"On your walls, O Jerusalem I have set watchmen all the day and all the night." Isaiah 62:6

WATCHMEN ON THE WALL



Sing With Me!

Watchmen Prayer Warriors,

I love music! That's a little bit of a surprise since the running joke on staff is that one day I will sing a solo. Can you say DISASTER? Truth be told – please don't tell anybody – I can't carry a tune in a bucket. Yet I love to listen to music and, just as much, to sing. I love it when we sing as a congregation because I can sing loudly and only make the people in my immediate area miserable. I can sing at home alone and in the car (poor Betsy) with all my heart.

What is it about music that touches our souls? I asked our amazing Worship Pastor Tim Whedbee why that's true. He shared this. "Music evokes strong responses within us by engaging the parts of the brain associated with language, emotion, and memory. Singing, in particular, allows us to express emotions in ways that words alone cannot. It provides a physical and auditory outlet that is cathartic and can improve mood through the release of endorphins." Wow. Singing helps to connect our heads and our hearts, bringing thoughts and truths together with our God-given emotions.

Through God's Word we are constantly encouraged, challenged, and even commanded to sing to the Lord. Music helps us express in beautiful and creative ways the adoration, the reverence, the love we have for God. Many verses, particularly in the Psalms, encourage us to make singing a regular part of our lives. In the Psalms alone we are encouraged to sing to and about the Lord for so many reasons (you can use these and add to them your own personal reasons to sing):

Sing to honor the Lord's name (7:17, etc.). Sing because He has treated us generously (13:6). Sing about His might (21:13). Sing a song of His wisdom (47:7). Sing of God's righteousness (51:14). Sing of God's strength (59:16). Sing because He is our stronghold (59:17). Sing because He has redeemed us (71:23). Sing because He has performed wonders (98:1). Sing about His faithful love and justice (101:1). Sing about His promises (119:72). Sing of the Lord's great ways (138:5). Sing of God's great goodness (145:7).

Of the many (and I mean many) verses that deal with singing I love Psalm 30:4 which says, "Sing to the Lord, you His faithful ones, and praise His holy name." Watchmen Prayer Warriors, YOU are His faithful ones and so you are to sing! Let me encourage you to make singing a part of your Watchmen prayer time in October. Sing with your family. Sing by yourself. Sing aloud if possible and in your mind and heart if you are too self-conscious. Let your hair down and sing to the Lord. Sing an old hymn. Sing a current worship song. Make up your own song for our Savior. Let singing be a preparation and a part of your amazing ministry of prayer. Your heart will overflow as you do!

Greg Martin

Pastor of Congregational Care

Special Prayers for All in These Times

<u>2 Timothy 1:7</u> says, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." As believers, we have the authority Christ has given us to pray about the spread of any disease and pray for healing for those who have the Coronavirus.

- Praise God for His sovereignty. He is and always will be in control of all things. Pray that we will trust Him to help us navigate this season of uncertainty. (Psalm 103:19)
- Ask God to protect our missionaries and their families around the world, using these global circumstances to advance His Good News to all nations. (Mark 16:15)
- Pray for the protection of doctors, nurses, crisis response teams, emergency first responders, researchers and other medical professionals who risk their lives to protect ours.
- Pray for wisdom for governmental leaders to have the wisdom to direct us in the best course of action for our country. (Romans 13:1–4).
- Pray for peace, calmness, freedom from fear, anxiety and panic among individuals and communities. (Philippians 4:6-7)
- Pray for racial understanding, peace, and harmony. Pray every person as an image-bearer of God, would experience justice and protection. (Galatians 3:28)

See web links below for the most up-to-date information about our campus schedules.

- View Worship Gatherings online (<u>mobberly.org/online</u>)
- Prayer concerns (<u>mobberly.org/pray</u>)
- Give to the Lord through Mobberly (mobberly.org/give)
- Stay connected with our social media accounts on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.
- Subscribe to our <u>email news</u> list.

