scriptures in the digital guide to inform your prayers.
- Consecrate by fasting (see options below) and/or giving up a treasured hobby, favorite food, or other activity.

GUIDING SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FOR A FAST (NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST):

- Daniel fasted before he received a vision (Daniel 9:3; 10:2-3).
- In Acts, church leaders fasted to know God's purpose and direction in ministry (Acts 13:2-3, 14:23).
- Jesus fasted before he began his ministry (Matthew 4:2; Luke 4:1-2).

FASTING OPTIONS:

As you follow along with us in prayer, you can also participate in the 21-Day Prayer Consecration by doing one or more of the following:

- Daniel Fast - Eat no meat, no sweets, and no bread. Drink water or pure fruit juice. Eat fruits and vegetables.
- Sacrificial Fast - This is a great option if you don't have experience fasting from food or have health issues that prevent you from fasting from food. This fast involves giving up things like television, social media, unnecessary spending, or hobbies.
- Partial Fast - A partial fast is refraining from food during a certain window of time, for example from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm or from sunup to sundown.

Please note: if you are unable to fast for any reason, you are still invited to pray with us daily!

CONSECRATION GUIDE

MAKE FOR A SUCCESSFUL TIME OF CONSECRATION

- Pray about your fast - Ask God what you should give up during the time of consecration.
- Plan to pray - Identify a specific time each day that will be committed to prayer over and above your regular time of devotion then set a reminder in your phone or calendar app.
- Stay plugged in - Join us each week for the Wednesday Evening Prayer Call (check your Allen Temple Email for dial-in information) to get strength and inspiration for the journey.
- Get a partner - Buddy up with a friend who will hold you accountable and commit to the 21 days with you.
- Go with God - If you feel led to pray about something different than the daily prompt, do it!
- Keep going - We've got a habit started...let's keep going! After Day 21, we've included some daily scripture readings that you can use to begin your time of devotion and prayer through the end of January.

SHARE ON SOCIAL

Follow Allen Temple Baptist Church on Facebook and Instagram where we'll be posting the daily devotional throughout the 21-Day Consecration. Share the daily posts to your networks and invite others to join us!

SET THE ATMOSPHERE

Set the atmosphere for your time of consecration with music! To support your journey, we've created a free YouTube playlist you can use to encourage you during your 21-Day journey. Use the link or QR code below to get the playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmbIoPl3XQjb-PRgul-XFO79b4NZ7dnLSb>





Day 1
I AM THAT I AM

EXODUS 3:14

Moses says to God, suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your fathers have sent me to you and they ask me, what is his name? Then what shall I tell them? God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites, I am has sent me to you.” God said to Moses, say to the Israelites, “the Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Issac and the God of Jacob has sent me to you. This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.”

The Hebrew Bible expresses I am who I am in the tongue that God spoke to Moses. In Hebrew, God said Ehyeh Asher Ehyer, which is based on the future tense conjugation of the verb *to be*. The future tense says I will be who I will be. To clear up matters for the English speaking in Hebrew grammar, ehyeh can be translated three ways depending upon context: I was, I am, and I will be, which lets us know that GOD IS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. In other words, God is eternal, without beginning and ending. The eternal is timeless, the eternal existed before time or before creation and does not have the limitations of timebound creatures nor is limited by the laws of cause and effect. Death cannot touch God who does not exist because existence occurs only in time.

I am also speaking of the invisible presence of God who never sleeps. *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary, his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless* (Isaiah 40:28-29). In its essence, this name carries the reality of both the timeliness and the timelessness of the God who was, and is, and is to come.

Then God also said to Moses, “I am the Lord, YHVH, I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as God Almighty, El Shaddai but by my name, the Lord YHVH, I did not make myself known to them. Exodus 6:2 in the scripture, God reveals His sacred four-letter proper name. Because this name for God is so sacred, many Jewish persons will not repeat the name. They instead refer to God using the Hebrew word, Ha Shem. The sacred word Adonai is replaced using the Hebrew letters “yud hey vaw hey” which appear YHVH. These letters are called the tetragrammaton which in Greek means the “four letters.”

The background features a collage of Hebrew words in a light, semi-transparent font: ABBA, ELOHIM, JEHOVAH, AM, EL SHADDAI, ROHI, EL YONAI, and SARLOTH. A piece of torn brown paper is centered, containing the text 'Day 1 (Cont)' and 'I AM THAT I AM' in a dark, serif font.

Day 1 (Cont)
I AM THAT I AM

EXODUS 3:14

Many Biblical scholars believe that the tetragrammaton of four letters comes from the verb *haya* and therefore related to the Hebrew word for *to be* and therefore related to *I am* or *I will be*.

When we turn to the New Testament and read John 8:58, we discover Jesus creating a controversy when he says ‘truly, truly, I say unto you, before Abraham was born, I Am.’ In John 14:6, Jesus says “I am the way, the truth, and the life, none comes to the father but by me.” Again, he created another controversy with the theologians and teachers of his day. Last but not least, Jesus used seven I Am statements to define who he was on earth. He said I am the bread of life (6:35), the light of the world (8:12), the door (10:7), the good shepherd (10:11), the resurrection and the life (11:25), the way, the truth and the life (14:6), and the true vine (15:1).

The theologians and religious leaders of Jesus day did not understand the high mystery of God’s condescension to become a man in Jesus. So they crucified him but death did not defeat Jesus who arose saying in Revelation 1:18:” I am he who lives and was dead but behold I am alive for evermore .Amen And I have keys of Hades and of Death .”