Praise: Praising God for who He is and for what He is doing.

- God is worthy of our songs of praise
 - 1 Chronicles 16:23 (CSB): "²³Let the whole earth sing to the Lord. Proclaim His salvation from day to day."
 - **Isaiah 12:5 (CSB):** "⁵Sing to the Lord, for He has done glorious things. Let this be known throughout the earth."
 - Colossians 3:16 (CSB): "16Let the word of Christ dwell richly among you, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another through psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."

Praise the Lord:

• For the KidsLIFE Worship Team who used singing and motions to help lead us in worship on the Longview campus on September 7. What a blessing they were!

- For the Feed My Starving Children Event for all of the families, Connect Groups and friends who got to serve together to make a difference in lives in Peru.
 - We needed 35 pallets to fill a container (to Peru) and we managed to get 36 pallets done. The food that we purchased for the remaining 20K meals that we were not able to pack, along with the extra pallet we packed, is headed to the Richardson FMSC site.

Total volunteers: 1,292
Boxes packed: 1,296
Meals packed: 279,936
Kids fed for a year: 766

- The Love the Nations Offering is now over \$400,000. We are so thankful for everyone who has given to send the Gospel across our nation and around the world.
- For the salvation decisions and the women's and children's conferences on the Jericho Road Mission Trip to Zambia.
- Five new baby girls have been born to our Mobberly families.
- We currently have 52 Teen Helpers in the preschool area on Sunday mornings. That makes up 1/3 of our volunteer base for Sunday mornings.
- The children are adjusting well to their new classrooms at church, in our Mother's Day Out program and with the Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) program.
- For the Mobberly Assist Team (MAT) security group who keep such diligent watch when ministry is happening.
- Some of our older preschool children were happy to be able to participate in Feed My Starving Children.
- For a roomful of kids in our New Christian Class for first through fourth graders! Pray the Holy Spirit would move in hearts and minds during this class.
- God is moving through our students in their schools to minister to their community.
- See You At the Pole was highly attended and was awesome to see our schools praying out to God.
- Junior High Ministry is busting at the seams and God is continuing to bless the ministry of Will Hagle and Skylar Bussing.
- We are seeing several guests each Sunday in our Young Adult and Young Married Ministries.
- Cory Perkins has connected with three young men to be apprentices and help serve in our Young Adult ministry.
- Our newest Women's Ministry leaders joining the team in August and September: Rebecca Lewis, Hannah May, Dee Rodgers, Bailey Munch, Michelle Painter, Stacie Rogers, Claire Watson, and Nakayla Holloway.
- For a smooth kickoff to women's fall Bible and book studies. We are always so thankful for the new and returning faces each semester, and for our leadership team's prayer and planning.
- For new partnerships that are bringing help and healing to the community.
- For new flourishing Thrive! (support ministry) groups.
- For showing up in the small moments and showing His always-on-time provision and glory.
- For his protection of His people and calling us back to Himself.
- For the children finding forever families through Heart Gallery Etx.
- For new Thrive! Champions coming forward to start new support opportunities.
- The Oasis House is nearing completion inside and out. Electronic and sound components inside, and outdoor fencing, gates, landscaping, and irrigation system have been completed.
- For ongoing Partnerships with Guidestone Financial Resources, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, and Texas Baptists (Baptist General Convention of Texas).

- For a new partnership with the North American Mission Board (NAMB) established this summer that will provide financial support for Oasis in the Pines and scholarships for 2025-26 participants.
- For our Tuesday morning Family Services benevolence ministry continuing its vital ministry. <u>Six</u> people put their hope in Jesus through this team's ministry since the last Watchmen Alert! Pray for these new believers as they grow in Christ: Aischa, Julia, Dakota, Marquita, Christopher, and Lytasha.

Repent: Our sins committed and commands neglected.