PRAYER PROMPT

O God: May the risen Christ live in us as living hope for a dying world Amen

Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., is the visionary Pastor Emeritus of the Allen Temple Baptist Church



Day 2
EL SHADDAI

GENESIS 17:1

El Shaddai, etymologically, the Hebrew words “El,” meaning Lord God Almighty, and “Shaddai” from “Shad,” meaning a nursing mother’s breast. Lord God Almighty, who nurses and feeds us. This is a uniquely important metaphor as we should understand that God cares for us and is beneficial to us, as intimately as a mother who has birthed and is now sustaining her child’s life with her mother’s milk from her breast.

Mother’s milk is considered to be the best source of infant nutrition. Extensive evidence has shown that breast milk contains a variety of bioactive agents that modify the function of the gastrointestinal tract and the immune system, as well as in brain development. Thus, breast milk is widely recognized as a biological fluid required for optimal infant growth and development. Recently, studies have further suggested that breast milk mitigates infant programming of late metabolic diseases, particularly protecting against obesity and type 2 diabetes.

We praise Your Holy name, for it is by Your name and power that You have charged us to walk before You in spirit, truth, holiness, and righteousness. The Bible states, Lord, You announced that You were El Shaddai when You appeared to a 99-year-old Abram in Genesis 17:1. Abram immediately fell down before the Lord. We still fall before El Shaddai!

PRAYER PROMPT:

El Shaddai, You are the Creator of Heaven and Earth and the owner of time and space—the righter of wrongs and the forgiver of sins. El Shaddai, You possess all knowledge. El Shaddai, You are the One who controls the spinning of the earth, the depth of the waters, the heights of the mountains, and the temperature of the stars in the galaxies. Besides You, there is no other.

We acknowledge that You are like a nursing mother, the Sustainer of life, and the Provider of all our needs. You are full of loving kindness, graciousness, sufficiency, protection, and a giver of abundant opportunities.

Your goodness and mercy will forever be our song of praise. You are saving us from destruction, filling our mouths with sweet fruit, healing our bodies, educating our minds, and using us for Your kingdom-building. El Shaddai, Hallelujah!

Reginald Lyles, married to Dolores Lyles, has been an Allen Temple Church member and Deacon for more than forty-three years. He has served as the Chairman of the Deacon Board, Adult Sunday School Instructor, Missionary to Sierra Leone, and Israel, and Instructor in the PNBC Congress.



Day 3
JEHOVAH NISSI

EXODUS 17:15

Jehovah is actually YHWH and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Nissi means flag or banner so together Jehovah Nissi means The LORD Is My Banner. God himself is our banner and victory. He gives us hope and a focus, and is the one who wins our battles.

This word occurs only once in the Bible: Exodus 17:15--Moses built an altar and called it The Lord is my Banner. This occurred in the war with the Amalekites. As long as Moses' arms, (banner, rod, or standard) were raised, victory was assured. Read the chapter for more context.

As I reflect back over my life and my walk with God, there were many times my lack of faith in God caused me to feel defeated. I was facing being fired from a company I worked for 32 years. But God used my union rep as my banner to give me victory to save my job and allowed me to retire.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Lord God Jehovah, remind us as your people, that You are our victory no matter what the circumstances are in life. Let us walk in confidence knowing and assured that You are our Jehovah Nissi our Banner. Amen!

Deacon Michael Johnson has been a member of Allen Temple since 1981 and currently serves as the Chaplain of the Deacon's Ministry.



Day 4
ABBA

MARK 14:35-36

“Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

God has many names, each illuminating Him in a unique way and allowing us to know Him more closely. Abba is not a Name of God we hear often nor was it mentioned frequently in the Bible. In fact, Abba, Aramaic for father, is seen only three times in the New Testament: once by Jesus in Mark 14:36 and twice by Paul in his letters to the Romans (Romans 8:15) and to the Galatians (Galatians 4:6). That the name Abba is used only by Jesus - the one sent so man could know and believe God and who saved us from our sins - and Paul - who, after being converted on the road to Damascus, became one of the most prolific Apostles avidly spreading the teachings of Jesus - is intimidating. *Who am I to call out to God? Do I, too, have the right to call God Abba, Father?*

If Jesus, himself, in one of his most human moments as he faced imminent death received solace in crying out to Abba, Father, asking Him to remove the cup of suffering, so can we. If even Paul, who once intensely persecuted followers of Jesus, assures us in his epistles that we are, indeed, God’s children through the Spirit, then we should claim our inheritance. Our Heavenly Father knows us better than anyone.

He knows the number of hairs on our heads, the private meditations of our hearts, and has a calling upon our lives. Use of Abba, Father, connotes a deep connection felt through the daily intimacy knowing that God is full of grace, mercy, comfort, compassion, and patience for us, His children. He wants us to acknowledge Him and trust in His will.

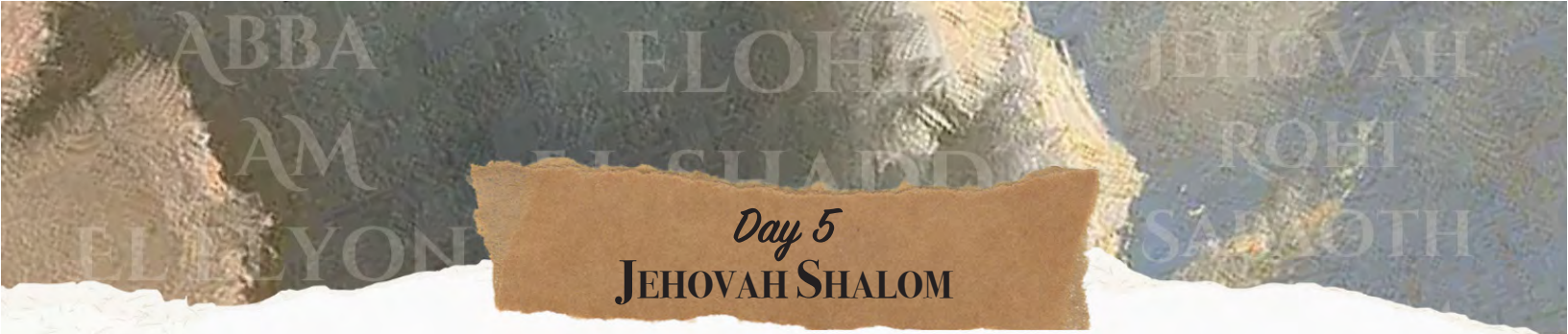
Abba, Father, is a Name of God that can and should be used in our prayers and that can draw us closer to the one who created us in His image and has His hands upon our daily walk.

Call on your Abba, Father, today, and every day!

PRAYER PROMPT:

Prayer often feels daunting or complicated, but it is modeled so beautifully for us in the Word. Repeat Jesus’ own prayer to the Father as He called out to Him from the Garden of Gethsemane in an hour of need: “Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

Deacon Jeannine N. Walker, loving daughter of Deacon Eddie and Sister Connie Walker, has been a member of Allen Temple for over 15 years serving across many ministries and is President and CEO of Walker and Associates Consulting, a strategic management consulting and executive search firm supporting mission-driven clients.



Day 5
JEHOVAH SHALOM

JUDGES 6:24

“Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord and called it, “Jehovah Shalom” (Judges 6:24), which has been translated in English as the “Lord Is Peace”.

In our society, this peace has come to mean personal peace and wellness. However, the Hebrew word “Shalom” gives us a different understanding of peace.

The word “Shalom” in Hebrew connotes social, economic, and political well-being—the flourishing of everyone. This interpretation is similar to Ubuntu, a South African worldview. Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu has said that one of the principles undergirding South African society is Ubuntu – the essence of being human.

Ubuntu is a Nguni word that describes a particular African worldview in which people can only find fulfillment through interacting with other people. Thus, it represents a spirit of kinship across both race and creed that unites humankind to a common purpose. Bishop Tutu has said: “Ubuntu is very difficult to render into a Western language...It is to say: ‘My humanity is caught up, is inextricably bound up, in what is yours.’”

Let us embrace the broader interpretation of Shalom. Let us embrace the South African view of fulfillment-Ubuntu—I am, because we are. Let’s embrace the biblical Shalom seen in reference to the well-being of others (Genesis 43:27, Exodus 4:18), to treaties (I Kings 5:12), and in the well-being of cities or nations (Psalm 122:6, Jeremiah 29:7).

Let us pray for Shalom, for peace, for justice, for an end to suffering, and hunger, for a new flourishing. Let us pray for an end to war torn Israel and Palestine; an end to war in Ukraine; an end to war in every country in our world. Let us pray for peace, Shalom, well-being, and economic justice in the streets and communities of Oakland and cities everywhere.

PRAYER PROMPT:

I am praying Jehovah Shalom—peace and well-being over our world, over our country, over our cities, over all people.

Rev. Theophous H. Reagans, Esq. is the Minister of Global Ministries



Day 6
EL KANNA

EXODUS 20:3-5

Scripture has numerous names for our Heavenly Father. One is El Kanna (or Quanna), the primary definition being “jealous God.”

This Divine jealousy is articulated in the beginning of the Ten Commandments: Exodus 20:3-5.

God ordered us not to worship anyone or anything other than Him. We must obey.

It is easy to be distracted and place other things or people ahead of our Heavenly Father – especially in this American society.

Let us prayerfully remember that God is aware of this and He has commanded us to keep our eyes focused on Him.

Bro. Ralph Gordon serves as the Sunday School Live teacher



Day 7
EL ROI

GENESIS 16:13

An encounter with God changes the way that you live. - Rev. Dr. Donna Allen

In the book of Genesis, Chapter 16, we find the story of Hagar, an enslaved woman who becomes the surrogate for Sarai and Abram.

During the pregnancy Sarai victimized Hagar and she fled to the desert. While she was in the desert, she had an encounter with an angel of the Lord, which allowed her to see the God who sees.

Hagar was weary and wounded, which is why she ran. She was alone in a desert place and saw God. She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me."

You may feel unseen. But like Hagar an encounter with God will change your perception, your outlook about your current situation, so that you too can see God.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Consider listening to this song today during your time of prayer/meditation – He'll Take the Pain Away, by Kirk Franklin

Rev. Lana C. Rice, MDiv is a dedicated facilitator and leader, who uses her voice to inspire, to encourage, and to spread compassion and understanding.



Day 8
EL OLAM

GENESIS 21:33

In Hebrew the word *olam* means “for a long time, always, forever”. Many years had passed between God promising a son to Abraham and Sarah and the birth of their son, Isaac. It was there in Beersheba, that Abraham called on the name of the Lord, *El Olam* (Everlasting God) because he saw that God was faithful to his promises. (Genesis 21:33)

Is there something for which you have been praying fervently? Don't lose heart. Remember that our God who is “*El Olam*” is faithful and is our refuge.

“Let God's promises shine on your problems.” (Corrie Ten Boom)

PRAYER PROMPT:

El Olam... Thank you for your mercy, grace, and loving-kindness towards us. Thank you for being omnipresent. We know that you were there in the beginning, are with us in the meantime and at our midnights, and that you will be there in the end. We count it all joy because you are faithful. There is no spot where you are not. Amen.

Rev. Warren Long serves at Allen Temple as an Associate Minister, Cluster Co-Chair, and New Members Classes Coordinator. He also serves with The Leadership Institute and Global Ministries.