Our ongoing sins disrupt our fellowship with our heavenly Father. This is why we need to repent of our sins and confess them to God. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9, CSB)

As you pray, take time to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal your sins. Think through various areas of your life: sins of thought, sins of attitude, sins of omission, sins of commission, sins of self-rule, sins of self-reliance or sins of relationships. Ask God for the grace to repent and to restore your fellowship. Then thank God that Christ has already paid for your sins. Rest in His unfailing love.

Ask: When our hearts are God-oriented in praise and purified through repentance, then we are ready to "Ask". God encourages us to come boldly to Him and ask. "Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16, CSB)

Ask God:

- To bless Pastor Andrew as he goes Sept. 25-Oct. 3 with the Mobberly mission team to Scotland, particularly as he preaches at Glenrothes Baptist Church and as he has opportunities to share the gospel. Ask Him to bless and protect all 15 members of the Scotland mission trip team going to serve with Glenrothes Baptist Church.
- To give the Worship staff rest, refreshment, and wisdom as they get away for a one-day retreat for learning and planning. May God renew their passion for singing, playing instruments, welcoming people, and implementing technology to lead our church to worship the Lord!
- To help all the details for Sounds of the Season (Christmas music) to fall into place as the
 planning and rehearsing continues. Ask God to show the Worship Ministry and our church how to
 reach out to the lost through this impact event.
- To use the Single mom's Free Oil Change Day on Oct. 18 to help women to accept Christ during this event.
- To provide two more volunteers to help with the Special Needs ministry in the preschool area. We
 have two sweet new children with special needs in the preschool area.
- To provide wisdom as to whether a third Toddler room is needed at the 9:30 hour and then to provide volunteers if the need is urgent.
- To help a few of our preschool parents as they are facing significant health issues that cause the children in these families to have big feelings, but not always the understanding of how to express them.
- To provide wisdom for parents as they spiritually lead their children.
- To fill our Children's Ministry staff with wisdom, peace, and grace.
- To provide creative ideas for the Junior High Ministry to find more space.
- To bless the Youth Ministry's Father / Son Event coming Oct 12.

- To lead out in a Youth Ministry parenting class on raising a son on Oct 12.
- To guide in details for summer and spring break mission trips, helping them get ironed out well.
- To lead more men to be willing to disciple our young men.
- To raise up four couples to lead Young Married Connect Groups.
- To help Mobberly to do a good job of assimilating the many guests that have been visiting the Young Adult ministry the last month.
- To bless the upcoming Senior Adult Spiritual Heritage tour that will be taken to Washington D.C. and The Billy Graham Conference Center. Pray that this would be a time of spiritual renewal and reflection.
- To bless the Senior Adult, College and Young Adult Connect Groups as they have an intergenerational gathering around the Love the Nations Asia video on Oct. 5.
- To bless our Women's Ministry partnership with Hope Road as it kicks off a season of leadership
 training and development with our Worthy mentors. Pray for God to give them wisdom as they
 build a framework for small cohort groups to meet in the future, and for the counselors who are
 leading this initiative.
- To provide a sweet night of gathering at Made New, our women's event on Thursday, Oct. 2. Pray for God to work in and through guest speaker, Jen Wilkin, and our staff and volunteer teams as they welcome women into a night of fellowship, worship, and teaching.
- For our women's mission team leading a retreat for the ladies of New Horizon church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Oct. 16-19. Pray that God use this team to encourage and strengthen the women of this church plant partner. (Team: Emma Carpenter, Janet Hervey, Jill Davis, Karen Bozeman, Lauren Bridwell, Madde Sherwood, Moriah Sundholm, Nanette Smith, Renee Robertson, and Whitney Schubarth; Trip Leader: Alyssa Whitehurst)
- For calm hearts and loving response to families and individuals in crisis.
- For bravery and courage to walk into the uncomfortable spaces that God leads us into.
- For safe families to rise up and provide care and mentoring for youth in the foster care system.
- For the continued success and attention to Heart Gallery ETx and for the future adoptive families of the children featured in the Gallery.
- For the needs of the children that attend Thrive! for Kids and Students (TFK) to be met. Ask that they feel seen, heard, and valued by the people they come into contact with as they practice the emotional management and self-leadership skills they learned during their time at TFK.
- For bravery for those that are seeking to release the chains of hurts, habits, and hang-ups and are fearful to take the first steps through the doors of Celebrate Recovery (CR).
- For CR participants and leaders to stay focused on their recovery and not let fear and anxiety overcome them.
- For a continued healthy partnership with Dept. Family and Protective Services families.
- For the healthy support of children that remain in state conservatorship.
- For healing of those that are experiencing the dissolution of their marriages and are seeking recovery through DivorceCare.
- For people grieving a loss, life change and/or challenges
- For single moms in our midst to feel love and a sense of community in their current circumstances.
- For Selah Moms to bring hope and comfort to women in the midst of heartbreak from pregnancy and infant loss and for the right man to come forward to lead a support group for dad's dealing with this loss.
- For Thrive! to "speak Jesus" into the hearts of all those with which we interact, endurance when the path gets difficult, and for "next steps" to be made clear and the path to be bathed in His light.
- For wise decision-making in situations that present themselves in the course of ministry.