Day 9
JEHOVAH MEKADDISHKIM

EXODUS 31:12-13

Jehovah Mekaddishkim, this name only appears twice in scripture Exodus 31:12-13 and Leviticus 20:7-8. The Lord created, set us apart (sanctified) and made us holy. This holiness is not something we can do or fashion of our own accord but is solely the work of the Lord through the saving grace of Jesus' death on the cross and the faith walk of the Holy Spirit.

We have a responsibility to conduct ourselves in a manner pleasing to God. We must strive with diligence, keep his commands, and live in community and relationship to become like Him – Holy. With the help of the holy spirit, we must demonstrate our willingness to become transformed examples of His changing power.

- God is the Sanctifier.
- We must work in cooperation with one another to please God.

Carefully study God's Word and his truth, follow his teaching, guidance, and allow him to change you. Lean on Him and not your own truth or understanding. Follow in faith - this way you will become more like Jesus, as He is Jehovah Mekaddishkim – the Lord Who Sanctifies Us.

PRAYER PROMPT:

The Lord who sanctifies prepare my mind by clearing it of thoughts that are not of you and open my heart to always do your will. Allow your holiness to be visible and tangible in me, so others will see Jesus in me and desire to seek you. Lord help me to always please you! Help me live daily, fully dependent upon you, learning each day how to become as you are - Holy! In Jesus Name, Amen

Deaconess René M. Mastin, Trusting God in All Things!



Day 10
ADONAY

GENESIS 15:2

Adonay, is the Hebrew word meaning Lord, Master. This implies relationship. Relationship with the One who is Master of everything. The One who empowers every aspect of our lives so that we can reach our full potential in Him.

In Genesis 1:26, He said, "Let us make man in our image" which means we have the potential to be like Him. However, to be like the Master, He must first become Lord of our lives. Do we not want to go through life with the Master of everything? To know that whatever we lack, His grace will be sufficient?

To spend time in His presence daily gives us all the strength we need to embrace daily circumstances I have no control over. He waits patiently to be our Lord and Savior, so that our lives will be meaningful and His purpose for our lives is fulfilled.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Master, you have captured my heart. Grant me wisdom to accept and embrace your will for my life so that I strive in the right direction to please You. Let my strides lead me to be always in Your presence. As you craft in me your plans for my life, let the manifestation of that love You pour in me be seen by others, so that they too will seek to know the Master of my life. I surrender.

Deacon Leslie Allison, servant of God.



Day 11
JEHOVAH TSIDKENU

JEREMIAH 23:6

“This is his name whereby he shall be called, The Lord our Righteousness”—Jeremiah 23:6

The righteousness of God is the divine attribute that describes God as always acting in a way that is consistent with His own character. God, not humankind is the standard for Righteousness. Everything about God’s nature and acts are righteous. His justice, faithfulness to his covenants, His saving grace, mercy, love, redemption of believers, reconciliation, are a few expressions of God’s righteousness. As I reflect on God’s attribute of Righteousness, and its impact on my life, I thank God that He has received me into the Kingdom family. I thank God for hearing my prayers, for giving me an appetite to study His Word, and to trust His faithfulness, and to guide me in my daily walk of life. Yes, I have felt the sting of betrayal, but God does not have a betraying spirit. God comforted me when I felt devastated at the death of my granddaughter, As God has encouraged me, I encourage others to experience God’s divine attribute of righteousness. Trust and believe that God is not temperamental; God is the same yesterday, today, and forevermore.

PRAYER PROMPT

Heavenly Parent, I praise and thank you for your righteousness. Thank you that access to your throne is secured to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Help me to stay grounded and focused on you. Thank you, God, for adopting me into your family. Thank you that you chose and appointed me to bear fruit. In Jesus name. Amen.

Dr. Martha C. Taylor, Parent, Preacher, Professor, Author, Student, Historian, Mentor and Friend.



Day 12
ELOHIM

GENESIS 1:1

As we prepare ourselves for this meditative moment of consecration prayer, allow some time for calmness and re-focus. Choose to come to God and relax in His loving presence. Take a moment to reflect on where God has brought you from in your life journey.

FOCUS, FOCUS, FOCUS

As the songwriters remind us with these lyrics --- “You Lord, You are Worthy. And no one can worship You for me.” “You are God, alone”.

Now various biblical studies declare that God is referenced by many names. Each name reveals Him in such a unique way. God’s Names represent His attributes, His nature. ‘ELOHIM’ is a common Hebrew name for God in the Old Testament.

The name denotes reference to God’s ‘power’ and ‘might’. Consider the 1st part of Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning, God ...”. When you read the entire 1st chapter of the book of Genesis, there are many verses that exemplify God’s ‘power’ and ‘might’.

No doubt, someone reading (at this very moment) can reflect on the fact that your back was against the wall.

And it had not yet appeared as to how you were going to make it. BUT GOD. Yes, BUT GOD. So, we pray that God’s power, God’s presence, God’s provisions continue to be manifested in our individual, communal and worldly affairs, trusting and believing that He [ELOHIM], will do exceeding and abundantly above all we ask or think.

PRAYER PROMPT:

(Eph. 3:20 NASB) “Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.”

We acknowledge Your presence, dear God. We exalt Your Name. [ELOHIM]. In honor of the triune God, we join (in praise) with this gospel song (paraphrased): When we speak Your name, Something happens in the room. Our hands go up. We can’t wait to see what You’re gonna do.

...

Before we do anything else, We call on You.

We call on Jesus.

Show up, show out, Jesus.

Move how You want to move.

And You can do what You want to do.

Amen.

Deacon T. Wayne Coleman serves as a member of the Allen Temple Deacons Ministry.



Day 13
JEHOVAH ROHI

PSALM 23

The Lord Is My Shepherd, Jehovah Rohi. What does that mean. Most have heard Psalms 23 in their homes growing up, our parents taught us to memorize it. At other times we have heard Psalm 23 being read at funerals. But it is more than a scripture for funerals. Psalm 23 is about who God is and a personal relationship between a shepherd boy name David, who becomes a man and still acknowledges the divine, holy relationship between himself and his God. Knowing if it had not been for the Lord who was on his side where would he be.


David knew firsthand what it was like to tend sheep. The shepherd was to protect, provide, and feed the sheep, so he describes his relationship to God in those terms. What David had been for the sheep he was caring for God had been the same for him. “The Lord is my Shepherd” as a result, David confidently confesses, I have what I need. (I shall not want) Because God have covered all of David’s needs out there on the hillside with the sheep. He realizes that he is lacking nothing.

The qualities of a true Shepherd will seek out that which is lost. Will bring back that which was driven away and bind up that which was broken. Will strengthen that which was sick. The Shepherd is also a protector and a guide for the sheep. (Ezekiel 34:11-12, 14-16)

Many Christians today trust God for eternity, that they have received salvation through Jesus Christ but they don’t have the confidence that God can provide for them in their daily lives.

God met David’s Spiritual needs. Just as shepherds give sheep rest in green pastures and refreshes them with quiet waters, so God had done spiritually with David. The cares and struggles of this world can leave us exhausted. Such times are opportunities to lean in and depend on the Lord, call out to Jehovah Rohi. He provides spiritual refreshment and restoration. He renews us in our current life.

God met David’s Directional needs. He leads me along the right path. Sheep are prone to wander and become lost; get into danger that they alone cannot handle. Therefore, they always need guidance and direction from the shepherd.



Day 13 (Cont)
JEHOVAH ROHI

PSALM 23

God met David's Physical needs. Though enemies hovered near, God fed him when he was hungry and anointed him with oil when he needed healing. Like David, we must recognize that we have only one source and that is the Good Shepherd. God never runs dry or out of what we need. That's why David said my cup runs over, God gives us new mercies each morning for the new day's journey.

God met David's Needs. David understood that goodness and mercy (faithful love) would pursue him all the days of his life. Shepherds often have sheep dogs that chase after the sheep. Goodness and Mercy will chase after us to bring us back into fellowship with your Shepherd, Jehovah Rohi, that you may eternally dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRAYER PROMPT

Father God, I pray that you help me to submit to "The Great High Shepherd" (Hebrews 13:30), Jehovah Rohi, our Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ. He laid down His life for His sheep (John 10:11) and through His wounds, we are healed (1 Peter 2:24). Amen!

Rev. Brenda J. Lewis is an associate minister at Allen Temple Baptist Church. She is known for her preaching, teaching and training within the Body of Christ.



Day 14
JEHOVAH RAPHA

EXODUS 15:26C

The Hebrew word Rapha means “heal,” “cure,” “restore,” or “make whole.”

“Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.” (Psalm 30:2, NIV)

“...for I am the Lord, who heals you.” (Exodus 15:26c)

It was December 9, 2010, and I had just finished an intensive, invigorating two-day training in LA. On my way to LAX I received a frantic call from my youngest sister. Our father had been rushed to the Kaiser Oakland ER and it didn’t look good. She asked how long it would be before I arrived because the physician wanted to talk with us about our father’s prognosis. Can you imagine the fear...the pain...the anguish...the guilt I felt being so far away at a time when my father and family needed me?

There were no available seats on an earlier flight so all I could do was sit, cry out and pray that God would step in and be with my father until I could get to the hospital. I knew the only answer was for God Himself—Jehovah Rapha—to take control of the situation. While I prayed for the medical personnel, I had to relinquish my fear and doubt to the only One that could provide the outcome we needed. Well, I made it to the hospital and my Dad while still in critical condition, was able to greet me. His team shared it was ‘a miracle’ that my Dad had made it through the episode and their recommendation that palliative care was the best option available. They said we had a couple of weeks—at best—before ‘the inevitable.’ We thanked God for His faithfulness in allowing us all to be together that night. And we continued to give Him thanks for the next TWO MONTHS we had to be with our Dad. We had time to say everything we needed to say before he went home. God healed my Dad not once, but twice. He is, indeed, Jehovah Rapha. Hallelujah!

PRAYER PROMPT:

Dear God,

We thank You for your wonder-working, healing power. When we face illness, even death, You are there to remind us that You are a keeper and that You do ALL things well. We acknowledge that healing takes many forms. So however you decide to demonstrate your healing power, we will acknowledge and give thanks for Your love and sovereignty.

Amen.

Submitted by Deacon Carla Gilbert Keener who has witnessed God’s healing and keeping power over and over and over.



Day 15
EL ELYON

GENESIS 14:18-20

El Elyon is a Hebrew name for God meaning the Most High God. El is translated as God. Elyon is literally means Most High. There are 28 references in the Bible which reveal the weight and character of El Elyon. The Most High God is a God that provides protection (Ps. 57:2-3), fights battles (2 Sam. 22:14), vindicates (Ps. 57:2-3) and allows us to dwell in God's shelter (Ps. 91:1-2). El Elyon is the creator of heaven and earth (Ps. 14:28-30). The Bible teaches us that El Elyon is the one and only true God. It teaches us that God is a powerful God. There is no one or anything higher or more powerful than our God.