- For wisdom and protection in new avenues of support for the suffering in our community.
- For Thrive!'s partnership with Hope Haven of East Texas (providing care for children and teens in the foster care system) and the following prayer needs that they have:
 - Pray for all of our girls as they walk through this school year. Pray that they feel confident, supported, and well-equipped for the challenges ahead.
 - Pray for strength and unity for our staff and teams. Ask for wisdom and compassion as they walk through difficult situations.
 - We currently have several open positions. Pray that God would bring the right people to join our team.
- Pray for the Oasis in the Pines (OITP) participants: Oct. 20-27, Nov. 3-10, and Dec. 8-15, 2025.
- Pray for OITP participant registration for Fall 2025 and Spring 2026. Pray for wisdom to connect
 with pastors, ministers, missionaries, and other Christian leaders who will be blessed and
 strengthened for their ministry through a week at Oasis in the Pines.
- To guide the Oasis Advisory Team as they enlist members to serve on an ongoing advisory team
 to provide prayer, guidance, feedback, and fundraising support for Oasis in the Pines.
- To lead the Oasis Care Team—Analisa Hood, Sonya Reeder, and Gregg & Tina Zackary.
 Preparation for hosting participants fall 2025. Ongoing development of infrastructure, processes, and structures for an effective and growing ministry.
- To strengthen the Oasis Meal Team Volunteers. Pray for Kirsi Ingram and for team members who
 will be providing food preparation and service to Oasis participants during fall 2025.
- To lead in the planning, funding, and development of Oasis outdoor space: outdoor kitchen, water feature, sidewalk and bridge to Hope Road, walking paths to Williams Lake, and Prayer Stations.
- To provide Oasis partnerships for continuing and developing partnerships that will facilitate
 connections between pastors, missionaries, and ministers and Oasis in the Pines and provide
 scholarships to make their participation feasible.
- For wisdom in exploring and writing grants for Oasis in the Pines scholarships and future facility and land development.

Yield: To what God says to me. Yield my will to the will of God. Yield my agenda to the plan God has for my life. We must be willing to yield our desires and our thoughts to God's sovereign wisdom. As Jesus faced the cross, He prayed in Matthew 26:39 (CSB), "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will." We must pray with that same spirit, humbly yielding our will to God's will. To close our prayer by "yielding" to God is a way in which we submit our desires to Him. In the end, it is our way of acknowledging His will, which is what will truly satisfy us anyway. God's will and plan are better than ours. He knows the end from the beginning, and He loves us more than we can ever imagine.

"4Sing to the Lord, you His faithful ones, and praise His holy name"

Psalm 30:4