One of my favorite scriptures is Psalm 91:1-2, "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'" This passage gives us comfort in knowing that should everything be falling down around us in our lives, the Most High God will be with us, will shelter us and protect us in times of chaos and disorder. To dwell in the shelter of the Most High means to live in, to reside with God. When we dwell with God, we become recipients of God care, God's word and God's presence. We will not only dwell in God's shelter but will rest in the shadow of the Almighty, El Shaddai, another extension of who God is.

Understanding who our God is makes it easy to declare like the Psalmist, "I will say of the LORD, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust'"

Where would we be without El Elyon, the Most High God?

PRAYER PROMPT:

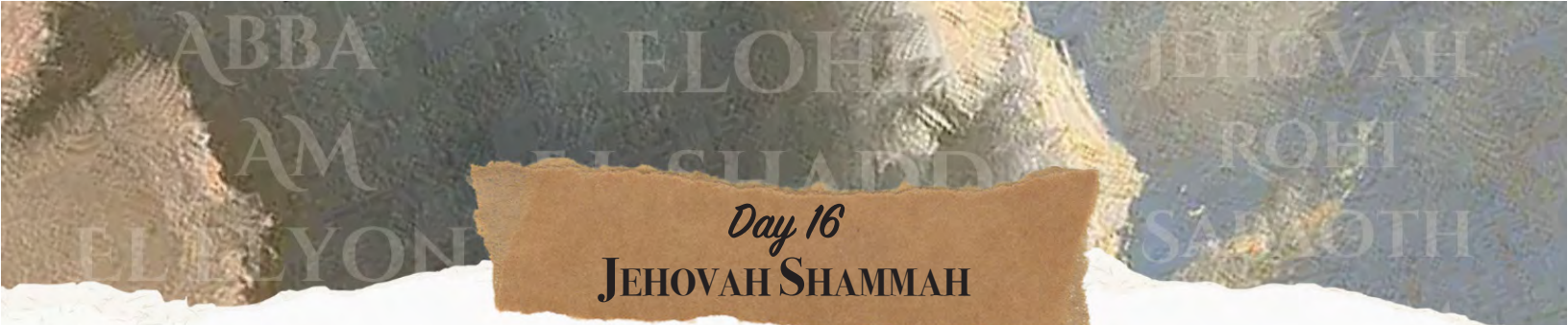
Let us pray:

El Elyon, the Most High God

We honor and praise your holy name. There is none like you!

There is none above you! You are the one and only true God. Thank you for your love! Thank you for your protection! Thank you for your shelter in the times of chaos and hard times! Help us to always place our trust in you and not ourselves. Amen.

Dr. Brenda Guess serves as the Educational Cluster Leader of Allen Temple Baptist Church and Chancellor of the Leadership Institute at Allen Temple.



Day 16
JEHOVAH SHAMMAH

EZEKIEL 48:35

*“The distance all around will be 18,000 cubits.
“And the name of the city from that time on will be:
THE LORD IS THERE.” (Ezekiel 48:35)*

In a world that seems to be spinning like an un-tethered pinwheel, it is easy to get wrapped up in the swirl. Some say that we must disconnect from the news, dig down deep, focus on the positive, and wait out the chaos.

JEHOVAH SHAMMAH appears only once in the Bible and is the name of a city. Ezekiel was reassuring the Israelites that God would dwell again in the reconstructed Jerusalem that was destroyed when the Israelites were captured and taken to Babylon in the early 6th century BC. They believed that God dwelt in the temple in Jerusalem. After suffering defeat and enslavement, their God Jehovah would be with them, again, in the rebuilt temple in Jerusalem. He was there. However, after God sent Him/Herself to earth in the form of Jesus, we know that God resides within us and is ever present everywhere. He is here.

To get from here to there, we must travel a distance. For the ancient Israelites, that distance was seventy (70) years of enslavement, estrangement, and erasure. What is your distance? Is it pain, failure, disenchantment, brokenness, grief, abandonment?

Whatever it is, pray the name “JEHOVAH SHAMMAH” and realize that God is telling us through the bloody death and pristine resurrection of Jesus the Christ that S/He is both here and there.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Lord God, we thank You and love You for being wherever we are as we move through our journeys from here to there. We believe and trust our lives and the lives of all whom we love and treasure that You are here with us in these moments of traveling troubles to get to there where You wait for us: resplendent in your glory, powerful in Your dominion, and loving in Your embrace.

There is none like You.

There is none like You.

There is none like You.

And we are Yours, JEHOVAH SHAMMAH.

Amen.

Dr. Lani Wilson is a long time member whose mother and children were also part of the Allen Temple family.



Day 17
JEHOVAH SABAOTH

1 SAMUEL 1:3, 11

The name Lord of Hosts (Jehovah Sabaoth) appears in the Old Testament over 270 times. The idea of hosts positions God in a military light. God is the leader of Heaven's armies. While there are many translations that define this differently, there is one consistency among them, they all point to God's power and authority. The Lord of Hosts, rules over all things both on earth and in heaven. When we use this name, we think of God, who fights on our behalf.

The first time Jehovah Sabaoth appears in the Bible is in 1 Samuel 1:3, 11. This is the story of childless Hannah, who wanted a son so desperately that she prayed that the Lord would grant her the desires of her heart. This story tells us that although God is indeed the Lord of all the masses on earth and in heaven, He is also the Lord of each individual person who comes to Him, weary, broken, and in need of His blessing.

In our darkest hours, the almighty Lord of Hosts will hear you and comfort you as if you were the only person on earth. He reminds us that he is fighting and advocating for us. Our troubles are never too small for Him to notice. We can be assured that no matter what situation we find ourselves in, God is for us. Hallelujah!

I encourage you to reflect on Psalm 91:11-12—For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

PRAYER PROMPT

Oh God, in my darkest hours, remind me that you are fighting on my behalf. When I am broken and weary thank you that we can cast our cares on you. Thank you for watching over me. Thank you for being Jehovah Sabaoth.

Kendra Roberts McClure serves as the Chair of the Allen Temple Deacons Ministry and is the Vice President of Operations for Human Good, California's largest nonprofit provider of senior housing.



Day 18
JEHOVAH JIREH

GENESIS 22:8-14


“God will provide” is a popular phrase among Christians today and is often associated with financial provision and money. God will generously provide all that you need, including finances but God’s provision is not always in the form of money.

When Abraham was tested by God in the matter of offering his only beloved son, Isaac as a sacrifice; God ultimately provided a “ram in the bush” which was used for the sacrifice in place of his son. As a result, Abraham named that place Jehovah Jireh, meaning “The LORD will provide.” (Genesis 22:13,14) It serves to show us how God can provide even in impossible situations. This would later be the prototype God uses as the salvation plan for humanity.

There is no situation that God cannot make provision for. Provision doesn’t always look like what we think it should look like. We’re always looking for that “Pay to the order” blessing. Indeed, God can and will make financial provision but God is more than able to make other provisions as well. If you need a way made or your rent paid-God will furnish it! If you need healing or protection-God will supply it!

God is Good and God is Faithful. Jehovah Jireh is Faithful to provide. There is not an earthly need that God cannot provide for. God Our Provider cares for you, and plans for your provisions, even before you know you need it. “God will provide” is not just a past tense God known truth; it is evidence that Jehovah Jireh, Creator of all things is more than able to provide for all of our current needs and needs in the future. Jehovah Jireh, God Our Provider gives us just what we need; right when we need it. God’s divine provision is never late and always on time.

Jehovah Jireh will supply our physical needs; our necessities of life; and more importantly our spiritual needs. Jehovah Jireh gave us His only Son, Jesus to redeem us from ourselves. Jesus, The Lamb of God, was the “ram in the bush” for us, when we had been separated from God by sin. God Our Provider stepped in and provided Jesus as the ultimate sacrifice so that we might live life, abundantly and eternally. Jesus became our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and the living example of Love for the world today.



Day 18 (Cont)
JEHOVAH JIREH

GENESIS 22:8-14

Today, I can declare that God will provide! God has paid our rent AND the mortgage; God Our Provider has blessed my wife and I with jobs to work on; we have good running cars to drive; Jehovah Jireh has blessed our children richly with good health and strength; we have new mercies morning by morning; we're blessing with a selection of food to choose from; God made ways for us to obtain certain things; and so much more from God. We lack nothing good from God. **THE LORD WILL PROVIDE!**

God may not give us everything we want but God Our Provider promised to supply all of our needs. (Philippians 4:19)

There will not be one day in your entire life that God has not seen ahead and made provision for you. God's provision is always there! Let us be like Abraham and trust that surely God will provide!

~ WHERE GOD GUIDES, GOD WILL PROVIDE ~

Hallelujah!

PRAYER PROMPT

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. I thank You for being Jehovah Jireh, God Our Provider. Heavenly Parent, by Your riches in glory, You can and will provide fullness, wholeness, wealth and treasure, for every single need we have. In Jesus' name. Amen and Amen.

Rev. Will Brown is an Associate Minister at the historic Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, CA. He enjoys traveling, spending time with family and friends, and water sports. Rev. Will is also an author and publisher and 3X Amazon Top Seller.



Day 19
EL GIBBOR (MILCHAMAH)

ISAIAH 9:6

He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Since my mother's diagnosis of dementia a few years ago, there have been times when anxiety grips my heart over circumstances that I cannot control. *Have I been a good daughter? What more can I do to show her my love? How can I provide support to my father, who is now the sole caretaker of my mother? How can I help prolong her memory? What can I do when she is combative or filled with anxiety?*

Things are overwhelming me, and I see no way of escaping. I want so desperately to have a meaningful conversation with my mother the way I once did. But in view of the circumstances, that doesn't seem possible. Tears well up in my eyes, and I find myself tongue-tied, unable to say anything of substance. Or I worry, and frustrations flood over me, and I begin to despair. Or I just give up and proceed with silence, knowing that I have failed, for the most part, to connect in a meaningful way with her.

Both physical and spiritual battles have raged within me, with conflicts that I know have touched everyone who has ever dealt with a loved one suffering from dementia. And the name El Gibbor, "Mighty God," points to the day when the enemies of dementia and Alzheimer will be vanquished and all of creation will know that Jesus is the "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." I cannot think of any greater comfort and confidence as I engage in the battles of my daily life.

PRAYER PROMPT:

The Lord Mighty in battle, our El Gibbor, we trust you for peace in the midst of our battle. We give thanks for You are the Conqueror of all illness and disease. You are the Lord Mighty in battle. We give You thanks and praise. Amen.

Nanette Gray is an award-winning public school special education administrator. She has been a member of ATBC for 13 years. She is on the Trustee Ministry and the Co-Chair for Adult Family Life.



Day 20
EL CHAY

PSALM 84:2

Take comfort and draw strength in the fact that our God is a Living God, active in our lives. He will not fail - He will do what He says (Joshua 3:10). He will not perish - unlike idols, which will (Jeremiah 10:10-11). He endures forever (Psalm 136). He is our hope (1 Peter 1:3).

PRAYER PROMPT

El Chay,

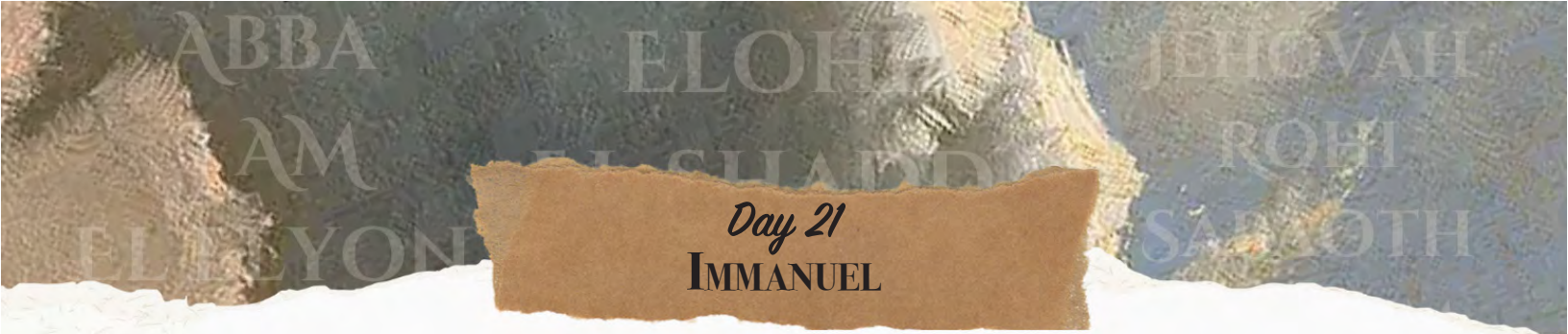
Living God, active all around us,

Help us to see more clearly,

That we may recognize Your Kingdom both Already and Not Yet.

Amen.

Reverend Charlotte Williams is Allen Temple's Minister and Director of Communications. She is also the Senior Director of Communications at Tides Advocacy, the nation's first pro-Black fiscal sponsor.



Day 21
IMMANUEL

ISAIAH 7:14; MATTHEW 1:22-23

Between 2020-2022, my mother became critically ill in Southern California and I would find myself hitting the road multiple times in those two years to see about her condition and care.

I had a lot of support— my family and friends as well as my ATBC church family—but as my mom’s only child there were a lot of things that fell to me and me alone.

I felt that aloneness most acutely when I would make those drives between the Bay and LA on Interstate 5. The road stretches for miles, with only small blips of life along the highway in the form of rest stops and clusters of GAS - FOOD - LODGING for a quick snack and a fill up to get back on the road.

There was one drive...I can’t remember which... where the fear, sadness, exhaustion, and sense of aloneness overwhelmed me. At the time I was doing what we are taught to do...encouraging myself in the Lord (1 Samuel 30:6). Listening to worship music, singing to the top of my lungs and zooming down the highway.

As I sang...I sensed more than just the emotion evoked by the song, I sensed and felt the presence of the Lord in the car with me. The Lord’s presence was so strong I broke down in tears that blurred my vision.

The tears were a release of the pressure I was feeling. But God’s presence remained assuring me that HE WAS WITH ME. Even in the middle of nowhere, and even in one of those most difficult seasons of my life, I WAS NOT ALONE!

We often reflect on Immanuel during the Christmas season. The fact that the God of the universe entered into God’s own creation AS a created being to redeem creation (which, BTW, is praise-inducing on its own). But of late, I think about the GOD who rode in the car with me when I was afraid and reminded me that Immanuel – God With Us – even extends to long drives on Interstate 5.

PRAYER PROMPT:

Lord God, I thank you that you are WITH US. Not in an abstract way, but in the very real moments of our lives – good and bad, big and small! Help us to be more aware of Your presence, and trust in Your promise not just today but every day. In Jesus Name, Amen!

A member of Allen Temple Baptist Church since October 2011, and an ordained Deacon since April 2023, Tiye Scott has served in various ministries of the church, including the Adult Family Life Ministry, LYFE Choir, and Prayer Warriors Ministry.



MORE READINGS

We've got a habit started...let's keep it going! Use the scripture readings below to continue your time of devotion and prayer through the end of January.

JANUARY 22, 2024
Revelation 1:8

JANUARY 23, 2024
Numbers 23:19

JANUARY 24, 2024
Psalm 68:19-20

JANUARY 25, 2024
Isaiah 46:4

JANUARY 26, 2024
Zephaniah 3:17

JANUARY 27, 2024
1 Peter 3:12

JANUARY 28, 2024
Jeremiah 24:7

JANUARY 29, 2024
Psalm 25:14

JANUARY 30, 2024
Jeremiah 9:23-24

JANUARY 31, 2024
Proverbs 18:10



With Gratitude

*“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”
Hebrews 6:10 (KJV)*

Thank you to everyone who participated in the digital devotional project and 21 Day Prayer Consecration. Special thanks to our Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jacqueline A. Thompson, our Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Dr. J. Alfred Smith, Sr., and the Rev. Jesse Land, Congregational Care Cluster Leader, as well as our devotional contributors:

Deacon Leslie Allison
Rev. Will Brown
Deacon T. Wayne Coleman
Bro. Ralph Gordon
Trustee Nanette Gray
Dr. Brenda Guess
Deacon Michael Johnson
Deacon Carla Keener
Rev. Brenda J. Lewis
Rev. Warren Long

Deacon Reginald Lyles
Deaconess René M. Mastin
Deacon Kendra Roberts-McClure
Rev. Theophous H. Reagans
Rev. Lana C. Rice
Rev. Dr. Martha C. Taylor
Deacon Jeannine N. Walker
Rev. Charlotte Williams
Dr. Lani Wilson

It is our sincere hope that the writings and readings offered in this 21 day journey will bring new vitality to your walk with the Lord.

The Prayer Warriors Ministry
Allen Temple Baptist Church